



SFIPLA 1st Annual Writing Competition

Official Rules

Sponsor: The SFIPLA 2008 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 first or second year as of May 1, 2008, in either a three-year full-time or four-year part-time Juris Doctorate program at U.C. Hastings, U.C. Berkeley, University of San Francisco, Golden Gate University, Stanford University, and Santa Clara University are eligible. Competition entrants must also be student members of the San Francisco Intellectual Property Law Association (to join, go to www.sfipla.org/Membership.html).

Submission:

- Email to writingcompetition@sfipla.com (PDF format only); **or**
- Mail six (6) hard copies to: SFIPLA 1st Annual Writing Competition
237 Kearny Street, Suite 123
San Francisco, CA 94108
- Submissions must be postmarked or emailed no later than **November 15, 2008**.
- 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. “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credit or papers submitted to law reviews, etc., may be submitted as is or in a modified form, as long as previously unpublished.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 from 20 to 40 double-spaced, single sided, typed pages, including footnotes. Papers must be typewritten (double-spaced) 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 members of 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, 2009 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 \$1,500. The entrant selected to win Second Prize will receive a check for \$1,000. The prizes will be delivered by U.S. mail or other carrier within 2 weeks of the announcement of the winning entries.

Publishing Rights: Entrants will retain ownership of the copyright for their entries. However, by participating in the Competition, each entrant agrees that if awarded the Grand Prize, entrant grants a royalty-free, perpetual license to Sponsor to publish entrant's work in a future issue of the USF Intellectual Property Law Bulletin, as well as online on Sponsor's website. Upon publication, the Grand Prize winning entry must include a footnote on the first page acknowledging the SFIPLA 1st Annual Writing Competition.

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.