



March 11, 2014

## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Principals and Social Studies Department Chairpersons  
**From:** Supreme Court Staff Attorney  
**Subject:** 2014 Law Day Essay Contest

Law Week 2014 will be celebrated from April 25 – May 4, 2014, and the Judiciary of Guam, the District Court of Guam and the Guam Bar Association have partnered to sponsor the annual Law Day Essay Contest. The essay contest allows students to recognize the importance of law in our society.

This year's Law Day theme, "**American Democracy and the Rule of Law: Why Every Vote Matters,**" calls on us to reflect on the importance of a citizen's right to vote and the challenges we still face in ensuring that we all have the opportunity to participate in our democracy.

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 11, 2014**. If you have any questions, please contact me at 475-3395 or by email at [eeschbach@guamsupremecourt.com](mailto:eeschbach@guamsupremecourt.com).

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

*Erica Eschbach*

ERICA ESCHBACH

**Attachment:** *2014 Law Day Essay Contest Flyer*

# 2014 LAW DAY ESSAY CONTEST

American Democracy and  
the Rule of Law:

WHY EVERY  
**OTE**  
MATTERS

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.

## 2014 Law Day Theme:

**American Democracy and the Rule of Law: Why Every Vote Matters**

As we approach the 50th anniversaries of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965, the 2014 Law Day theme, American Democracy and the Rule of Law: Why Every Vote Matters, calls on us to reflect on the importance of a citizen's right to vote and the challenges we still face in ensuring that we all have the opportunity to participate in our democracy.

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

Lyndon B. Johnson, the 36th U.S. President, once said "[T]he vote is the most powerful instrument ever devised by man for breaking down injustice and destroying the terrible walls which imprison men because they are different from other men."

1. What does this quote mean to you?
2. Please explain some of the injustices that Guam voters face today.
3. What can be done to address these injustices?

## 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.



**Prizes: (prizes donated by Guam Law Library)**

**First Place – iPad mini**

**Second Place – \$200 Cash**

**Third Place – \$100 Cash**

**Deadline:**

**Friday, April 11, 2014**

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

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_  
School: \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

## Certification of Student:

I am submitting an original essay to the 2014 Law Day 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