THE HONORABLE GEARY WALKE LEGAL WRITING COMPETITION

Competition Topic

The United States Supreme Court is constantly called upon to exercise judgment on complex and difficult questions, with sometimes dramatic results on our culture, our values, and our lives.

Pick a United States Supreme Court decision made within the last twenty years which you believe is controversial. Did the Court get it right, or wrong? Why? Argue your position in a paper not to exceed five double-spaced pages.

You might consider, among other things: Is the Court’s decision likely to harm, or benefit, society as a whole? Does the law fairly, or unfairly, harm or benefit particular people or groups? Did the Court explain its position well? Did the Supreme Court justices agree on the decision, or were they divided and, if so, how?

Competition Rules:

Submissions are due no later than Monday, November 16, 2015 at 6:30 P.M. to Mary Keller or Stephanie Rosillo in the Business & Information Technology Division Office, Room 105.

You must submit two copies of your work. The first copy must have your name and the text “Competitor No. _____” on the top of the first page. The second copy must have the text “Competitor No. _____” on the top of the first page, and contain no other personally-identifiable information.

Submissions must be double-spaced, in 12 point font, and no longer than five pages.

You must clearly identify the primary decision by at least the name of the case and the year of its publication. You may, but are not required to, make reference to other cases, decisions, or other sources (legal or non-legal). You may, but are not required to, use legal citations.

By submitting your entry, you consent to the use of your name and/or written submission by the Paralegal Student Association.

Entries will be anonymized by the Business & Information Technology Division Office. They will then be scored by at least one professor of legal studies and at least one officer of the Paralegal Student Association who did not submit an entry to the competition.

The highest-scoring submission will be awarded 1st Place and $300 cash (or a cash equivalent). The second-highest scoring submission will be awarded 2nd Place and $200 cash (or a cash equivalent). The third-highest scoring submission will be awarded 3rd Place and $100 cash (or a cash equivalent). At its sole discretion, the Paralegal Student Association may recognize the next-highest-scoring submission or submissions, but no cash award will be given.

This competition is made possible by the generosity of the Honorable Geary Walke and the Rose State College Paralegal Student Association.