

**American Bar Association Standing Committee on Law and National Security**  
**2010 National Security Law Student Writing Competition**  
**“National Security in a Globalized World”**

**\*\*Cash Prize and Trip to the Law and National Security Conference in Washington, DC\*\***

**Overview:** The Standing Committee on Law and National Security, founded in 1962 by then-ABA President and later Supreme Court Justice Lewis J. Powell, conducts studies, sponsors programs and conferences, and administers working groups on law and national security-related issues. The Committee's activities assist policymakers, educate lawyers, the media and the public, and enable the Committee to make recommendations and provide advice on such subjects as the legal responses to terrorism, the restructuring of the intelligence community and its role in law enforcement, and operational international law in the conduct of the military. In furtherance of this mission the Standing Committee is proud to announce the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual writing competition for law students.

**Topic:** As we begin the second decade of the twenty-first century, the law is changing dramatically as it seeks to shape and adapt to new conditions. Economic markets are becoming global, transactions require cultural adaptation and understanding, populations are more mobile, and communication technologies bridge distances and time zones to form new communities around the world. All of us must renew our commitment to the enduring principles of law, become knowledgeable about other legal systems, recognize the need to adapt our practices, and acquire new cultural understandings. In a global era, matters such as human rights, criminal justice, intellectual property, business transactions, dispute resolution, human migration, and environmental regulation become not just shared concerns but international issues—among nations—with National Security Law implications. In recognition of this rapidly changing era, the ABA May 2010 Law Day focuses on understanding and appreciating the emerging challenges and enduring traditions of law in the 21st century. This theme provides the backdrop and opportunity to explore the many facets of this year's writing competition topic: **National Security in a Globalized World**. The writing competition seeks to encourage scholarly debate regarding current issues related to U.S. national security in the global environment; international security; international treaties and their impact on national security.

**Prize:** The winning essay will receive a cash prize of \$500 and free registration to the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Review of the Field of National Security Law Conference held in November in Washington, DC. In addition to registration for the conference, the prize will include reimbursement for coach travel and one night's lodging. Additionally, the essay will be published in the *National Security Law Report*. Winner must be present at the conference to receive the award.

**Eligibility:** The competition is open to all students who are in attendance at an ABA accredited law school between September 1, 2009 and August 15, 2010. Only original and previously unpublished papers are eligible. Papers prepared for law school credit are eligible provided they are original work. Jointly authored papers are not eligible. Entrants can have a faculty member or practicing lawyer review and critique their work, but the submission must be the student's own work product. The name of the reviewing professor or lawyer must be noted on the entry. Committee members, staff, and selection committee members shall not participate in the contest or review process. Only one essay may be submitted per entrant.

**Format:** Essays may not exceed 5,000 words, including title, citations, and footnotes. Essays over 5,000 words will be rejected. The text of the essay must be double-spaced, with twelve-point font and one-inch margins. Entries should reflect the style of ABA Standing Committee on Law and National Security's *National Security Law Report* articles rather than law review style. Entrants are encouraged to review past copies of the News available at <http://www.abanet.org/natsecurity/> - prior to drafting their submissions. Citations must be embedded in text or in footnote form, as opposed to endnotes. Cites must conform with *The Bluebook: Uniform System of Citation*.

**Entry Procedure:** Each submission must include a SEPARATE COVER PAGE (not included in the 5,000 word count) with the entrant's name, law school, year of study, mailing and email address, and phone number. The contestant's name and other identifying markings, such as school name, MAY NOT appear on any copy of the submitted essay.

**Deadlines:** Submission must be postmarked no later than **August 15, 2010** and mailed to: American Bar Association, Standing Committee on Law and National Security, 740 15th Street NW, Washington, DC 20005; or sent via email to [hmcMahon@staff.abanet.org](mailto:hmcMahon@staff.abanet.org). The winner will be notified by **September 30, 2010**. By submitting an entry in this contest, the entrant grants the ABA and the ABA Standing Committee on Law and National Security permission to edit and publish the entry in the Committee's *National Security Law Report*. Please direct any questions about the contest to the Committee Staff Director at [hmcMahon@staff.abanet.org](mailto:hmcMahon@staff.abanet.org).

**Judging:** The winning entry will contain a clearly written original analysis of a national security law issue that is substantively accurate and persuasive, and supported by citations. The entries will be judged anonymously by a subcommittee made up of members of the ABA Standing Committee on Law and National Security.