



Admiralty and Maritime Law Committee Annual Law Student Writing Competition



Official Rules

This writing competition is sponsored by the Tort Trial & Insurance Practice Section (“Section”) of the American Bar Association (“ABA”), 321 N. Clark Street, Chicago, IL 60654. Rules concerning the competition are as follows. The dates shown will change each year.

The goal of the competition is to encourage law students to become involved in the Admiralty & Maritime Law Committee (“AMLC”) and the Tort Trial & Insurance Practice Section of the American Bar Association (ABA). It is also intended to attract students to the tort, trial, insurance, and maritime practice fields, and to encourage scholarship in these fields. The 2017 competition is co-sponsored by Gard (North America) Inc., a leading provider of P&I, marine and energy insurance products.

Each entrant must follow the rules of the competition. They are:

1. The competition is open to any U.S. citizen law student and LLM candidates over the age of 18, who are currently attending an ABA-accredited law school within the United States and its possessions. Employees of the ABA, its respective affiliates, and immediate family or household members of such employees are not eligible for the competition.

2. Essays should address a recent development in admiralty and maritime law. Entrants are encouraged to write on subjects of national interest, rather than state-specific issues. Entrants must submit their own original essay. Failure to submit an original essay will result in disqualification and selection of a new winner.

3. Essays must be submitted by e-mail to knoll@chaffe.com no later than 11:59 PM Central Time, April 3, 2017.

Winners will be notified by e-mail by April 10, 2017. The winner must acknowledge and confirm agreement to the terms and conditions of winning the competition no later than April 17, 2017, after which he/she forfeits the prizes and another winner will be selected.

4. Essays must not exceed 20 pages of double-spaced typed text, and 12 point Book Antiqua (or similar) font. Each entrant may submit only one essay. Essays should be presented in a traditional law review style that includes a scholarly discussion of the

topic and full citations to authority in footnotes. Essays should conform to the current edition of *The Bluebook – A Uniform System of Citation*. Lengthy lists and outlines normally are not appropriate within the text of an essay; however, they may be included as appendices to a textual discussion. For example, if the law of all states on a subject is surveyed, the essay may compare analytically how and why the law differs between jurisdictions. A listing of the law by jurisdiction within the body of the essay would generally not be appropriate. If such a listing of the law by jurisdiction would be of particular value to the reader, it may be included in an appendix to the essay.

5. The following information must be included on the title page: (1) title; (2) entrant's name; (3) ABA membership number; (4) law school and expected graduation year; (5) entrant's permanent (and temporary) address, (6) telephone number(s), and (7) e-mail address.

6. Essays will be judged based on the following criteria: clarity of the topic, significance of the topic, manner in which the topic is treated, organization, quality of analysis, quality of research, authority, and citations, and quality of grammar, syntax, and form. The entries will be judged anonymously by a three person subcommittee comprised of the leaders in the TIPS Admiralty and Maritime Law Committee. Decision of the Subcommittee is final.

7. Essays submitted must have been created by the entrant, must never have been published in any other medium other than a law school publication, have any plagiarized content, and must have been written after January 1, 2016. Papers prepared for classes, journals, or other publications are welcome.

8. The Competition winner will be eligible to receive (1) \$500 cash prize from the American Bar Association and \$500 cash prize from Gard (North America); (2) up to \$500 in reimbursement of expenses from the American Bar Association to attend either the TIPS Section Conference in Chicago or the ABA Annual Meeting in New York; (3) up to \$750 in reimbursement of expenses by Gard (North America) to experience a day in marine insurance with Gard (North America), Inc. in New York; and (4) publication in a 2017 edition of the AMLC's quarterly newsletter.

9. No prize substitutions or transfers will be permitted, and a winner may not receive the value of any portion of the prize in lieu of the prize.

10. The winning entrant will be solely responsible for reporting and payment of all taxes (federal, state, local or other) on prizes, which will include the value of any accommodations and airfare. The winner will be required to complete a W-9, affidavit of eligibility, tax acknowledgment and liability release for tax purposes. All forms must be completed and returned to the Section within 5 business days of receipt or prizes will be considered forfeited and another winner named.

11. By entering, the winning entrant consents to the publication of her/his entry by the American Bar Association, understands that such publication is not guaranteed, and grants the American Bar Association the right of first publication and the non-exclusive, perpetual right to publish the work in its periodicals, books, anthologies, ebooks, audiobooks or any other publication platform, whether print or digital without further compensation. Additionally, the winning entrant must execute a separate publication agreement giving the ABA the publication rights enumerated above and the right to use the article for any other purpose related to the ABA mission. If the winner fails to sign the agreement within 60 days of receipt, the prize will be considered forfeited and another winner named.

11. Entrants who do not win first-place may submit their entries for publication elsewhere after the contest. The AMLC reserves the right to publish non-winning entrants to the newsletter. Entrants must not submit their articles for publication elsewhere prior to June 1, 2017. All expenses involved in preparing and submitting an entry are the sole responsibility of the entrant.

12. By entering, the winner and runners-up agree to allow the use of their names, photographs, likenesses, and biographical information for advertising, publicity and promotional purpose in all media without compensation.

13. Competition is subject to all federal, state, and local laws and regulations. By entering, all participants agree that the competition shall be governed by the laws of the State of Illinois, that the courts of Illinois shall have exclusive jurisdiction, and that Cook County, Illinois shall be the venue for any dispute or litigation relating to or arising from the competition.

14. Chances of winning may vary depending on the number of entries. However, Sponsor reserves the right not to award any prize if the judges determine that no entries are of sufficient quality to merit selection that year.