

**SIXTH ANNUAL JUDGE SAMUEL G. DESIMONE
MEMORIAL LEGAL WRITING COMPETITION 2025-2026**

ELIGIBILITY: The Judge Samuel G. DeSimone Legal Writing Competition is open to full-time and part-time law students who are enrolled in the 2025-2026 academic year in an accredited Law School. Students must reside in Burlington, Ocean, Atlantic, Cape May Cumberland, Salem, Gloucester, or Camden counties. Students must be or have been in good standing at their institutions. The submission must be original writings and may not have been previously published in a law review or journal. The submission also may not have been submitted for any other competition during the time when it is under consideration for this competition. The submission must be the work of one author alone; joint submissions will not be considered.

AWARD: The winner of the competition will receive a cash award of \$4,000 and have their winning submission published in the newsletters of the three county bar associations. As well, the winner will be invited to a meeting of the three county bar associations, to take place on January 22, 2026, at which time the award will be presented, either virtually or in person.

JUDGING: All submissions will be judged, anonymously, by a panel which includes members of the Bar Foundations for the three counties. The Judges shall apply the following criteria: importance of a timely topic, quality, style, thoroughness, and depth of research. All submissions should be no more than five (5) pages, double-spaced and must be submitted in Times New Roman, 12-point font. This must be original work without the use of generative AI.

DEADLINE: All submissions must be received by CCBF Executive Director Sommer Roxas, Cumberland County Bar Foundation, P.O. Box 2374, Vineland, NJ 08362 no later than December 23, 2025. Her email address is ccba@ccnjbar.org and her telephone number is (856) 696-5550.

GOAL: The goal of the competition is to recognize the importance of excellence in legal writing and to award a student enrolled in an ABA-approved law school for authoring a top-quality competition submission.

IN HONOR OF: The writing competition is sponsored by the Cumberland County, Gloucester County, & Salem County Bar Associations. It is in honor of the late Judge Samuel G. DeSimone, former New Jersey Superior Court Assignment Judge of Cumberland County, Gloucester County and Salem County. Judge DeSimone attended Gettysburg College and was a 1958 graduate of Georgetown University School of Law. He served the bench from his year of appointment by Governor Brendan Byrne in 1975 through his year of retirement 2000.

TOPIC: What amendment to the New Jersey Constitution would you suggest and why?