



LCLL@Large: Legal News and Notes

Newer Legal Web Sites and Blogs That Deserve Honorable Mention

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1) Check out the ABA’s Legal Technology Resource Center’s newer (and free!) full-text online law review/law journal search engine. It claims to search the contents of over 300 law reviews and a more limited selection of bar publications, including the Oregon Law Review. (But it does not include the OSB Bar Bulletin—check here for the archive.) This index also searches most of the publications by the ABA as well as other sources such as the OpenCRS (which is a listing of publicly available copies of Congressional Research Service Reports)

2) Also notable is a commercial site by Vangelisti Kocher LLP which provides links to resources for Oregon trial attorneys, including a link to the PLF’s Statutory Time Limitations Handbook and to Multnomah County’s Attorney Reference Manual. (And thanks to Laura Orr’s OregonLegalResearch blog for this tip!)

And of course there are still older noteworthy sites, such as www.llrx.com. This one provides monthly articles and links on multiple legal research topics for librarians and attorneys.

REMINDER: The LANE COUNTY LAW LIBRARY will be CLOSED from January 11-15th so that workmen can finish some renovations. The Library will reopen to the public on Tuesday, January 19th (January 18th is a legal holiday). Please check out information about WESTLAW services, e-mail reference and document delivery services available during the closure on the library’s web site at: <http://www.co.lane.or.us/Departments/CC/LawLibrary/Pages/default.aspx>

(Also, note that this is a new URL for the law library—so please bookmark it for future use!) If you have questions about access to materials or information during that week, please contact a staff member at 682-4113.

“Don’t be afraid to take a big step if one is indicated; you can’t cross a chasm in two small jumps.”

David Lloyd George, 1863-1945



Newsletter Highlights

All the News that’s Fit to Blog:

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LCLL@Large is published electronically six times a year, approximately every 60 days. If you would like to receive a printed copy of this newsletter, please contact a member of the library staff at 682-4337. To subscribe to notices about this newsletter, contact Linda Falken at linda.falken@co.lane.or.us. Questions or comments? E-mail or call 582-4113.



My Corner of the Universe



Research Hint: I have always been a fan of the legal research guides and teaching materials offered by the Gallagher Law Library staff at the University of Washington. But in addition to those guides, they recently updated their excellent and free Internet Legal Resources page at:

<http://lib.law.washington.edu/research/research.html>

This portal site will connect patrons with dozens of free or low-cost web sites offering legal resources. It offers links to all federal courts and federal legislative and administrative sites, and includes a “Best Sites” ranking. And if you are in need of sites or information specific to Washington state, this is one of the most comprehensive lists available.

Or, if you need a site which focuses on Oregon legal information resources, check out this page at the Paul E. Boley Library at Lewis and Clark’s Law Library:

<http://lawlib.lclark.edu/research/oregonlaw.php>

Free WESTLAW CLE in January 2010

On January 13th (a Wednesday) the Lane County Law Library and the LCBA will be hosting three separate CLE programs, at the Public Services Building in Eugene. Westlaw will be providing a visiting training specialist, who will be conducting 3 different 90-minute training sessions on Westlaw. Please contact Linda Falken at the Lane County Law Library (via e-mail at linda.falken@co.lane.or.us) in order to pre-register for these programs. Each one will offer 1 1/2 hours of CLE credit to attendees, but space will be limited to 20 individuals in each session. Call 682-4113 for more information.

In my last column I commented that implementing change in this library is a deed that never goes unpunished. And with the imminent approach of January 2010, when the law library is undergoing a long-overdue facelift, that statement is proving particularly true. The past several weeks have been living proof that GETTING things to move forward towards the desired end result can be a form of punishment, in and of itself!

I will be outwardly very relieved to: 1) replace the old disintegrating carpeting, 2) to cover old walls with fresh paint (well, maybe not until the paint fumes disappear) 3) and to reorganize the collection to make materials more accessible to everyone—but the sheer torture involved in getting this to happen on schedule and efficiently is starting to feel like a story from Greek mythology.

You remember those stories, where any sign of hubris or pride is punished immediately by wrathful gods? (I was particularly fascinated by the 12 labors of Hercules myself—but that was probably due to Steve Reeves, from the 1960’s action hero matinees.)

But no worries. I don’t intend to start wearing a Nemean lion pelt or to carry a club any time soon! Unless, of course, it helps to keep things on track? But then there were those Augean Stables, as I recall. Maybe I’ll leave that one to Steve? — *Linda Falken*

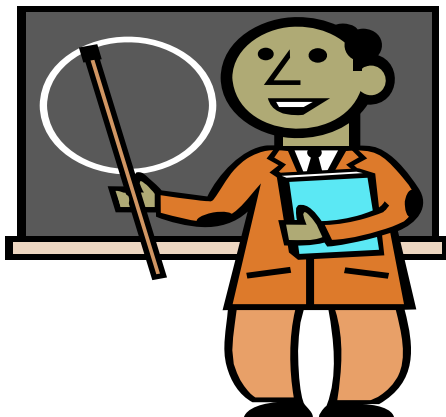
ABA Releases Legal Guide for Elderly and Seriously Ill

The American Bar Association has just released an online publication, the "[Legal Guide for the Seriously Ill](#)" which is available on their web site here. The ABA's Commission on Law and Aging was commissioned by the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization to undertake and produce this study. The purpose of the book is to provide information for individuals who are seriously ill and worried about how to handle finances or other matters. But it would be equally useful to someone caring for a seriously ill individual.

Included in the guide are "Seven Key Steps" that should be considered by anyone with a serious illness. One chapter covers planning how to "pay for the health care you need." Other sections discuss patients' rights, and employees' rights, and offer suggestions for managing money and property during a serious illness. The book is available online: http://www.caringinfo.org/UserFiles/File/PDFs/AdvanceCarePlanningLegalIssues/Legal_Guide_for_Seriously_Ill.pdf

Shepards Online Available in Lane County Law Library in January 2010

Need to check the history or treatment of a case? The Library will soon have Shepards Online, a citator database for updating case law. Call 682-4113 for more information on this new service.



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Lane County Law Library
Newsletter



Legal Research Tutorials on the Web—Helpful Tools

Much of the work that we do in law libraries involves teaching patrons how to better use available resources, and help them find answers to their legal questions. Few patrons, attorneys or pro se, ever fully utilize all of the tools available in their individual legal research projects. Therefore, most patron questions involve a "teaching moment." Fortunately, a growing number of online tutorials are becoming available, mostly from academic libraries. Many of these programs help patrons better understand databases or even in-house print resources. These also provide practical advice about how to search more effectively.

These tutorials or video-based programs, often with audio instructions, generally use some type of media application, which can sometimes be a problem for patrons lacking high speed internet access, or applications on their home computers that work with such media. Nevertheless, sometimes an online tutorial is the best resource possible when staff not are available to help someone unfamiliar with legal research tools (or even someone only needing a brief "refresher").

I recently encountered two such programs that seem particularly useful. [Be aware that these will take a little longer to load than some applications, because of file size or type of media software used.]

- 1) A tutorial on how to research case law by Georgetown Law Library (in Adobe Captivate at: <http://www.ll.georgetown.edu/tutorials.cases/index.cfm>)
- 2) Several tutorials from Berkeley's Law Library, about using online sources for legislative research in the U.S. Congress at: <http://sunsite3.berkeley.edu/wikis/congresearch/>