



SAN FRANCISCO INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW ASSOCIATION

Second Annual Writing Competition

Official Rules

Sponsor: The SFIPLA 2009 Writing Competition (“Competition”) is sponsored by the San Francisco Intellectual Property Law Association (“Sponsor”). Sponsor will only accept entries that are completed and submitted as described below.

Eligibility Requirements: Individuals who are enrolled in their second or third year as of October 1, 2009, in either a three-year full-time or four-year part-time Juris Doctorate program at any ABA accredited law school located in California are eligible. Competition entrants must also be student members of the San Francisco Intellectual Property Law Association (to join, go to <http://www.sfipla.com/membership.html>).

Submission:

- Email to writingcompetition@sfipla.com (PDF format only);
or
- Mail six (6) hard copies to: SFIPLA 2nd Annual Writing Competition
237 Kearny Street, Suite 123
San Francisco, CA 94108
- Submissions must be postmarked or emailed no later than **December 1, 2009**.
- Papers must address an intellectual property topic such as patents, copyrights, domain names, trademarks, internet law, computer law, or trade secret law.
- Papers must be of publishable quality for a law review and not have been previously published or selected for publication. “Publishable quality” shall be in the sole discretion of Sponsor. Papers used for academic credit or papers submitted to law reviews, etc., may be submitted as is or in a modified form, as long as previously unpublished.
- No identification information of the entrant should appear on the paper, including name of entrant and law school.
- Papers should be no more than 20 double-spaced, single sided, typed pages, including footnotes. Papers must be typewritten on 8 ½" x 11" paper, 1" margin all around. Citations must be in approved Bluebook law review form.
- Each entry must include a completed registration form available at www.sfipla.com/writingcompetition.html.

Judging: A panel of at least five (5) judges, comprised of members of the Board of the SFIPLA and/or the USF – Intellectual Property Law Bulletin will evaluate the entries and select the winning entries. Criteria for judging are: (a) originality of thought (25%); (b) contributions to the law and practice (25%); (c) completeness of scholarly research (25%); and (d) the overall style and content of the work (25%). All entrants will be notified of the Competition results on or about January 30, 2010 in

writing, either by hard copy or email, at Sponsor's sole discretion.

Prizes: The entrant selected to win the Grand Prize will receive a check for \$2,500, and his or her entry will be published in a future issue of the USF – Intellectual Property Law Bulletin. The entrant selected to win First Prize will receive a check for \$1,000. The entrant selected to win Second Prize will receive a check for \$500. The prizes will be delivered by U.S. mail or other carrier within two (2) weeks of the announcement of the winning entries. If for any reason a winner is unable or unwilling to comply with these rules, an alternate winner may be selected in the sole discretion of the Sponsor.

Publishing Rights: By participating in the Competition, each entrant agrees that if awarded the Grand Prize, he/she grants to Sponsor and/or the USF – Intellectual Property Law Bulletin the First Print Rights to entrant's work for publication in a future issue of the USF – Intellectual Property Law Bulletin, and he/she grants to Sponsor the First Electronic Rights to entrant's work for publication on Sponsor's website. Each entrant further agrees that if awarded the Grand Prize, he/she grants Sponsor and/or the USF – Intellectual Property Law Bulletin print and electronic re-print rights, provided, however Sponsor and/or USF – Intellectual Property Law Bulletin will provide the entrant with notice of re-print at least thirty (30) days prior to re-printing. Each entrant agrees that if awarded the Grand Prize, the first publication in the USF – Intellectual Property Law Bulletin of entrant's work will include a footnote on the first page acknowledging the SFIPLA 2nd Annual Writing Competition. Finally, each entrant agrees that if awarded the Grand Prize, he/she will include this same footnote in any subsequent print or electronic publication of entrant's work.

Miscellaneous: Entrants agree to be bound by these Official Rules and by the decisions of Sponsor and the judges, which are final and binding in all respects. Sponsor reserves the right to prohibit participation in the Competition of persons whose eligibility is in question, or are otherwise disqualified from the Competition.

Questions: Email questions to writingcompetition@sfipla.com.