

Rules and Regulations

Tort Trial & Insurance Practice Section

Law Student Writing Competition

The goal of the competition is to encourage and reward law student writings on legal subjects within the scope of the Section and of general and current interest. It is also designed to attract students to the civil trial, tort and insurance fields, and to strongly encourage scholarship in these areas.

Rules concerning the competition are as follows. The dates shown will change each year.

1. The competition is open to any law school student in good standing, over the age of 18, who is currently attending an ABA-accredited law school within the United States and its possessions. All authors must be members of the American Bar Association Law Student Division at the time of submitting the entry. Employees of the ABA, and its respective affiliates and immediate family or household members of such employees are not eligible.

2. Papers should address an essay on a current topic in a legal area covered by one of the Section's substantive law committees. The Section will interpret the scope of the subject broadly to ensure that the Competition affords the greatest degree of flexibility in writing on these subject areas. The Tort Trial and Insurance Practice Section covers a wide variety of practice disciplines. Without attempting to define the area precisely, the subject is intended to include, but not be limited to, matters within any of the following areas: Admiralty and Maritime Law, Appellate Advocacy, Automobile Law, Aviation and Space Law, Business Torts, Civil Procedure and Evidence, Commercial Transportation Litigation, Employee Benefits, Employment Law and Litigation, Environmental Law, Excess Surplus Lines and Reinsurance, Fidelity and Surety Law, Government Law, Health and Disability Insurance Law, International Law, Insurance Coverage Litigation, Life Insurance Law, Media, Privacy and Defamation Law, Medicine and Law, Products Liability, Consumer Law, Professionals', Officers' and Directors' Liability Law, Property Insurance Law, Insurance Regulation, Technology & Law, Title Insurance Litigation, Toxic Torts, Workers' Compensation and Employers' Liability Law, and Trial Techniques.

Entrants are encouraged to write on subjects of national interest, not state specific issues. Entrants must submit their own original essay. Failure to submit an original essay will result in its disqualification and the selection of a new winner.

3. Essays must be submitted by e-mail to lmwiley@staff.abanet.org.

4. Essays must not exceed 35 pages of double-spaced typed text, including footnotes. Only one essay is to be submitted for each entrant. Entrants should write essays in traditional law review style, presenting a scholarly discussion with full citation to authority in footnotes. Lengthy lists and outlines normally are not appropriate within the text of an essay, however, they may be included as appendices to a textual discussion. For example, if the law of all states on a subject is surveyed, the essay may compare analytically how and why the law differs between jurisdictions. A listing of the law by jurisdiction within the body of the essay would generally not be appropriate. If such a listing of the law by jurisdiction would be of particular value to the reader, it may be included in an appendix to the essay. Entrants should write essays in the active voice and in the third person. Essays should conform to the 17th edition of *The Bluebook—A Uniform System of Citation*.

5. The following information shall be presented on the title page: title; author's name; ABA membership number; law school attending and author's year in school; author's permanent and temporary addresses and telephone numbers.

6. The format of this competition has been selected to stimulate creativity of thought and research. Entries will be judged based on the following criteria: clarity of the topic presented, significance of the topic selected, manner in which the topic is treated, organization, quality of analysis, quality of research and authority provided, and grammar, syntax, and form. The entries will be judged anonymously by members of Tort Trial & Insurance Practice Section Task Force on Outreach to Law Students, consisting of representatives from the Section. The winning selection(s) will be made by the Taskforce and approved by the Chair of the Section. The Section staff will notify the winner(s) of their selection. The Section reserves the right not to award any prizes if it is determined that no entries are of sufficient quality to merit selection that year.

7. The first-place winner will receive \$1,500 cash, plus free round-trip airfare, and weekend accommodations to attend the ABA Annual Meeting (airfare and hotel accommodations). The first-place winner's essay will be considered for publication in the *Tort Trial & Insurance Law Journal*, and may appear in an upcoming issue. The first-place winner will be announced in an upcoming issue of *The Brief*, the Section's magazine. The second-place winner will receive \$500 cash and honorable mention in *The Brief*. The third-place winner will receive an honorable mention in *The Brief*. No substitutions will be permitted. Any taxes are the responsibility of the winners. Only one winner allowed per family or household.

8. By entering, the winners give the ABA the right to reproduce any essay material submitted in any medium without time, use, or territorial limitation, as long as such is for noncommercial purposes. Entries will not be returned. All entries submitted to the ABA become the property of the ABA.

9. Entries must be e-mailed on or before March 3, 2008

10. All expenses involved in preparing and submitting an entry are the entrant's responsibility. Winners must relinquish all rights to the ABA to reproduce entries in any medium and without restriction. Essays submitted must have been created by the entrant, must never have been published in any other medium other than a law school publication, and must have been written after January 1, 2007..