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**2017 DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
DRUM MAJOR FOR JUSTICE ADVOCACY COMPETITION
RULES & REGULATIONS**

STUDENT HANDBOOK



Toronto, Canada
July 2017



National Bar Association



Dear Contestant:

Welcome to the 2017 Dr. Martin Luther King Drum Major for Justice Advocacy Competition! The Competition is an annual oral and written advocacy program sponsored by the National Bar Association (NBA) and supported by the National Bar Institute (NBI). Thank you for registering to compete in this Competition.

The deadline to submit your essay is Saturday, April 22, 2017. Please note: Some regions may have local competitions that have early essay submission deadlines. Please read the flier for your region for more details. You will deliver your essay in a Regional Competition on or before Friday, June 17, 2017.

Here you will have the opportunity to win a scholarship and trip to Toronto, Canada to compete in the National Competition to be held on Wednesday, August 2, 2017. If you succeed in reaching the National Competition and competing in the August 2 Competition, you will receive a \$500 scholarship. In addition, you have the opportunity to win one of the top three scholarships in the amount of \$1500, \$2000, and \$2500 if your reach 3rd, 2nd, or 1st place, respectively, in the Competition. Winning one of the top three scholarships will replace the automatic \$500 scholarship.

To prepare for the Competition, please review this packet. It contains important information which will assist you in researching the topic and competing in area competitions. It is divided into the following sections:

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Should you have any questions about the materials contained in this packet, please contact the Regional Director for your state. To determine your Regional Director, please visit http://www.nationalbar.org/nba/boardatlarge.shtml and scroll down to the page to see a list of Regional Directors. Should you have any questions about the materials contained in this packet, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone at: (301) 497-9997 or via e-mail Andrea.Evans@EvansIPLaw.com

Thank you!

Handwritten signature of Andrea H. Evans

Andrea H. Evans, Esq.

Chairperson,

2017 Martin Luther King, Jr.

Drum Major for Justice Advocacy Competition Committee



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I. PURPOSE AND HISTORY OF COMPETITION

The Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Drum Major for Justice Advocacy Competition is a contest designed to motivate high school students to excel in education. The Competition encourages students to express their views on a pre-selected topic and focuses on the ability of the students to communicate orally and in writing. The contest is also designed to give young people experience in public speaking and reviewing legal documents as well as provide an opportunity for them to obtain some financial support to continue their education.

The National Bar Association's ("NBA") first annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Drum Major for Justice Advocacy Competition was held at its 75th Annual Convention in Washington, D.C., in 2000. As a result of the overwhelming success of the Competition, the NBA, with the support of the National Bar Institute ("NBI"), adopted it as a national program.

The topics of the Competition are always considered from the point of view of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and have included:

- Law enforcement treatment of persons of Arab descent and of the Muslim faith in terrorist investigations.
- The need for reauthorization of the Voting Rights Act of 1965.
- Recommendations for action on the 40th Anniversary of the Voting Rights Act to address the continuing problem of voter disenfranchisement in minority communities.
- The treatment of juveniles in the criminal justice system.
- The right of same-sex couples to marry.
- Repealing of Stand Your Ground laws.
- The funneling of young African American students into a "pre-school to prison" pipeline.
- Support of the Black Lives Matter movement versus All Lives Matter debate.

The National Bar Association through the National Bar Institute has awarded over \$280,000 in scholarships to over 100 students since the inception of the Competition in 2000.



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II. 2017 MLK COMPETITION QUESTION & RESEARCH GUIDE

A. QUESTION:

On November 8, 2016, Donald Trump won the 2017 Presidential election. In the days after the election, several media outlets, including The Los Angeles Times, Fox News, The Washington Post, and the Christian Science Monitor reported that a number of high school students across the country protested the election by walking out of their classes stating that they want their voices heard and they want to show they are united. Explaining why she was involved in the protests, Suzanne Rueda, a high school sophomore told the LA Times. "We can't vote. This is all we can do."

What would Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. say about the students' response to the election?

RESEARCH GUIDE:

To assist you in your research of the Competition Question, please read the materials below. These materials will help you understand the legal, political, and public policy issues and relevant cases. These materials are the starting point for your research. In order to fully formulate your position, you may need to find other cases, articles, or sources of information.

A. Sources on Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Archives at The King Center - > <http://www.thekingcenter.org/>
- The King Research and Education Institute - > <http://mlkpp01.stanford.edu/>
- Books - > <http://www.worldcat.org/search?q=au%3AKing%2C+Martin+Luther>

B. US. Elections

- Historical Presidential Elections- > <http://www.270towin.com/historical-presidential-elections/>
<https://www.archives.gov/federal-register/electoral-college/historical.html>
- Protest against the President -> <http://www.cnn.com/2016/11/10/politics/president-protests-history/>
- <http://newsroom.ucla.edu/stories/putting-post-election-demonstrations-in-context>
<https://www.boston.com/news/history/2017/01/18/a-nation-of-dissent-the-most-famous-inaugural-protests-in-u-s-history>

C. President Donald Trump

- Actions Taken by President Donald Trump -> <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions>



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III. COMPETITION RULES

A. Essay Format:

1. The essay should be no longer than 1000 words.
2. The type font must be Arial, 12 point, double-spaced.
3. The margins must be 1" and text must be fully justified.
4. The essay **MUST** be accompanied by a Contestant Cover Sheet Form. (see page 9)
5. The essay may be submitted via e-mail or U.S. mail, but e-mail is preferred.
 - a. If submitted via e-mail, the Contestant must send the essay as an attachment to an e-mail in Word format and send to the Regional Director via email.
 - b. If submitted by mail, essay must be typewritten and mailed to the Regional.

B. Regional Competition Rules:

1. **Eligible Students:** Current high school juniors and seniors. All students will receive a prize for participating in the National Competition. To receive the prize, seniors must submit a proof of enrollment letter from their college or university **90 days** after their participation in the National Competition. Juniors will receive their prize when they matriculate for college. Juniors must also submit proof of enrollment letter from their college or university by **September 30, 2018**.
2. **Assessment of Essays and Oral Presentations:** Essays and Oral Presentations will be evaluated according to six categories: (a) quality, (b) content, (c) persuasiveness, (d) style, (e) organization, and (f) creativity. The maximum number of points each contestant may receive per category is five points for his or her essay and five points for his or her oral presentation, for a maximum total of thirty points for the entire essay and thirty points for the entire oral presentation. Advancing students will be notified via e-mail or U.S. mail. Advancing students **MUST** confirm their participation within 48 hours of receiving notification.
3. **The Essay Question:** The speaker must incorporate the topic and/or answer the essay question. It should not be recited verbatim. Failure to incorporate the topic and/or answer the essay question will result in points being deducted.
4. **Props:** The speaker is prohibited from using any props. Any use of props will result in points being deducted. The speaker may use notes.
5. **Timing:** The oral presentation must be a minimum of three minutes and a maximum of seven minutes. An oral presentation outside of this timeframe will result in points being deducted.
6. **Dress:** All Contestants should be dressed in business attire (i.e., suits and ties for the men and suits or dresses for the ladies) for the Regional Competition.
7. All essays submitted become the property of the National Bar Association. They will not be returned. Contestants should retain a copy for his/her records.



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8. All NBA Affiliate Chapters and Regions will be responsible for verifying the eligibility of the Contestants. The National Competition Committee will determine questions of Contestant eligibility and **ALL DETERMINATIONS OF ELIGIBILITY BY THIS BODY ARE FINAL.**

C. DEADLINES

Saturday, April 22, 2017

All essays must be submitted via e-mail or U.S. mail to the Regional Director for your region or the email address indicated by the Regional Director. To determine your region, please visit <http://www.nationalbar.org/nba/boardatlarge.shtml>. **PLEASE NOTE:** You may need to compete in a local competition which will have an earlier essay submission deadline. Please check the flier for your region for further details.

Thursday, August 3, 2017

NATIONAL BAR ASSOCIATION 2017 ANNUAL DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DRUM MAJOR FOR JUSTICE ADVOCACY COMPETITION TORONTO, CANADA.



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IV. STRUCTURE OF THE COMPETITION

1. LOCAL COMPETITION

You may compete in a local competition held by an Affiliate Chapter of the NBA. From this competition, you may be selected as one of the Contestants to represent the Chapter at the Regional Competition. Up to five students may be chosen from the local competition to compete in the Regional Competition.

If you compete in a local competition, please check the flier announcing your Regional Competition for the deadline to submit your essay. **NOTE:** The deadline for the local competition **MAY BE EARLIER** than the deadline for areas not holding local competitions.

If a local competition is not being held in your area, you will compete in the Regional Competition. The structure of the local competition is the same as the structure of the Regional Competition.

2. REGIONAL COMPETITION

A Regional Competition should be held in two stages: Essay Competition and Oral Advocacy Competition.

- **Essay Competition:** Attorneys or judges will be chosen to judge both the essay and oral advocacy stages of the competition and assess the essays in advance of the Oral Advocacy Competition.
- **Oral Advocacy Competition:** The oral advocacy stage of the competition shall be held on or before **Saturday, June 17, 2017.**

If local competitions are held, the Regional Competition will consist only of the Oral Advocacy Competition. The timeframe for completion of the Regional Competition is **Saturday, June 17, 2017.**

If some but not all Affiliate Chapters hold local competitions, the Regional Competition may consist of Contestants selected through the local competitions and those from areas where local competitions did not occur. In those areas where a local competition did not occur, the Region may select Contestants to compete if the Contestant receives essay score of 20 points or above.

The first place winner of each Regional Competition will represent the Region at the National Competition held during the NBA Annual Convention. If the first place winner is unable to represent the Region at the National Competition, the second place winner will represent the Region.

3. NATIONAL COMPETITION

The National Competition will be held on **Wednesday, August 2, 2017.** No more than twelve Contestants (one from each region) will be selected to compete in the National Competition. The 2011 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Drum Major for Justice Advocacy Competition Committee will select three judges to evaluate the Contestants' oral presentations. The judges will evaluate the essays according to the same criteria used in the Regional Competition. **THE DECISIONS OF THE JUDGES ARE FINAL AND NOT SUBJECT TO AN APPEAL.** All contestants advancing to the National Competition will receive scholarships for participating in the National Competition.



MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

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V. OFFICIAL CONTESTANT’S COVER SHEET, APPLICATION FORM, AND PHOTOGRAPHY RELEASE WAIVER AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY

NOTE: All three forms must be included with your essay.

2017 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Drum Major for Justice Advocacy Competition Contestant Cover Sheet

Applicant’s Background Information Please type or print

Date: _____ Submit Photo and Essay with your Application

I. Applicant Data

Student’s Name: _____ First Middle Last

Permanent Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Cell Phone: () _____ Email: _____

Parent or Guardian’s Name _____ First Last

Permanent Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Phone: () _____ Cell Phone: () _____

Email _____

Student’s High School: _____

Grade Level: _____ Grade Point Average: _____

High School Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

High School Phone: () _____



MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Drum Major for Justice Advocacy Competition

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Application

Please answer the below listed questions. A parent or legal guardian must sign your application. If a parent or legal guardian does not sign your application, and time permits, your application will be returned for you to complete. In the event time does not permit the return of an incomplete application, such application may not be considered. Attach additional sheets as necessary.

1. List academic honors received.

2. Briefly describe extracurricular activities (school clubs, volunteer organizations, not-for-profit organizations, etc.) you are involved in.

3. For Seniors: List two-year/four-year College or University you plan to attend. Please include an acceptance letter to this form.

***NOTE: Attach your written essay on the official topic selected by the National Bar Association to your Application. The essay must not exceed 1,000 words.

Signature of Applicant

Date

Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian

Date



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Photography Release Waiver and Release of Liability

I hereby grant permission to the National Bar Association (NBA) and MetLife, Inc. (MetLife), and their agents, employees or assignees, to photograph competitor _____ (Competitor) and use the photograph(s) for informational, educational, promotional, or publicity purposes concerning the promotion of its services and events, including but not limited to the Dr. Martin Luther King Drum Major for Justice Advocacy Competition (Competition).

I understand that the photograph(s) may be used by NBA or MetLife on their respective websites, publications or displays, magazines, reports, or other documents; or electronic or digital recordings as well as in press releases concerning the Competition.

I also grant permission to NBA and MetLife, their agents, employees or assignees to offer the photograph(s) for use or distribution in other publications, electronic or otherwise, without notifying me or seeking any further consent or authorization from me.

I understand that the NBA and MetLife, their agents, employees or assignees, may modify photograph(s) in the process of editing. I hereby grant NBA and MetLife, their agents, employees or assignees, permission to select, crop, and reproduce a photograph or photographs at their discretion. I waive any right to inspect or approve the finished photographs or printed or electronic matter that may be used in conjunction with them now or in the future. I also understand that neither the Competitor nor I will be entitled to any compensation or royalties for use of the photograph(s).

I also agree to release NBA and MetLife, their agents, employees or assignees, from any and all claims, damages or liability arising out of or connected to the use of the photograph(s) as stated above.

I have read and understand this release and waiver of liability, and voluntarily accept and agree to its terms.

Name of Parent or Guardian/Competitor (if over 18)

Signature of Parent or Guardian/Competitor (if over 18)

Date