

DISTRICT COURT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS CLERK'S OFFICE



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Clerk of Court

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THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS HONORS PARTICIPANTS OF THE RULE OF LAW ESSAY CONTEST

In commemoration of Law Day, the Courts, Community, and Rule of Law Committee of the Third Circuit Court of Appeals hosted an essay contest for 5th and 6th grade students within the Third Circuit, which is comprised of Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The contest was spearheaded locally by the District Court of the Virgin Islands.

The Third Circuit Committee and each district within the Circuit partnered with bar associations, civic organizations, and educational institutions across the geographical reach of the Third Circuit to promote and oversee the essay contest. Fifth and sixth grade classes were invited to submit an essay entitled, "*What Does the Rule of Law Mean to You and to Our Country?*"

Five schools participated in the St. Croix and the St. Thomas/St. John Divisions: Antilles School, Alfredo Andrews Elementary School, Church of God Holiness Academy, Eulalie R. Rivera K-8 School, and the Good Hope Country Day School. The essays submitted were evaluated by the District Court Judges for focus, content development, organization, and style.

On May 11, 2022, the District Court of the Virgin Islands held a public, virtual ceremony, led by District Judge Wilma A. Lewis, where students from each participating school presented their respective class essays. Chief Judge Michael A. Chagares of the Third Circuit Court of Appeals brought greetings on behalf of the Third Circuit, and Chief Judge of the District Court Robert A. Molloy announced the winners. The first place winner is Ms. Jessica Clausen's 6th grade class at the Antilles School in St. Thomas; the second place winner is Ms. Sandra Antoine's 5th grade class at the Eulalie R. Rivera K-8 School on St. Croix; and the third place winner is Ms. Dahlia Knowles' Gifted and Talented 5th and 6th grade class at the Alfredo Andrews Elementary School on St. Croix. All essay submissions were outstanding and reflected the great amount of time, thought, and effort that students and teachers dedicated to this contest.

The District Court of the Virgin Islands extends sincere thanks to the participating students and teachers; the Courts, Community, and Rule of Law Committee of the Third Circuit Court of Appeals; the Courts and Community Committee of the District Court of the Virgin Islands; and participating lawyers from our legal community.

For more information, please contact:

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