

**DEADLINE EXTENDED: ENTER BY JUNE 10, 2011**

**For full background about the ACS Constitutional Video Contest, please visit [www.acslaw.org/video-contest](http://www.acslaw.org/video-contest).**

## **CONTEST RULES**

The American Constitution Society for Law and Policy is sponsoring a video contest. The subject matter of entries should embrace the following description as well as themes in the ACS Mission Statement and *Keeping Faith with the Constitution*, a book recently published by the American Constitution Society. (The book can be downloaded free, [here](#).)

The Constitution's meaning and interpretation is the subject of a heated national debate. Much of what is being heard, however, is the skewed and result-oriented approach of many conservatives, designed to support their social and political agenda. Adopting the distorted understanding of our founding document advocated by Tea Party leaders and followers of Justice Antonin Scalia's brand of originalism, misrepresents the long history of this nation, would create a country that looks nothing like the one most Americans desire and take for granted, and runs counter to the values we have embraced for more than two centuries.

Progressives realize that the Constitution's original text, meaning, and understanding are vital to its understanding. But they also know that the Framers understood that interpretation of the Constitution must reflect the changing needs, conditions, and understandings of society over time. This is what allows the Constitution to retain its relevance and power, and it is how we preserve both the document's original meaning and its democratic legitimacy.

The second annual ACS video contest seeks to marshal the creativity of filmmakers, wanna-be filmmakers, and all creative progressives, to generate a short digital video that addresses these issues in the context of the Constitution's long and evolving tradition of protecting rights and liberties, genuine equality, access to justice, democracy, and the rule of law. Contestants are limited only by their own ingenuity and imagination.

Last year's contest centered on the role of judges and the judiciary. The [first place winner](#) was a playful rap-style video. The [second place winner](#) was a reflection on a visit to the Gettysburg battlefield.

### **2. Eligibility Criteria**

The contest is open to residents 18 years of age or older as of June 10, 2011, residing in any of the states or territories of the United States of America, or the District of Columbia. Employees of ACS, as well as immediate family members and persons living in the same household as an employee of ACS, are not eligible. Offer is void where prohibited. A contestant may submit up to three separate entries.

### **3. How to Enter**

No purchase or donation is necessary. A purchase or donation will not increase your chances of winning. The contest begins at 12:01 a.m. on April 27, 2011 and will end at 11:59 June 10, 2011.

1. Contestants must submit their video online by creating a free account at YouTube.com

2. Visit ACS's YouTube page at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=tTYGb1oInWw](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tTYGb1oInWw).
3. Below the video player there will a button that says "Post a Comment." Click on this button and then a text box will appear that says "Respond to this video." Click the link that says "Attach a Video" to the right of the text box.
4. On the next page, click on "Upload a Video" at the top and follow the onscreen directions to successfully upload your video.
5. Please include the title of your video and under Tags enter "ACS Video Contest" (without quotes but with the appropriate spaces). Please note: you CANNOT select "private" for your video share settings. It must be set to public in order for you to properly submit your video.
6. Contestants must also submit an online entry form, available here. Contestants will receive a confirmation email. Online submissions must be received no later than 11:59 pm Eastern Standard Time on June 10, 2011. Contestants may also mail entries to ACSLaw Video Contest, 1333 H Street, NW, Washington, DC 20005. Mail entries should be in the form of a CD or DVD disc, with the video in an accessible file format. Mail entries must include a completed contest entry form and must be postmarked by 11:59 pm Eastern Standard Time on June 10, 2011. Mechanically reproduced entries and faxes are prohibited.
7. Any questions on submission should be directed to [alynch@acslaw.org](mailto:alynch@acslaw.org). ACS's privacy policy applies to this contest. A copy is available at [www.acslaw.org](http://www.acslaw.org) or by sending a written request for a copy to ACS.

#### 4. Judging

Entries will be judged by ACS staff based on the entry's success in conveying message, originality, relevance, incorporation of the Constitution, consistency with themes in the ACS [Mission Statement](#) and [Keeping Faith with the Constitution](#) and, production technique, memorability, and faithfulness to theme of the contest. ACS reserves the right not to select a winner if there are fewer than five different contestants. Winners will be notified by email by June 14, 2011, so it is important that contestants submit a working email address with each entry. If you do not have email, then you should submit a working telephone number and/or mailing address. The odds of winning are subject to the number of submissions received. The judges' decisions are final. Winners must sign an affidavit of eligibility and other necessary documentation. Each contestant grants ACS the right to reproduce, distribute, publicly perform, adapt and otherwise use his/her video in all media for all purposes, as well as the right to use the contestant's name and likeness in connection with the his/her video.

#### 5. Prizes

One (1) First Place Prize. The first place winner will receive a cash prize of US \$1,500 and free registration to attend the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary National Convention in Washington, DC on June 16-18, 2011. The first place winner must provide his or her own transportation to the Convention.

One (1) Second Place Prize. The second place winner will receive a cash prize of US \$250 and free registration to attend the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary ACS National Convention in Washington, DC on June 16-18, 2011. The second place winner must provide his or her own transportation to the Convention. If the entry is submitted by a group, the group will split the prize money, and one member of the group will receive free Convention registration.

All taxes are the sole responsibility of the winners. Any prize won by a minor will be awarded to a parent or legal guardian. Unclaimed prizes will either not be awarded or will be awarded to alternate winners to be selected in accordance with the judging criteria set forth in these Contest Rules. Prizes are not transferable and no substitutions or cash redemptions will be awarded, except in ACS's discretion if a prize becomes unavailable.

A list of winners will be posted on [www.ACSLaw.org](http://www.ACSLaw.org) by June 14, 2011. A list of winners can also be obtained by sending a written request to ACS for such a list.

## **6. Ownership of Material**

All videos must be entirely the entrant's original work. Each contestant hereby represents and warrants that use of his/her video will not (i) infringe the intellectual property rights of any third party (including, without limitation, trademark, copyright, and trade secret rights), (ii) contain any material that is defamatory to any third party, (iii) violate a person's right of privacy or publicity, (iv) contain anything that is obscene, harmful or otherwise inappropriate or unlawful.

You need to obtain written permission from any person who appears in your video authorizing you to use their name, likeness, image and/or voice (as applicable) and authorizing you to grant ACS the rights to the video that you grant by entering into this contest. Each contestant agrees to defend, indemnify and hold harmless ACS and its officers, directors, employees, representatives, agents, assigns and licensees from all costs and expenses (including reasonable attorneys' fees) arising out of any claim that if true would result in a breach of the contestant's representations and warranties.

ACS reserves the right at any time to disqualify any video that it determines, in its sole discretion, is not original and/or does not meet the requirements of these Contest Rules.

## **8. Conditions of Participation**

As a condition of entering the contest, entrants will be required to indicate and affirm their agreement with these Contest Rules. To the extent permitted by law, the entrants agree to hold ACS, its directors, officers, employees, representatives, agents and assigns harmless from any injury or damage caused or claimed to be caused by the entrant's participation in the contest and/or use or acceptance of any prize won. ACS is not responsible for any typographical or other error in the advertising or administration of the contest or in the announcement of a prize.

ACS assumes no liability for lost, late, illegible, misdirected, damaged, incomplete, incorrect or postage-due entries. All entries become the property of ACS and will not be returned. In the case of tampering with this contest, ACS reserves the right to terminate this contest and disqualify any persons discovered or thought to have interfered with the contest. The contest may be modified or terminated in the case of any technical failures or other circumstances outside of ACS's control.

## **8. Sponsor Information**

The sponsor of this contest is American Constitution Society for Law and Policy, which is located at 1333 H St, NW, 11th Floor Washington, DC 20005. For more information about ACS, visit our website at [www.acslaw.org](http://www.acslaw.org).