

ACJRD CRIMINAL JUSTICE ESSAY PRIZE COMPETITION RULES

ARTICLE 1 - THE COMPETITION AND THE PRIZE

1. To promote study and research in the field of criminal justice and related fields and disseminate results in order to advance education and benefit the community the Association for Criminal Justice Research & Development (ACJRD) Ltd has organised a competition to encourage written work on the subject of Criminal Justice (the "Competition").
2. The 2016 Competition Theme is: '**Access to Criminal Justice**'
3. Subject to Article 4(2)(iii), each year, the ACJRD will award a First Prize of €200 and a Second Prize of €50 (the "Winning Works").
4. Each Winning Work will be published on www.acjrd.ie.
5. Following the award of the Prizes, the entrants who submitted the first and second prize Winning Works will be informed by the ACJRD of the award of their Prizes.

ARTICLE 2 - ENTRY CRITERIA

1. The Competition is open to anyone who is at any time during the relevant Entry Period:
 - (i) an undergraduate or postgraduate student at an institution providing third level education in Ireland;
 - (ii) a pupil or devil barrister in Ireland;
 - (iii) a trainee solicitor in Ireland; or
 - (iv) of equivalent status to persons in sub-paragraphs (i) to (iii) above, demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Jury.
2. To be eligible for entry to the Competition, a work must:
 - (i) be a written work in English on the advertised theme
 - (ii) not exceed 2,500 words (including footnotes and endnotes); and
 - (iii) be received by the ACJRD during the Entry Period in the year of entry in accordance with the Submission Procedure under Article 3
3. Only one work may be submitted by each entrant, and co-authored works will not be accepted.
4. By submitting a work to the Competition, an entrant thereby agrees to assign to the ACJRD all rights, title and interest in the submitted work. However, it is the policy of the ACJRD to release all assigned rights in respect of all works submitted to the Competition with the exception of Winning Works.

ARTICLE 3 - 2016 SUBMISSION PROCEDURE

1. The Entry Period is 13 April 2016 – 31 May 2016. Works received outside of this Entry Period will not be considered.

2. Works should be submitted in duplicate to the following address:
ACJRD, Spade Enterprise Centre, North King Street, Dublin 7

Submitted works must be accompanied by a cover letter setting out the name, address, telephone number and email address of the entrant. No identification other than the title should appear on the work itself.

3. An entrant should also send an electronic copy of the work by e-mail to enquiries@acjrd.ie

The work must be saved in pdf/read-only form as a separate document to the cover letter and no identification other than the title should appear on the work or in the name under which it is saved.

In addition, please forward in Word.doc.x (to facilitate word count verification).

4. For identification, an entry number will be assigned on receipt of the entry, and the entrant will be advised of the number. The cover letter will be removed before the essay is read by the Jury to assure objectivity in the adjudicating process.

5. Works received by the ACJRD will not be returned to the entrants, and remain the property of the Association.

ARTICLE 4 – JUDGING

1. The ACJRD will appoint a Jury consisting of at least three (3) members.

2. The Jury shall have the right in their absolute discretion:

(i) to decide whether entrants and submitted works meet the Entry Criteria under these Rules;

(ii) to reject any submitted work where, in their view, the Entry Criteria have not been met;

(iii) to not award a Prize if the Jury is of the view that none of the works entered in a particular year is of a sufficient standard; and

(iv) to consider the works entered to the Competition that year and, subject to paragraphs (i) to (iii) of Article 4(2) above, decide which works should be awarded the Prizes. The Jury will endeavour to make their decision within three months of the closing date of the relevant Entry Period.

3. The ACJRD will award the Prizes each year in accordance with the decision of the Jury.

4. Set out in Annex 1 are guidelines on the standard that is expected to be achieved by a Winning Work.

ARTICLE 5 - PUBLICATION OF THE WINNING WORKS

1. By submitting a work to the Competition, an entrant shall thereby agree that, if the work is awarded with a Prize and if the ACJRD Council decides to publish the work on the ACJRD website he/she consents to the publication of the work by the ACJRD on the website of the ACJRD in the form, and subject to any amendments, determined by the Jury and/or the ACJRD.

2. Permission must be sought from ACJRD in relation to any subsequent publication of the work elsewhere, and if such permission is granted the entrant shall take necessary steps to ensure that the publication contains a reference to the fact that the author was awarded a Criminal Justice Essay Competition Prize by the ACJRD.

ARTICLE 6 - OTHER MATTERS

1. The Association has the sole right to resolve at its own discretion any matter for which no provision has been made in these Rules and which could arise in relation to the Competition.

ARTICLE 7 - DATE OF APPROVAL AND AMENDMENTS

1. These Rules were approved by the ACJRD Council on 04.04.2016, and came into force on that date.

2. The ACJRD may in its absolute discretion amend these Rules from time to time except during the Entry Period in any year.

ANNEX 1

GUIDELINES ON THE STANDARD EXPECTED TO BE ACHIEVED BY A WINNING WORK

A Winning Work should:

- be complete with no errors or omissions;
- have a thoughtful structure, a clear message displaying personal reflection informed by wider reading of cases, articles and/or other commentaries and a good grasp of detail (as evidenced by the choice of relevant examples which are well integrated into the structure);
- excel in one or more of the following criteria:
 - comprehensiveness and accuracy;
 - clarity of argument and quality of expression;
 - integration of a range of materials;
 - evidence of wider reading;
 - good insight into the theoretical issues;
 - capacity to develop, where appropriate, links between theory and practice; and
 - display a level of originality of exposition and thought.