

PHILADELPHIA BAR ASSOCIATION

2004 Ruth Bader Ginsburg “Pursuit of Justice” Legal Writing Competition

2003-2004

The Philadelphia Bar Association is pleased to announce this Legal Writing Competition in honor of the Honorable Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court. In so doing, the Bar Association recognizes the importance of excellence in legal analysis and writing skills, and seeks to award a student enrolled in a Philadelphia-area law school for authoring a top-quality Competition submission. The following information is provided to encourage your participation in the first year of this Competition.

ELIGIBILITY

This Competition is open to full- and part-time law students who are in their second or third year of study during the 2003-04 academic year at one of the following five institutions: University of Pennsylvania School of Law, The State University of New Jersey, Rutgers (Camden) School of Law, Temple University School of Law, Villanova University School of Law, Widener University School of Law (Delaware Campus). Students must be in good standing at their institutions. The submission may not have been published previously, although it may have been prepared in connection with a law school course. The submission also may not have been submitted for any other competition during the time when it is under consideration for this Competition, until after the time when awards are announced. The submission must be the work of one author alone (joint submissions will not be considered), and the author must certify that the submission has been prepared without substantial editing from others.

TOPIC

Candidates may submit a law review quality submission on any topic relating to rights, privileges and responsibilities under Federal law.

AWARDS

The author of the First Place submission will receive a cash award of \$2500, the publication of the winning submission in *The Philadelphia Lawyer*, on the Bar Association’s web site and/or in an appropriate Bar Association publication. The winner of the First Place award will be invited to the Quarterly Meeting of the Bar Association on June 24, 2004, at which time the award will be presented.

If the Bar Association, in its discretion, determines that it is appropriate, the Bar Association may also award Second and Third Place prizes. The authors of the Second and Third Place entries will be announced in *The Philadelphia Lawyer*.

The Bar Association reserves the right to require editing of the First Place submission if necessary to ensure that the submission is of publishable quality. The Bar Association also reserves the right to make no award or to issue fewer than the maximum number of available awards if no submission is qualified.

JUDGING

A committee of practicing attorneys, professors and judges will evaluate the submissions for the purpose of granting the awards. The submissions will be judged anonymously. The following criteria will be evaluated by the Competition judges:

- Originality and importance of topic
- Thoroughness of research
- Depth of analysis
- Organization of analysis
- Writing style
- Form, quality and placement of citations
- Conformity with rules of the Competition

RULES

All submissions:

- Must be no longer than 30 pages or 7500 words, including footnotes (do not use endnotes)
- Must be in 12-point font
- Must use citations that conform with either Darby Dickerson & the Association of Legal Writing Directors, The ALWD Citation Manual: A Professional System of Citation (Aspen Law & Bus. 2000) or Harvard Law Review Association, et al. A Uniform System of Citation (17th ed. 2000)
- May not be previously published or currently accepted for publication in any publication other than in connection with the Judge Ruth Bader Ginsburg “Pursuit of Justice” Legal Writing Competition
- Must have 1” margins on all sides
- Must be submitted in hard copy and disk form, by sending nine (9) hard copies and one 3-1/2” floppy disk, in Word or WordPerfect format, to:

Judge Ruth Bader Ginsburg “Pursuit of Justice Legal Writing Competition
c/o Ms. Stephanie Krzywanski
Philadelphia Bar Association
1101 Market Street, 11th Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19107-2911

- Must be submitted with **only the title on the first page of each copy of the submission**. Each set of submissions shall be accompanied by a separate one-page document stating the author’s name, law school, expected date of graduation, telephone number(s), email address(es), mailing address(es) and an abstract of no longer than 100 words

describing the thesis of the submission. This document, which shall be signed by the person submitting the entry, shall also certify the word count of the submission and certify that the work is solely the work of the author.

- Receipt will be acknowledged, but submissions will not be returned.
- **Must be postmarked by no later than 12 a.m., April 30, 2004.**

ANNOUNCEMENT OF AWARDS

Announcement of First, Second and Third Place Awards will be made in early June 2004. The winner of the First Place award is expected to will be presented with the award at a luncheon held in connection with the Bar Association's Quarterly Meeting on June 24, 2004. The Bar Association will waive the cost of attendance at the Meeting and luncheon; however, the winner is expected to bear any travel and accommodation costs associated with attending this event.

QUESTIONS

If you have any questions concerning Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg "Pursuit of Justice" Legal Writing Competition, please contact one of the co-chairs of the competition:

Kathleen D. Wilkinson
Co-Chair
Wilson Elser Moskowitz
Edelman & Dicker, Partner
(215) 627-6900, ext. 405

Diane Penneys Edelman
Co-Chair
Villanova University School of Law,
Assistant Dean for Legal Writing
(610) 519-7047