



# Missouri Peace Officers Foundation

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November 2023

To: Missouri Eighth Grade English Departments:

For thirty-two years, the Missouri Peace Officers Foundation has focused our efforts on keeping children safe through initiatives such as our 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Essay Contest. This year's essay contest topic reflects on: *"Concerns About Recreational Marijuana/THC Use and Driving"*

The MPOF will award a total of \$1,600 in cash prizes to contestants who will be judged by a panel of top Missouri law enforcement professionals. The prizes will be awarded in the spring of 2024 honoring the top winners and their school from both the east and west sides of Missouri.

We urge participating schools to make this an interdisciplinary event, encouraging classes to research information and discuss the impact on the use of Marijuana/THC and its dangers to individuals, families, and the community.

The enclosed brochure gives details of the contest. If you have any questions, feel free to contact the MPOF office. This is a great opportunity for Missouri's finest – educators and law enforcement officers – to make a difference for our children. The 32nd annual contest will begin immediately, with the top three essays from your class(es) being **received at** MPOF no later than February 21, 2024. Please e-mail your top three essays, as individual documents, to [the.mpoa@mopoa.org](mailto:the.mpoa@mopoa.org) or mail them to the address listed in the brochure. Please **do not** email the essays via Google Docs.

***New: The student's name, class hour, and teacher's name must be on each essay.***

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert Ronkoski".

Chief Bob Ronkoski

President

Missouri Peace Officers Foundation