

2016 NINTH CIRCUIT CIVICS CONTEST

50 YEARS AFTER THE MIRANDA DECISION

*How Federal Courts Defined
the Rights of the Accused*

Cash Prizes
in both contests
1st place: \$2,000
2nd place: \$1,000
3rd place: \$500



An essay and video contest open to high school students in the western United States. Contest rules, entry instructions and other information will be available **December 1** at

<http://www.ca9.uscourts.gov/civicscontest>

50 YEARS AFTER THE MIRANDA DECISION

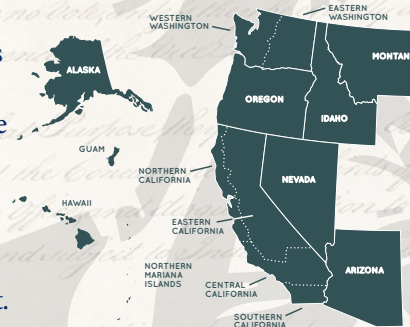
How Federal Courts Defined the Rights of the Accused

In 2016, the nation marks the 50th anniversary of the United States Supreme Court decision in Miranda v. Arizona. In that 1966 case, the court ruled that someone taken into police custody must be informed – prior to questioning – of their Fifth Amendment right against self-incrimination. Now referred to as a “Miranda Warning” or a recitation of “Miranda Rights,” police must advise persons in custody of their right to remain silent and their right to an attorney.

The 2016 Ninth Circuit Civics Scholarship Contest asks high school students to consider how Miranda Rights came to be defined, how they are safeguarded by the federal courts and why they are so important to our system of justice.

The contest has two components: 1) Individual students can express their thoughts and ideas in an essay of 500 to 750 words, and 2) Individual students or teams of up to three students may submit a 2-3 minute video presentation on the theme. Students may participate in one or both competitions.

The contest is open to sophomores, juniors and seniors living in the nine states and two Pacific Island jurisdictions that comprise the Ninth Circuit (see map). The contest begins **January 1, 2016**, and ends on **April 15, 2016**. Contest rules, entry instructions and other information will be available **December 1** at <http://www.ca9.uscourts.gov/civicscontest>.



The 2016 Ninth Circuit Civics Scholarship Contest is organized by the Ninth Circuit Courts and Community Committee. U.S. district courts within the circuit are cosponsors and some may hold local contests with winners moving on to the circuit competition. Circuit contest winners will be announced in June. Cash prizes will be awarded to the top three finishers in both the essay and video competitions.

For more information, please contact the Ninth Circuit Office of the Circuit Executive, (415) 355-8973 / civicscontest@ce9.uscourts.gov.