

The Public Law Section Student Writing Competition

\$2,000 cash prize and article published in Public Law Journal

Deadline May 13, 2013

COMPETITION

The Public Law Section is seeking entries for its annual Student Writing Competition. In addition to the cash prize, the winning entry will be published in the Public Law Journal. Articles should pertain to one of the following topics: Administrative Law; Constitutional Law; Municipal Law; Open Meeting laws; Political/Election Laws; Education Law; State and Federal Legislation; Public Employment and Labor Law; Government Contracts; Government Tort Liability and regulations; Land Use/Environmental issues; Public Law Ethics; or Public Finance. Articles must be submitted and written by a student enrolled as of May 13, 2013, in good standing at a California law school's Juris Doctor program that is accredited by the Committee of Bar Examiners of the State Bar of California.

The article must be submitted in a format suitable for publication in the Public Law Journal. The article should be the original work of the submitting student without substantial editorial input from others. A student need not be a member of the Public Law Section to participate in the writing contest.

Articles should have a minimum of 2,000 words and a maximum of 3,000 words (not including endnotes). Articles should include citations in either Bluebook or California Style Manual format, and citations must be included in endnotes, not footnotes.

AWARD

The author of the winning student article will receive a \$2,000 cash prize from the Public Law Section and will have his or her article published in the Public Law Journal. The winner also will be recognized at the Ronald M. George Public Lawyer of the Year Award reception sponsored by the Public Law Section at the State Bar's Annual Meeting in September 2013. The Public Law Section will pay the winner's reasonable transportation and hotel accommodation expenses for two nights to attend the award reception.

DEADLINE/METHOD OF SUBMISSION

Articles must be received by midnight (PST) on May 13, 2013 to be eligible for consideration in this writing contest. Please submit articles by email as attached Microsoft Word documents in Times New Roman 12-point font, single-spaced, with one line between each paragraph. Citations must be included in endnotes, not footnotes. Email articles to cfowler@srcity.org or Rachel_Sommovilla.ci.richmond.ca.us (PST) on May 13, 2013. By

submitting an article as part of this contest, the author grants the Public Law Section the right to edit (as necessary) and publish any article in the Public Law Journal.

JUDGING

Articles will be judged by the Executive Committee of the Public Law Section based on the following criteria, though not necessarily in this order:

- Complexity of topic
- Relevancy to one or more areas of public law
- Timeliness of topic to current developments in public law
- Originality
- Quality of writing
- Compliance with contest rules

A member of the Public Law Section's Executive Committee will notify the winner by June 14, 2013.

Please direct any questions regarding this contest to Caroline Fowler at (707) 543-3040 or Rachel Sommovilla at (510) 620-6509.

MISSION

The mission of the Public Law Section of the State Bar of California is to ensure that laws relating to the function and operation of public agencies are clear, effective and serve the public interest; to advance public service through public law practice; and to enhance the effectiveness of public law practitioners. Comprised of over 1,300 members, including law students, the Public Law Section focuses on addressing issues related to administrative law, constitutional law, municipal and county law, open meeting laws, political and/or election law, education law, water law, state and federal legislation, public employment, government contracts, government tort liability, agency regulations, land use/environmental issues, and public lawyer ethics.

The Public Law Section provides topical educational programs, seminars and resource materials; works to enhance the recognition of, and participation by, public law practitioners in the State Bar; presents its annual "Ronald M. George Public Lawyer of the Year Award" to public law practitioners who have made significant and continuous contributions to the profession; and publishes the quarterly Public Law Journal.

