

*Campbell Law Observer Law and Medicine Writing Contest*  
Grading Rubric

Article Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Rate each of the following categories on a scale of 1 to 10:

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Did the paper flow smoothly within paragraphs? Between paragraphs? Between sections? Is there a clear beginning, middle, and end?

Depth of Analysis: \_\_\_\_\_

Are the relevant legal issues clearly analyzed, or does the author merely propose issues and gloss over the analysis? Could the legal analysis contained in the paper be understood and appreciated by lawyers and laypeople alike?

Grammar/Syntax: \_\_\_\_\_

Does the author conform to traditional English grammar and spelling rules? Are the words well-chosen and arranged well within sentences?

Tone/Style: \_\_\_\_\_

Is the author's "voice" an appropriate balance of casual and academic? Do sections begin with "hooks" to draw readers in? Are paragraphs and sentences of varying lengths to create interest? Is the paper 2,000-3,000 words in length, without including headers? Is the paper long enough to cover the topic, but not so long that it is repetitive or loses the reader's interest?

Topic Selection/Originality: \_\_\_\_\_

Does the topic fit within the purpose of the writing contest? Is the topic unique? Does the author provide an original or unique perspective or analysis? Does the author cite to different sources (not all from the same website, etc.)? Does the author cite different types of sources, as appropriate (law review articles, news reports, court documents, etc.)?

Overall Score: \_\_\_\_\_