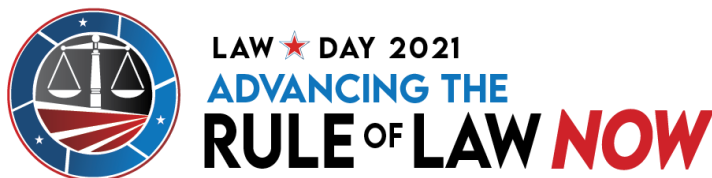


Law Day 2021: An Overview

Law Day is sponsored by the American Bar Association and is officially recognized on May 1st every year to celebrate the role of law in our society and to cultivate a deeper understanding of the legal profession. This year’s theme is “Advancing the Rule of Law Now” and emphasizes that we the people share the responsibility to promote the rule of law, defend liberty, and pursue justice. Some subtopics pertaining to this include the concept of judicial independence, the importance of courts in people’s everyday lives, and the role of judges.



Typically held in person throughout our courts, Law Day 2021 at the San Bernardino Superior Courts took place virtually during the first week of May, with Native American Law Day on May 27th. The set of online events focused on allowing students to actively engage with diverse professionals and learn about the court systems and rule of law from multitudinous perspectives.

As detailed in the schedule below, Law Day was divided up by grade level, with elementary school students participating on Monday May 3rd, middle school students on Tuesday May 4th, and high school students on Wednesday May 5th and Thursday May 6th. Each of six courts within the county – San Bernardino Justice Center, Fontana, Joshua Tree, Rancho Cucamonga, Victorville, and Barstow – followed this schedule as a basis for their programming, with Victorville and Barstow merging districts.

Time	Monday May 3 rd (elementary schoolers)	Tuesday May 4 th (middle schoolers)	Wednesday May 5 th (high schoolers)	Thursday May 6 th (high schoolers)
8:30 – 8:50am (pre-recorded)	Judicial welcome, intro to theme, and tour of court	Judicial welcome, intro to theme, and tour of court	Judicial welcome, intro to theme, and tour of court	Judicial welcome, intro to theme, and tour of court
9 – 9:50am	District Attorney's office presentations	District Attorney's office presentations	District Attorney's office presentations	District Attorney's office presentations
10 – 10:50am (engaging activity)	Guided discussion lesson plan; mock scenario	Guided discussion lesson plan; mock scenario	Guided discussion lesson plan; mock scenario	Guided discussion lesson plan; mock scenario
11 – 11:50am	Public defender presentation and Q&A session	Public defender presentation and Q&A session	Public defender presentation and Q&A session	Public defender presentation and Q&A session
12 – 12:15pm (pre-recorded)	Concluding remarks from judge	Concluding remarks from judge	Concluding remarks from judge	Concluding remarks from judge

Law Day commenced at roughly 8:30am each day and ended around noon, with the first and last presentations being pre-recorded greetings from a judge. The three hour-long sessions in between were live video calls conducted via Webex, with the District Attorney’s office leading the 9-9:50am session and the Public Defender’s office presenting during 11-11:50am. The 11-11:50am time slot was designated for guided discussion activities for elementary and middle schoolers and career panels for high schoolers, all facilitated by and featuring court staff

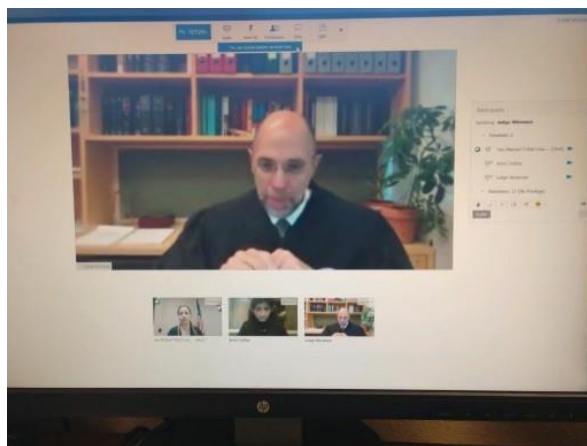
members. In total, 30 classes of students from grades 3-12 participated in the first week of May's Law Day.



Despite a few technological hiccups that accompanied the first year of transitioning these events into a virtual format, the programs were well received, with students of all ages actively participating, asking questions, and several “raving about their experience” to teachers who even emailed coordinators back to further connect with presenters for future collaboration opportunities with their schools.



Native American Law Day was hosted virtually at San Manuel Tribal Court on Thursday, May 27th from 10am-noon, where Judge Wiseman and clerk Crystal Porras presented to 2 high school classes. Through a virtual tour of the court, video clips from Judge Wiseman's lectures about sovereignty, a Kahoot! quiz, and a compare/contrast discussion with Judge Alexander on tribal courts vs. conventional courts, students were able to comprehensively learn about Native American sovereignty and tribal courts.



The top 3 quiz scorers in each class received cool prizes that were delivered to their school the next morning, including a waterproof Bluetooth speaker, a Mophie phone charger station, and a \$25 Amazon gift card, along with other smaller gifts as shown below!



Overall, virtual Law Day 2021 was an educational, enjoyable, and engaging set of events last month that instilled in participants the importance of the rule of law and the critical role of our court system in day-to-day life. The program was both an opportunity and a challenge in the Covid-19 era, and we would like to thank all participating staff members, partners, and affiliates of San Bernardino Superior Court for their time and effort volunteering for a beloved community outreach tradition.