The Senior Lawyers Division Statewide Law Day Essay Contest, now known as The Honorable J. Mark Hayes, II Law Day Essay Contest is open to all 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grade students. All students, whether in public school, private school or homeschooled are welcomed and encouraged to participate.

Each student participant must write an essay of 1,000 words or less on this topic:

**Explain how the rule of law, the authority and influence of law in society, is important to the American founding principal that all men are created equal.**