

NEW YORK STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

COMMITTEE ON ANIMALS AND THE LAW

2026 STUDENT WRITING COMPETITION ANNOUNCEMENT

The New York State Bar Association Committee on Animals and the Law is very pleased to announce the 16th Annual Student Writing Competition. **The deadline for submission is Monday, July 6, 2026.**

The Committee on Animals and the Law was established to provide information and resources for the New York State Bar Association's members and the public about non-human, animal-related humane issues, which arise from and have an effect upon our legal system. This competition seeks to foster legal scholarship among law students in the area of animals and the law. This competition provides law students with an incentive and opportunity to learn more about this area of law.

Law students (which include J.D., L.L.M., Ph.D., and S.J.D. candidates), are invited to submit to the Committee on Animals and the Law, an article concerning any area of Animal Law. All submissions will be reviewed by a panel of attorneys and other professionals practicing or otherwise involved in animal law. The winners will be chosen in accordance with the competition rules.

The **first-place** winner will receive \$1,000 and a Certificate of Achievement. The **second- place** winner will receive \$500 and a Certificate of Achievement. The **third and fourth place** winners will receive a Certificate of Recognition.

The Committee also reserves the right to offer the winners (and other entrants), at the Committee's discretion, the opportunity to publish his/her paper in the Committee's Laws & Paws publication. Offers to publish are purely within the discretion of the Committee. The Committee in no way guarantees entrant's the opportunity for publication.

Awards will be announced in September, 2026.

Questions? Send an email to the NYSBA Staff Liaison, Lena Faustel at lfaustel@nysba.org.