

A LEGACY OF  
*Liberty*  
CELEBRATING  
LINCOLN'S  
BICENTENNIAL

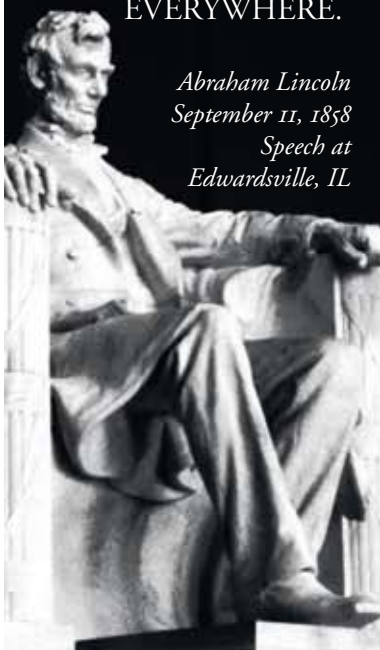
*Law Day*  
MAY 1, 2009

Michigan Lawyers Auxiliary  
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The Michigan Lawyers  
Auxiliary and the State Bar of  
Michigan sponsor these Law  
Day activities.

OUR DEFENSE  
IS IN THE  
PRESERVATION OF  
THE SPIRIT WHICH  
PRIZES LIBERTY  
AS THE HERITAGE  
OF ALL MEN,  
IN ALL LANDS,  
EVERYWHERE.

*Abraham Lincoln*  
*September 11, 1858*  
*Speech at*  
*Edwardsville, IL*



## STATE OF MICHIGAN 37TH ANNUAL LAW DAY ESSAY CONTEST

The 2009 theme is *“A Legacy of Liberty”*

### Eligibility

Sixth, seventh, and eighth grade students

### Requirements

Answer a public policy “should” question found at: <http://www.michbar.org/programs/lawday/> (navigate to the 2009 Essay Contest pages). Students may answer their own “should” question using one of the six Supreme Court cases listed to support their opinion. Each essay must have a completed entry form/cover sheet attached (PDF download). This information is to appear on the entry form/cover sheet only. Copying from published works or omission of any of these requirements will disqualify the essay. The format meets Michigan social studies standards and benchmarks and the MEAP extended response essay. Complete information is located on the website noted above.

### State Prizes

Three winners in each grade level.

First Prize: \$200 savings bond

Second Prize: \$150 savings bond

Third Prize: \$100 savings bond

In addition to the savings bonds and a trophy, each winner receives an award proclamation from the governor and various prizes. State level awards will be presented at the state Law Day luncheon on Friday, May 1, 2009, at Lansing, Michigan, where winners, their parents, their teachers, and principals are guests. Honorable mention certificates will be mailed to winning students.

### County Contests

Participate at the county or other local level Law Day Essay Contest (using this format); follow the local deadlines. The winning essays will be forwarded to compete in the State of Michigan 37th Law Day Essay Contest. Submit your essay directly to the state level of the contest if there is no local contest.

### Criteria

300-500 word limit, typed or handwritten in ink.

### Judging

Ability to follow directions of the contest and use proper grammar and spelling.

### Entries

Clear position, originality.

Support of position with application of core democratic values.

Support of position with prior knowledge of history, geography, civics, or economics.

Support of position with researched information from one of the eight Supreme Court cases (i.e., comparison of the “should” issue to a similar fact scenario from a researched Supreme Court opinion.)

### Deadline

February 23, 2009. ALL ESSAYS MUST BE POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN MID-NIGHT and should be sent to the address below. (Essays can be sent any time after completion.) Essays are retained and become the property of the Michigan Lawyers' Auxiliary and the State Bar of Michigan. Please make a personal copy for your records.

Joyce Nordeen  
State Bar of Michigan  
Michael Franck Building  
306 Townsend Street  
Lansing, MI 48933-2021

For additional questions or to receive the U.S. Supreme Court case highlights instructional, inter-active CD, contact Mary Ann Farris, [fmaunique@aol.com](mailto:fmaunique@aol.com), or call (989) 799-8787.