

2025 LAW DAY ESSAY CONTEST RULES



Scope of Essay	Students must compose an original essay related to the 2025 Law Day theme, "The Constitution's Promise: Out of Many, One." The Constitution enshrines our collective responsibility to one another, and the theme urges us to take pride in a Constitution that bridges our differences to bring us together as a united nation. Our civic lives tie us together as one "We," whether through legislative efforts that serve the common good, through military service, or by working together, every day, to fulfill the promise of E pluribus unum, or "Out of many, one." (ABA website) Students are highly encouraged to address the theme in relation to the Commonwealth. Originality, clarity and how well the essay expresses the theme will be the primary consideration in judging a winner.
Essay Requirements	 a. Essay must be in English and contain between 250 and 500 words. This does not include the title, bibliography, footnotes, or information identifying the student. b. Students must write their name, school, and grade at the top right hand corner of the first page of their essay. Do not include a cover page. Schools may require additional identifiers. c. Typewritten entries are preferred. Typewritten entries should be in Times New Roman or a similar font, 11-point font size, and double spaced. Typewritten entries must be submitted in .pdf or .doc format. d. Handwritten entries are acceptable. Handwritten entries should be legible and comprehensible. e. Any quotations or copyrighted material used in the essay must be properly cited and identified. Failure to do so will result in an automatic disqualification.
Eligibility	 a. The 2025 Law Day Essay Contest is open to all students currently enrolled in 6th, 7th or 8th grade in a school located within the CNMI. b. Only one entry per student is permitted.
Copyrights	By entering the Essay Contest, the student, parent or guardian, and school acknowledges and consents to the NMI Judiciary's rights to publish or otherwise duplicate the essay submitted without payment to the author. The NMI Judiciary may post copies of the essay on its website, in published reports, and in any NMI Judiciary courthouse or other relevant location.
Deadline	 All entries are due on or before Monday, March 31, 2025, by 4:00pm in electronic or paper form. a. Electronic submissions must type on the subject line "2025 Law Day Essay Contest" and emailed to: mary.glass@nmijudiciary.gov b. Paper form submissions must be received by the deadline at: Supreme Court, Clerk of Court Guma' Hustisia, Susupe, Saipan P.O. Box 502165 Saipan, MP 96950. Schools may set their own respective deadlines prior to the March 31st deadline to collect their students' work and make one submission via electronic or paper form.
Judges & Prizes	 The essays will be judged by a committee comprised of Justices, Judges and NMI Judiciary staff who will select the winners and the committee's decision is final. The following prizes will be awarded: a. First Place: \$100, and Certificate of Recognition. b. Second Place: \$75, and Certificate of Recognition. c. Third Place: \$50, and Certificate of Recognition.