



2015 Writing Competition Rules

- (1) The competition will be conducted in two divisions. Each division will be judged separately, and separate prizes will be awarded to the winners of each division. Division I is open to candidates for a J.D. degree attending law schools within the United States and its possessions as of September 30, 2015. Division II is open to
 - (a) lawyers under the age of 36 years or admitted to practice less than five years as of September 30, 2015, and
 - (b) LL.M. graduates who attended law schools within the United States and its possessions and completed their LL.M. degrees after May 1, 2015. To be eligible to participate, entrants also must be 21 or over; and be U.S. citizens or permanent legal residents of the United States.
- (2) All participants must be current members of the American Bar Association (ABA) Section of Public Contract Law. Membership information may be obtained by contacting Marilyn Neforas at 312-988-5596, marilyn.neforas@americanbar.org or Patricia Brennan at 312-988-5623, patty.brennan@americanbar.org.
- (3) Papers should address a topical issue of interest to the public contract and grant law community.
- (4) Papers prepared for law school credit are eligible for entry in the competition. Articles prepared for publication in any law review (including the *Public Contract Law Journal*), or for publication elsewhere, are eligible for the competition; provided they are not published prior to January 15, 2016.
- (5) Joint papers are not acceptable.
- (6) Multiple submissions are acceptable; however, each author will only be eligible for one award.
- (7) All authors must certify (a) that all work submitted is the author's work product without substantial editing by others and (b) that the work submitted has not been and will not be published before January 15, 2016.
- (8) Eligibility determinations will be made by the editorial board of the *Public Contract Law Journal* and the ABA Section of Public Contract Law; all decisions regarding eligibility are final.
- (9) Papers must be 8-1/2" x 11", double-spaced, and typed in 12-point font, including cited material and footnotes.
- (10) Papers shall conform to the most recent edition of *The Bluebook* and the *Public Contract Law Journal* Style Guide (available at <http://pcli.org/wp-content/blogs.dir/3/files/2014/01/2013-2014-PCLJ-Style-Guide.pdf>).
- (11) The following information shall be presented on the title page: title; author's name; address and telephone number; and ABA membership number. For Division I entries, the following additional information must be presented: law school attending and author's year in school. For Division II entries, the following additional information must be presented: (a) the author's age or years of practice or (b) the date the author's LL.M. degree was received.
- (12) Copies must be submitted by e-mail in Word format to the following address: Marilyn Neforas, Director, Section of Public Contract Law, marilyn.neforas@americanbar.org
- (13) All entries must be received by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time on September 30, 2015.
- (14) Winners will be selected and notified by January 15, 2016. The first-place winner in each division will receive an award of \$5,000; second place in each division will receive an award of \$2,500; and third place in Division I will receive an award of \$1,000. As a condition of receiving any cash award, winners must submit a completed W-9. Winners are responsible for all taxes associated with receiving an award.
- (15) Winning entries will be considered for publication in the *Public Contract Law Journal*, and selected competitors may be invited to present their papers during the ABA Section of Public Contract Law's annual Federal Procurement Institute; however, publication and presentation decisions are made independent of the writing competition and there is no guarantee that a winning entry will be published or selected for presentation.
- (16) The entries will be judged by an impartial panel of judges made up of members of the Public Contract Law Journal practitioner editorial board. Entries will be judged based on the following criteria: clarity of the theme or thesis presented, significance of the topic to the field, originality and creativity of topic treatment, quality of analysis, quality of research and authority provided, and technical quality of writing, including organization, grammar, syntax and form.
- (17) The judges may withhold some or all of the awards if the submissions are not of notable quality. In the event of a tie in any place, the award amount for that place will be split equally among the place winners.

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