Essay/Video Documentary Submission Requirements

- Contest Goal: The purpose of the contest is to encourage statewide engagement between the bar and higher education students to focus on the critical importance of state and local level policy to the protection of civil and equal rights.

- To Enter the Contest: Contestants should submit a completed application form and either a paper or a short video documentary analyzing a Pennsylvania state/local law or lawyer/judge implicating civil rights. Examples of topics include a biography or oral history of a trailblazing individual in the law such as a county’s first African-American judge, or an examination of a law, such as a history of the PA Equal Rights Amendment or a current local housing ordinance disproportionately affecting disabled people or people of color.

- Who Can Apply: The contest is open to all current, full-time undergraduate students who are Pennsylvania residents and enrolled at the time of the contest submission deadline in two and four year colleges and universities. Papers may be authored by teams of up to two (2) students, and documentaries may be produced by teams of up to three (3) students. Each student may submit only one entry.

Essay Rules:

- Each essay must reflect the contestant’s or contestants’ own research, writing and original thinking.

- Essays must be typed using double-line spacing and 12 point Times New Roman font with one inch margins.

- The total length of the essay should be up to two pages, not including the title page or reference page.

- Essays should be submitted electronically before midnight on March 15, 2016, using either Microsoft Word or PDF format to: civilandequalrightsessay@pabar.org; or essays may be mailed and must be postmarked by March 15, 2016 to:

CERC/YLD/LRE ESSAY CONTEST
Attn: Ursula Marks
P. O. Box 186
Harrisburg, PA 17108
Video Documentary Rules:

- Video documentary submissions should be no longer than three minutes in length.

- Please send video submissions on a DVD or flash drive as our email system cannot accommodate large files. Videos must be mailed and must be postmarked by March 15, 2016:

  CERC/YLD/LRE ESSAY CONTEST
  Attn: Ursula Marks
  P. O. Box 186
  Harrisburg, PA 17108

- If using music in documentary video submissions, use only music without copyright restrictions.