



MEDIA OPPORTUNITY

April 29, 2008

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Toledo Bar Association Communications Office

Toledo Bar Celebrates 50th Anniversary of Law Day:

Ohio's Lieutenant Governor Headlines; Jack Lessenberry Addresses Attorneys and Students

Judge Melvin Resnick Honored; Student Essay Writers Acknowledged

Lawyers Recognized by WTOL News 11 for Public Service

Law Day Timeline: Thursday, May 1, 2008 Toledo Riverfront Hotel
11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

11:30 am—High School & Junior High Students Receive Essay Awards

For the Annual Essay Writing Contest, co-sponsored by the *Toledo Blade*, area students wrote winning essays addressing the 2008 Law Day question.

The question and a list of eight student winners accompanies this document. All winning students will receive plaques from *The Blade* and U.S. Savings Bonds from the Toledo Bar Association sponsored by the Toledo Bar Association Foundation. **James H. Irmen, Esq.**, President of the Toledo Bar Association will preside.

Law Day Timeline: Thursday, May 1, 2008 Toledo Riverfront Hotel
12:00 pm—Lunch
12:30 pm—Program

Hon. Melvin L. Resnick receives the **Distinguished Toledo Attorney Award** presented on behalf of The University of Toledo College of Law Alumni Association by **Hon. Charles Doneghy**.

Student Essay Winners acknowledged.

WTOL News 11 presents plaques in appreciation to Toledo area attorneys, for their service to the **"Ask the Attorney" program**.

Lt. Gov. Lee Fisher and journalist **Jack Lessenberry** present Law Day addresses.

Law Day is a national celebration of the American system of justice. It is observed on the first day of May each year.

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Rule of Law: Foundations for Communities of Opportunity and Equity

2008 marks the 50th anniversary of Law Day with its theme, *Rule of Law: Foundations for Communities of Opportunity and Equity*. The Rule of Law refers to a system of self-government with a strong and accessible legal process. It features a system based on fair, publicized, broadly understood and stable laws, and diverse, competent, and independent lawyers and judges. This foundation is essential to foster sustainable communities of opportunity and equity.

THIS YEAR'S ESSAY QUESTION: On Saturday, November 3, 2007, President Pervez Musharraf of Pakistan declared a state of emergency. The declaration suspended the constitution. President Musharraf also postponed parliamentary elections and replaced the chief justice of the Pakistan Supreme Court, who was subsequently placed under house arrest. Lawyers led protests against President Musharraf's actions. Within a matter of days government forces had arrested an estimated 700 lawyers.

Students were asked to write an essay in 500 words or less addressing **whether the President of the United States could declare an emergency, suspend the constitution, postpone elections, replace the chief justice of the Supreme Court and arrest any lawyer who would protest such action. What would be the greatest immediate affect such action would have on the lives of our citizens? How would this affect the Rule of Law as defined above?**

Toledo Bar Association's 2008 Caty Armstrong Memorial Law Day Essay Contest Winners

Division I:	11th & 12 Grades
1 st Place	Daniel Gordon, Maumee Valley Country Day School
2 nd Place	Ryan Moline, Emmauel Christian High School
3 rd Place	Stephanie Kreuz, Homeschooled
Division II:	9th & 10th Grades
1 st Place	Stacie Hunt, St. Ursula Academy
2 nd Place	Michael Kerstiens, Sylvania Northview High School
Division III:	7th & 8th Grades
1 st Place	Brian Snoch, Napoleon Middle School
2 nd Place	Carolyn Sowa, Gateway Middle School
3 rd Place	Carey Anne Dodd, Notre Dame Junior Academy