



Law Day Essay Contest

\$250 First Place Prize

\$150 Second Place Prize

\$75 Third Place Prize

Open to High School Seniors and Juniors

Sponsored by:

Utah Minority Bar Association (UMBA)

THEME

~

Law in the 21st Century: Enduring Traditions, Emerging Challenges

~~~~

To Enter: Write a 3-5 page essay (typed, double-spaced) related to the Law Day 2010 Theme. For example, how do you think the laws have adhered to tradition while also addressing today's national/global issues? Examples could include:

- How terrorism has affected the laws protecting our individual rights.
- Increased use of technology such as, the internet and how our privacy rights are affected.

**Deadline: Entries must be received by 5 p.m. on March 31, 2010.**

Send entries by email to: [umbalaw@utahbar.org](mailto:umbalaw@utahbar.org)

**Include the following information: name, address, phone number, email address, school name, age, and grade.** If you do not have access to email or have questions, please call Grace Acosta at 521-6677.

Winner(s) will be notified by April 15, 2010 and will be invited to attend the Law Day Luncheon on Friday, April 30, 2010 at noon at Little America Hotel for presentation of the award.

Law Day is a National Celebration sponsored by the American Bar Association to underscore how law and the legal process have contributed to the freedoms that all Americans Share. For further information about Law Day, go to [www.lawday.org](http://www.lawday.org).

## Utah Minority Bar Association

c/o S. Grace Acosta  
505 East 200 South  
Salt Lake City, UT 84102  
[umbalaw@utahbar.org](mailto:umbalaw@utahbar.org)  
[www.umbalaw.org](http://www.umbalaw.org)

# Law Day 2010 Fact Sheet

## What Is Law Day?

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 all Americans share.

## When Is Law Day Celebrated?

May 1 is the official date, but celebrations often take place either before or after that date. Some bar associations celebrate Law Week or Law Month. Law Day also provides an opportunity to recognize the role of courts in our democracy.

## How Did Law Day Begin?

**1957** American Bar Association President Charles S. Rhyne, a Washington, D.C., attorney, envisions a special national day for celebrating our legal system.

**1958** President Dwight D. Eisenhower establishes Law Day as a day of national dedication to the principles of government under law.

**1968** May 1 is designated by joint resolution of Congress as the official date for celebrating Law Day.

## What Is the Law Day 2010 Theme?

Law in the 21st Century: Enduring Traditions, Emerging Challenges

## Why Is This Theme Important?

During the last decade our country's national security, morale, and economics have been greatly affected by events that have occurred in our country and abroad and these events have greatly affected the laws that have been passed in the last decade. When laws are made in the United States the principles and standards of the Constitution continue to affect how our laws are crafted; however, as we become increasingly globalized, as technology advances, and as we continue to adapt to national and global changes, adherence to the traditions of the Constitution may become difficult or may not be possible.

What are the challenges that lie ahead as our nation enters the 21<sup>st</sup> century and what role will the law play in addressing these issues? Will we be able to hold onto the ideals and traditions of law that our country was founded upon?

\*\*\*\*\*

***“We lose ourselves when we compromise the very ideals that we fight to defend. And we honor those ideals by upholding them not when it's easy, but when it is hard.”***

-Barack Obama, Nobel Lecture, Dec. 10, 2009

***“Even when laws have been written down, they ought not always to remain unaltered.”***

-Aristotle (384 BC - 322 BC), *Politics*