

# ASL LIBRARY NEWS

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## What's New in the Library?

- National Library Week is here, and we're a bit puzzled by it – because we've got a week's worth of mentally-stimulating puzzles for some great prizes! From Monday, April 11 through Thursday, April 14 there will be a new puzzle at the Circulation Desk (and on our web site). Turn in your answers in the box at the desk, and you will be eligible for several prizes donated by LexisNexis and Westlaw. The great prize give-away will be on Friday, April 15. Watch at the Circulation Desk for more details.
- Soon after National Library Week, the Library will begin its traditional extended exam access hours. You will be able to access the Library after classes end until 2 am each night with a valid ID card (this is the same policy as last semester). Extended access runs through the two weeks of finals, ending on Friday, May 13. If you need a replacement ID card, see Chris (they are \$5). We'll send out an "all ASL" e-mail when we switch over to the extended hours.
- **Off The Shelves:** Usually, this column is on the back page, discussing some of our sometimes overlooked online databases, but since we just purchased a new subscription, we'll cover it here. We've just purchased BNA All, which gives ASL faculty, staff, and students access to almost 100 BNA titles, including *BNA/ABA Lawyer's Guide to Professional Conduct*, *Criminal Law Reporter*, *Labor Relations Reporter*, *Tax Management Portfolios*, and *US Law Week*, among others. Access is currently limited to on-campus use only (that will change next semester). Within the next few weeks, you should also be able to get access to the BNA databases on Lexis and Westlaw; see Chris if you have questions. To use any of these new databases, go to our web site at <http://www.asl.edu/library/databases.php>
- If you're looking for ideas for one last study break before finals, we have some new legally-related DVDs in our collection. Titles include *12 Angry Men*, *Anatomy Of A Murder*, *Changing Lanes*, *Inherit The Wind*, *To Kill A Mockingbird*, *Runaway Jury*, and *Verdict*. Ask at the Circulation Desk for any of these movies, or for any of our VHS titles.
- Of course, most of you are here to learn to be lawyers – so we can provide help for that too! Don't forget about the Nutshells, Hornbooks, and "Understanding" series on Reserve, as well as our popular CDs and audiotapes. We also have CALI CDs for those of you with slow Internet connections (you can take the CALI CD for three days, and we provide helpful installation instructions).

## Other News

- **Spring Ahead!** Don't forget that Daylight Savings Time starts on the first Sunday in April (April 3). Move your clocks FORWARD one hour (yes, you lose an hour of sleep).
- Tax Day is on April 15, and the [ASL Library News](#) continues its tradition of providing tax news to all those last-minute filers. Our tax collection (mostly located on the first floor at KF 6300) contains a number of resources for preparing your taxes, including forms, laws and regulations, treatises on particular topics, and even workbooks that have sample filled-out forms!

If you're more comfortable with computer research, you will want to start at the IRS's own web site (<http://www.irs.gov>). There, you can find forms and instruction manuals, as well as helpful topical guides and the IRS's tax tips hotline (1-800-829-1040). Other helpful websites for tax preparation include <http://www.1040.com> (offered by Drake Software, makers of a tax preparation software package), <http://taxes.yahoo.com> (Yahoo!'s tax center), <http://www.quicken.com> (from Intuit, makers of Quicken financial software) and <http://moneycentral.msn.com/tax/home.asp> (from Microsoft, makers of Money financial software).

We also subscribe to a number of electronic resources that may provide assistance with those thorny tax questions. BNA and CCH both have massive databases filled with tax court opinions, laws and regulations, and even commentary on particular provisions. Those databases are available on our web site at <http://www.asl.edu/library/databases.php>. Ask Chris if you need assistance.

- Speaking of taxes .... we found a sad story about a theater professor who tried to claim deductions for his research trips to the library. Mileage can usually be deducted but must be recorded fairly specifically. Unfortunately, this professor was a bit too specific. He wound up trying to claim deductions for research on Memorial Day and Independence Day, when most libraries are closed (thus raising "significant issues of credibility," the court stated). The professor also tried to deduct his videotape rentals, since he claimed every time he watched a movie, he was engaged in research and not recreation. The court threw out a good portion of those and other deductions, waxing poetical with a number of literary references along the way. The opinion is only available online; [Calarco v. IRS](#), U.S. Tax Court, Summary Opinion 2004-94; 2004 Tax Ct. Summary LEXIS 69; 2004 WL 1616387 (July 20, 2004).
- Some students complain that faculty and staff treat them like children. Apparently, judges do it too. A Miami-Dade County judge recently ordered two defense attorneys to sit in a corner, and then write letters of apology to the prosecutor for their accusations that she had engaged in prosecutorial misconduct. See the article online from the [Sun-Sentinel](#) here: <http://tinyurl.com/692uo>