

SOUTH DADE NEWS LEADER

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April 15, 2011

Law office holds essay contest for local high school students

The law firm Weiss Serota Helfman Pastoriza Cole & Boniske is celebrating its 20th anniversary this year, and in honor of that milestone, it is sponsoring an essay contest Homestead. The firm has developed an outstanding reputation in representing municipalities and handling issues in government, and has served as city attorney in Homestead since 1992.

"For our 20th anniversary, we are making a point of giving back to the many communities that have been so supportive of us through the years," said managing director Jamie Cole. "We have the good fortune of working with

Homestead and we are celebrating them, as well, by encouraging students to write an essay about how terrific their city is."

The essay contest asks students who are enrolled as a senior in high school to submit entries entitled "Why My City Is Special," highlighting why they consider their city a great place to live. The essays should be no longer than 500 words and submitted online at essays@wsh-law.com. Rules and additional information can be found at www.wsh-law.com/essaycontest.

Winners will be selected by a panel of judges that include a representative from Homestead.

The winning essay will win \$1,000 for the writer, and he or she will have the opportunity to read the essay at the next city commission meeting.

"We're looking forward to reading the creative and interesting stories that we know this contest will generate," said Richard Weiss, one of the founding partners of the firm. "After 20 years of working with the cities, 19 of them with Homestead, we know the residents can be very clever and innovative - and we will receive some wonderful essays, I'm sure."