IP Brief Article Writing Competition

Competition Rules

GOALS: It is the goal of the Intellectual Property Brief to encourage discussion about intellectual property issues and to provide an opportunity for students and practitioners interested in IP to be published. As part of this effort, the IP Brief will be sponsoring this competition as encouragement for those inspired by IP.

PRIZES: The first place winner will receive $150. The second place winner will receive $100. The top three submissions will also be guaranteed publication in the Intellectual Property Brief. No substitutions for prizes will be permitted, except at the Brief’s discretion. Winners not associated with the Washington College of Law must submit a completed W-9 to receive their money prize.

WHO MAY ENTER: Open to any law school student in good standing, over the age of 18, who is currently attending an accredited law school, or any practitioners in good standing with a United States bar. While current board members or staffers of the IP brief may submit, they are not eligible for the monetary prize.

ESSAYS: Entrants must submit an original article for consideration before 11:59 PM (EST) on January 12, 2018 and must discuss some form of intellectual property law. The selection committee will base its selection broadly, affording the greatest flexibility to subject areas.

SUBMISSION: All applications must be submitted to the Brief as a PDF attachment to ipbrief@wcl.american.edu. The email should have the subject line “[2018 Competition] your title.” The preferred format for the article is 1.5 spaced, 12 pt Times New Roman font, and 1 inch margins. Citations must be in the footnotes and in proper Bluebook law review style.
JUDGING: The essays will be judged based on research and analysis, choice of topic, writing style, originality, and contribution to the literature available on the topic. The winner will be selected in February 2018 by a panel of judges appointed at the discretion of the Editor-in-Chief.

SELECTION AND NOTIFICATION OF WINNERS: The Brief will notify the winners by email of their selection no later than March 1, 2018. The Brief reserves the right not to award any prizes if it is determined that no entries are of sufficient quality to merit selection that year. If a potential winner does not respond within ten (10) business days after the Brief’s first attempt to contact him or her, or if the contact is returned as non-deliverable, the potential winner forfeits all rights to be named as winner or receive a prize, and an alternate winner may be chosen.

LICENSE/GRA nt OF RIGHTS: By entering, the Author grants to the Brief the exclusive right to publish, reproduce, distribute, and to authorize the publication, reproduction, distribution, and use of the Work, either separately or as part of a collective work. This right covers, but is not limited to, the following forms in which the Work may appear: electronic media on computerized retrieval systems; printed copies of a bound volume; individual reprints; collections of essays; all electronic forms of publication; the internet website over which the Brief exercises effective control and also by means of a third party online legal information provider, such as, but not limited to, LEXIS-NEXIS, Westlaw and Bloomberg; and any other similar forms of reproduction.

ODDS OF WINNING: Chances of winning will vary depending on the number and quality of entries. However, the Section reserves the right not to award any prize if the judges determine that no entries are sufficient quality to merit selection that year.

RESTRICTIONS: Void where prohibited. Only original un-published writings are eligible. Jointly authored writings will be considered, but consent must be provided from all authors. The Brief gives no guarantee that there will be a winner.

LAWS AND REGULATIONS: This contest is governed by U.S. law and all relevant federal, state, and local laws and regulations apply. By entering, all participants agree that the competition shall be governed by the laws of the District of Columbia. Void where prohibited by law.