

# Law Day 2021 - 8th Grade Essay Contest

**LAW DAY** is held on May 1st every year to celebrate the role of law in our society and to cultivate a deeper understanding of the legal profession. The Day is celebrated by local and national bar associations on or near May 1st of each year. The purpose of Law Day is to bring awareness and an appreciation of our country's legal system to the local communities and, in particular, to the students. This year, the Omaha Bar Association and The Daily Record are again sponsoring an essay contest as part of their annual Law Day activities. The essay contest is open to students in Eighth grade.

**About the 2021 Law Day Theme *Celebrating the Rule of Law in Our Country*.** The Law Day 2021 theme is "Celebrating the Rule of Law in Our Country." The rule of law is a set of principles, or ideals, for ensuring an orderly and just society. Many countries throughout the world strive to uphold the rule of law where no one is above the law, everyone is treated equally under the law, everyone is held accountable to the same laws, there are clear and fair processes for enforcing laws, there is an independent judiciary, and human rights are guaranteed for all. More details on Law Day can be found at [https://www.americanbar.org/groups/public\\_education/law-day](https://www.americanbar.org/groups/public_education/law-day).

## ESSAY CONTEST RULES

- Omaha and surrounding area schools - Grade 8 Only
- All Essays should be between 200 and 250 words.
- Entries shall be submitted electronically via email to [dave@omahabarassociation.com](mailto:dave@omahabarassociation.com)
- Essays will be judged on connection to the 2021 Law Day theme, originality, content, spelling, and neatness
- Include the student's name, school and Social Studies/Government teacher
- Deadline to submit an entry is April 10, 2021
- Potential (but not exclusive) Essay Topics within the theme: • What does it mean that the United States is a country of laws and not of men? • Give examples of ways that the rule of law has an impact on your life • How does the majority benefit when minorities are protected by the rule of law? • What is the responsibility of judges when their personal opinions are in conflict with the rule of law in the case before them?

## PRIZES:

First Prize: \$175 / Second Prize: \$150 / Third Prize: \$125

Teacher Prize: \$50 gift card

NOTE: By submitting an essay to this contest, you are agreeing to allow the Omaha Bar Association and The Daily Record to possibly publish your essay online or in print. Please contact Scott Stewart at [scott@omahadailyrecord.com](mailto:scott@omahadailyrecord.com) or Dave Sommers at 402-318-2299 with questions.