



**U.S. DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY
OFFICE OF THE CLERK**

*Martin Luther King Jr. Federal Bldg & U.S. Courthouse
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Newark, New Jersey 07101*

CAMDEN OFFICE
Mitchell H. Cohen U.S. Courthouse
One John F. Gerry Plaza
Fourth & Cooper Streets, Room 1050
Camden, New Jersey 08101

TRENTON OFFICE
Clarkson S. Fisher U.S. Courthouse
402 East State Street, Room 2020
Trenton, New Jersey 08608

**NOTICE TO THE BAR
MAY 15, 2025**

**The District of New Jersey Announces Its Winners of the 2025 Third Circuit Court of Appeals
Essay Contest**

To commemorate Law Day, the Courts, Community, and Rule of Law Committee of the Third Circuit Court of Appeals hosted an essay contest for fifth and sixth 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 of New Jersey, specifically through the Camden, Newark, and Trenton vicinages.

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 and individual students were invited to submit an essay using the theme, “We the People.” Students were asked to respond to questions such as, “Why did our Founders refer to ‘the People’ in the first three words of the Preamble of the U.S. Constitution?” and “What does ‘We the People’ mean to you?”

The District of New Jersey received more than 300 individual and class essay submissions. The essays were evaluated in two categories: (1) individual essay submissions; and (2) class essay submissions. The District Court Judges assessed the submissions for focus, content development, organization, and style, before selecting a winner for each category. The District of New Jersey is pleased to announce, by vicinage, the schools that earned awards this year:

Camden

- James A. Cotten Intermediate School, 1st place individual essay
- James A. Cotten Intermediate School’s 6th grade, 1st place class essay

Newark

- Sara M. Gilmore Academy, 1st place individual essay
- Oliver Street School, 2nd place individual essay
- Wilson Avenue School, 3rd place individual essay
- Dr. Maya Angelou PS #20’s 5th grade, 1st place class essay

Trenton

- Lawrence Intermediate School’s 5th grade, 1st place class essay
- Pace Charter School of Hamilton’s 6th grade, 2nd place class essay
- South Amboy Middle/High School’s 6th grade, 3rd place class essay

The District of New Jersey extends sincere thanks to the participating students and teachers. We are grateful to the Courts, Community, and Rule of Law Committee of the Third Circuit Court of Appeals for hosting this engaging, successful event.