



MEMORANDUM

TO: Principals and Social Studies Department Chairpersons

FROM: Erica Eschbach
Supreme Court Staff Attorney

SUBJECT: 2015 Law Day Essay Contest

DATE: March 16, 2015

Law Week 2015 will be celebrated from April 24 – May 9, 2015, and the Judiciary of Guam, the District Court of Guam and the Guam Bar Association have once again partnered to sponsor the annual Law Day Essay Contest. The essay contest allows students to recognize the importance of the rule of law in our society.

This year marks the 800th anniversary of Magna Carta, a document which has become an international symbol of the rule of law and an inspiration for many basic rights Americans hold dear today. The 2015 Law Day theme, “**Magna Carta: Symbol of Freedom Under Law,**” celebrates this “Great Charter of Liberties” and calls on us to rededicate ourselves to advancing what Magna Carta has come to embody: the simple but enduring truth that no one, no matter how powerful, is above the law.

Attached is a flyer containing the essay questions. Teachers may wish to incorporate the contest into the class curriculum, either for a grade or for extra credit. Please have the students complete the entry form and attach it to the essay. The deadline to submit the entries is **Friday, April 10, 2015**. If you have any questions, please contact me at 475-3395 or by email at eeschbach@guamsupremecourt.com.

Thank you, and I look forward to your school’s participation.

Law Day 2015 Essay Contest

In recognition of Law Day, the Judiciary of Guam, the District Court of Guam, and the Guam Bar Association are sponsoring the annual Law Day Essay Contest.



What is Law Day?

Law Day is a national day set aside to celebrate the rule of law. Law Day underscores how law and the legal process have contributed to the freedoms that we all share.

Law Day 2015 Theme:

Magna Carta: Symbol of Freedom Under Law

This year marks the 800th anniversary of Magna Carta, a document which has become an international symbol of the rule of law and an inspiration for many basic rights Americans hold dear today. The 2015 Law Day theme, "Magna Carta: Symbol of Freedom Under Law," celebrates this "Great Charter of Liberties" and calls on us to rededicate ourselves to advancing what Magna Carta has come to embody: the simple but enduring truth that no one, no matter how powerful, is above the law.

To enter, students must write an essay addressing the following questions:

1. How did Magna Carta affect the development of the United States Constitution?
2. Are the principles espoused in Magna Carta still relevant today? Why?
3. In what ways can we better adhere to the principles contained in Magna Carta?

Contest Rules:

- Students from 9th-12th grade are eligible to participate.
- Essays must address the questions above.
- Essays must be no more than 1,000 words, typewritten, and double-spaced.
- Essays must be the student's original work.

Deadline: Friday, April 10, 2015

Entries must be delivered to the Supreme Court of Guam, 3rd Floor, Guam Judicial Center.

Student's Name: _____

School: _____

Grade: _____

Teacher: _____

Teacher's Email: _____

Certification of Student:

I am submitting an original essay to the Law Day 2015 Essay Contest. I certify that this essay is my own work. I understand that my essay will not be returned and may be used in activities publicizing the contest.

Signature

Prizes:

- First Place - \$300 Cash
- Second Place - \$200 Cash
- Third Place - \$100 Cash