



News Release

FROM: Chambers of the Chief Judge
19th Judicial Circuit
Lake County
Waukegan, Illinois 60085-4359

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Waukegan, Illinois

19TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT LAW DAY 2019: "FREE SPEECH, FREE PRESS, FREE SOCIETY"

In 1958, President Dwight D. Eisenhower, the 34th U.S. President, established Law Day as a day of national dedication to the principles of government under law. In 1961 by a joint Congressional resolution, May 1st was designated as the official date for celebrating Law Day in the United States.

This year's theme was "Free Speech, Free Press, Free Society." In the United States and around the world, freedom of speech and the press are among the most important foundations for a free society. Free speech and free press are prominent topics. Historical and current debates surrounding free speech and free press continually challenge us to consider boundaries and resilience. What is the role of government in regulating the press? Should speech or press be constrained through laws or norms? Law Day theme 2019 focused on these cornerstones of representative government and called on us to understand and protect these rights.

The Nineteenth Judicial Circuit observed Law Day on Friday, May 3, 2019. Approximately 300 Lake County High School students attended a morning of law-related sessions presented by the Judges of Lake County, the State's Attorney's Office, the Sheriff's Department, and the Coroner's Office. Each school attended three 40-minute assemblies.

The sessions included a CSI task force presentation; a sentencing; social media; Suspect interrogation; and a visit to the Coroner's facility. Students from Antioch Community High School, Grant Community High School, Grayslake Central High School, Gurnee Christian School, Lake County Tech Campus, Mundelein High School, Warren Township High School, and Waukegan High School participated.

At 12:30 p.m., an awards ceremony was held in the Jury Assembly Room. First, second, and third place winners in grades kindergarten through eighth were recognized for their entries of the various Law Day contests: coloring, poster and essay. Chief Judge Jay Ukena, together with several other Lake County Judges, greeted and welcomed all Law Day contest winners. The winning entries are posted on the Circuit's [website](#). All students were given the opportunity to have their picture taken with the Judges, were presented with a certificate of appreciation, and a gift card courtesy of the Lake County Bar Association.

The winners were from: St. Patrick School, Gurnee Christian School, Woodland Elementary East, Andrew Cooke Magnet School, Gavin South Middle School, Oak Grove School, and Peter J. Palombi Middle School.

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