

Intellectual Property Law Student Writing Competition

Prize: \$4,000 cash and publication by the V.S.B. Intellectual Property Section

The Intellectual Property Law Student Writing Competition seeks to promote academic debate and the dissemination of ideas and scholarly writing in the field of intellectual property. The competition is sponsored by the Intellectual Property Section of the Virginia State Bar, and is open to all current students in good standing at any Virginia law school, or residents of Virginia (with proof of residency) who are current students in good standing at a law school outside the state.

All articles submitted will receive consideration for publication by the Section to its membership. Student authors entering the competition thereby authorize such publication. The Section publication's editors reserve the right to make editorial revisions to the author's article.

Topic & Format

Student authors may submit any article relating to intellectual property law issues or practice. Preference may be given to topics demonstrating particular relevance to contemporary events, addressing unsettled issues of law, or presenting novel and unique perspectives. Articles must be at least 3,000 words and no more than 5,000 words (including footnotes), presented double-spaced, in at least 12-point font, with one-inch margins and numbered pages. Citations should conform to the Bluebook. Student authors should submit entries both in paper form and electronically. Electronic versions should be in either Wordperfect or MS Word format. Entries should also include the student's name, address, telephone number, law school, expected graduation date, and the following *signed* statement: "I declare under penalty of perjury that I am either a current student in good standing at a Virginia law school, or that I am a resident of Virginia who is a current student in good standing at a law school outside Virginia."

Deadline

All entries, including both paper and electronic forms, must be received by 5 p.m. EST on Thursday, January 20, 2005 in the offices of Burns, Doane, Swecker & Mathis, L.L.P. Entries should be mailed to Susan M. Dadio, Esq., Burns, Doane, Swecker & Mathis, L.L.P., P.O. Box 19248, Alexandria, VA 22320. Courier and hand deliveries should be made to the above at 1737 King Street, Suite 500, Alexandria, VA 22314. Electronic forms can be e-mailed to Susand@burnsdoane.com.

Judging

Entries will initially be judged by members of the Section, in their sole discretion, who will select no more than five finalists. The final judge will be designated by the Section's Board of Governors, and will select the winners, in his/her sole discretion, from among the finalists.

Criteria for judging include:

- § Subject matter relevance to intellectual property law or practice
- § Quality of topic
- § Quality of writing
- § Originality
- § Clarity of expression
- § Analysis of the subject matter
- § Grammar, spelling and vocabulary

The winner will be announced no earlier than May 2, 2005 and no later than May 31, 2005.

Presentation of Award

The winner will be notified by telephone and by mail and will be invited to the Section's business meeting and dinner at the 67th Annual Meeting of the Virginia State Bar in June 2005 for an award presentation ceremony.

Other Terms & Conditions

The Section reserves the right of first refusal for publication of all articles submitted, and no article submitted as an entry in this competition may be published in any other forum until the competition has ended and the winner has been announced. After that time, the Section reserves the right of first refusal for the winning articles until such time that the Section either publishes the article or provides the author with a signed, written release. By submitting an article in this competition, the student author agrees to be bound by the rules, terms and conditions governing the competition and the award of any prizes therein. All entrants accepting prizes in this contest agree by such acceptance to permit the Section to publish their submitted articles at the discretion of the Section, and further agree to be bound by the publication agreement required by the Section for such publication. The Section reserves the right not to make an award in this competition if no entries of acceptable quality are received.