

**2018-2019 GEORGE DIEM SAFETY ESSAY CONTEST**

TO: Post Adjutants (Please give to your Safety Chairperson)  
County Adjutants  
Dept. Safety Committee

This will serve to announce the start of the 75th Annual American Legion, Department of New Jersey **GEORGE DIEM SAFETY ESSAY CONTEST**. This contest is open to 6th, 7th and 8th grade students in public, private and parochial schools throughout New Jersey.

The deadline dates for the contest at the Post, County and Department levels are as follows:

The contest is to be started in each participating school immediately, as ALL essays must be in the hands of the **POST** Safety Essay Chairperson no later than **JANUARY 16, 2019.**

In turn, the Post Chairperson must forward his/her **First Place Winner, one (1) essay from each Post** (selected by at least three (3) judges to the **COUNTY** Safety Essay Chairman no later than **FEBRUARY 20, 2019.**

The County Chairperson must send his/her **First Place Winner, one (1) essay from each county, to the DEPARTMENT Safety Chairman. BUILDING #5, 171 JERSEY STREET TRENTON, NJ 08611. NO LATER THAN MARCH 8, 2019.**

**DEPARTMENT JUDGING WILL BE HELD AT CLARK POST 328, 78 WESTFIELD AVENUE, CLARK, NEW JERSEY 07066, on MARCH 23, 2019 AT 1:00 PM.**

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**THE DEPARTMENT DEADLINE WILL BE STRICTLY ADHERED TO !!!!!**

(Post and County deadlines may be adjusted)

As in the past, the form for use in transmitting the winning essay must be used by the respective Post and County Chairman.

**CONTEST RULES**

**At a meeting held on August 13, 2011 in Trenton, the Department Executive Committee approved the Recommendation of the Department Safety Committee to make the following amendment to Rule #4.**

1. The contest must be conducted in the school classroom, under proper supervision of a member of the faculty.
2. The Essay shall be **NO LESS THAN 300 NOR MORE THAN 450 WORDS.**
3. The Essay must touch on the subject "**WHAT SAFETY MEANS TO ME.**"
4. That participants in the contest be allowed to use electronic devices such as word processor, computers or electronic typewriters. Hand written essays shall earn extra credit.
5. Neatness, penmanship and general appearance will be factors in the judging.
6. No name will appear on the contestant's paper. Instead, the writer's name will be placed in an envelope, to be identified by a number. This number **ONLY** will be placed on the essay. All envelopes will be opened after the judging is completed.

OVER

7. The following standards, established by the Department Safety Committee, are to be used as a guide by the judges grading an Essay:

Understanding & coverage of the subject matter.....	20%
Grammar.....	20%
Spelling and punctuation.....	20%
Neatness.....	15%
Originality.....	25%

**EXAMPLE ON METHOD OF COUNTING THE WORDS CONTAINED IN AN ESSAY:**

Every year Safety Essays are forwarded to Department Headquarters for/ judging in the Department Contest when some of these essays/ should have been eliminated at the post level because of/ the number of words they contained. These essays, which contain/ too few or too many words, will be counted at/ the Department level and will be disqualified. This is very/ unfortunate for it limits the number of essays entered from/ your county and also prevents another child's essay from being/ entered.

Please note the manner in which these paragraphs have/ been counted and do likewise on the post and county/ levels as it is very important to the children./

(The above paragraphs only contain 109 words---please note that each essay must contain no less than 300 nor more than 450 words.)

**AWARDS FOR DEPARTMENT WINNERS**

**At a meeting held on August 18, 2007 in Trenton, the Department Executive Committee approved the recommendation of the Department Safety Committee to make the following award changes:**

1st place.....\$250.00 Check & Department of New Jersey American Legion Safety Essay Contest Plaque  
2nd place.....\$175.00 Check  
3rd place.....\$115.00 Check  
4th place.....\$75.00 Check- **\*\*Honorable Mention\*\*\***

We recommend and encourage the Posts and Counties to make appropriate awards to their local winners and that the county winners receive their awards during the County Convention or Annual Meeting.

Please continue to make The American Legion, Department of New Jersey Safety Essay Contest one of the outstanding Legion programs for our school children. All that is required to accomplish our goal is your cooperation.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOLLOWING:**

Please advise the school or faculty member to whom the essays should be forwarded when completed. Many chair people fail to do this and the school then only has the address of the Department, which is on this bulletin, and they forward them to Department. Make sure you leave instructions as to the name and address of the person who is to receive the completed essays.

JB/ta

JOSEPH BECKER, Chairman  
Department Safety Committee  
(908) 319-4026

THE AMERICAN LEGION  
DEPARTMENT OF NEW JERSEY

POST

POST

2018-2019

SAFETY ESSAY CONTEST REPORT FORM

2018-2019

(Please PRINT or TYPE)

FROM \_\_\_\_\_ POST # \_\_\_\_\_  
(Post Safety Chairperson)

SEND TO: COUNTY SAFETY CHAIRPERSON (No later than FEBRUARY 18, 2019)

Listed below is the full information required concerning the writer of POST NO. \_\_\_\_\_

FIRST PLACE ESSAY which is attached and submitted for the County Contest judging:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Full Name of Student)  Male  Female

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Complete Mailing Address of Student)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(School attended & Class) Grade \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Post Chairperson)

Post No. \_\_\_\_\_

County \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Home Address)

Date \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Telephone Number)

(THIS FORM TO BE COMPLETED BY POST SAFETY CHAIRPERSON)

THE AMERICAN LEGION  
DEPARTMENT OF NEW JERSEY

COUNTY  
2018-2019

COUNTY  
2018-2019

SAFETY ESSAY CONTEST REPORT FORM  
(For County Use Only)

(PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE)

SEND TO: THE AMERICAN LEGION, DEPT. OF NEW JERSEY  
BUILDING #5,  
171 JERSEY STREET  
TRENTON, NJ 08611

(To arrive no later than March 18, 2019)

Listed below is the full information required concerning the winner of \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY.

FIRST PLACE ESSAY which is attached, and submitted for judging in the Department Finals:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Full Name of Student) ( ) ( )  
Male Female

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Complete Mailing Address of Student)  
Grade \_\_\_\_\_

(School attended & Class) \_\_\_\_\_  
POST# \_\_\_\_\_  
(Sponsoring Post & Location)

Signature of County Chairperson \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_ Tele. # \_\_\_\_\_

County \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

(THIS FORM TO BE COMPLETED BY COUNTY SAFETY CHAIRPERSON)