

Re: Law Day Activities

Dear Sir/Madam:

The Judges of Genesee County have joined with the Genesee County Bar Association Law Day Committee to encourage participation by your students from all grade levels in Law Day activities.

As you may know, Law Day was established in 1958, by then President Dwight D. Eisenhower, as a counter to the May Day observances in the Soviet Union and its satellites. It has generally evolved into a way to help educate students and citizens of this country about the Constitution and the Law, and the responsibilities of Citizenship.

The Genesee County Bar Association's Law Day activities have been recognized nationally. We think student participation in these activities can help you meet many of the educational criteria of the Michigan Merit Curriculum in the following specific areas:

1. Reading and Communication Skills;
2. Inquiry, Research and Analysis;
3. Public Discourse and Decision Making;
4. Citizen Involvement.

In our Mock Trial, high school students, with the help of local attorneys, prepare and try a case selected for its relevance to student life. Mock Trial activities are condensed to one day beginning with jury orientation in the morning for all students, followed by lunch, and concluding with the trial in circuit court.

For younger students the Bar Association encourages discussion of the rights and responsibilities of citizenship and has developed age-appropriate activities for county-wide participation.

Please consider encouraging your teachers to look to the Genesee County Bar Association web site at www.gcbalaw.org for ideas they can use to engage their students in activities that will help them develop a recognition of their responsibilities as well as their rights as citizens. We believe it is never too early to begin teaching and training our young people to become thoughtful and responsible citizens.

If you have any questions, please contact Genesee County Bar Association Executive Director Ramona Sain at (810) 232-6012. Thank you for your attention to this request.

Yours truly,

Archie L. Hayman, Chief Judge
Genesee County Circuit Court and
68th District Court

Mark C. McCabe, Chief Judge
67th District Court