

ASL LIBRARY NEWS

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What's New in the Library?

- November is the month of Thanksgiving, and due to the holiday, we'll have some modified hours in the Library. If you will need Library materials, please be sure to check them out before the holiday begins!

	Circulation/Reserve Desk	Card Access
Tuesday, November 20	8 am – 10 pm (regular)	6 am – midnight
Wednesday, November 21	8 am – noon	6 am – noon
Thursday, November 22	no service	no access
Friday, November 23	no service	10 am – 7 pm
Saturday, November 24	no service	10 am – 7 pm
Sunday, November 25	9 am – 10 pm (regular)	9 am - midnight

- The ASL Library got some exciting news last month: we've been approved to become an official federal government documents depository. While we've had a "selective housing agreement" with the University of Virginia's College at Wise which allowed us to receive some major titles – like the IRS's *Cumulative Bulletin* and the *Code of Federal Regulations*, our independent status allows us to be a bit more selective in what we receive from the government. If you're looking for a government publication, check with Becky and she'll do her best to help you track it down.
- If you're a fan of the online BNA Tax Portfolio Library, you'll notice quite a few improvements that have just been released. The new organization of the web site – which is now known as "BNA's Tax and Accounting Center" – lets you access news and information more easily. The old site disappears on November 5. If you haven't been playing around with the BNA databases, see them for yourself at <http://taxandaccounting.bna.com/> (you need to be on-campus to access all the features).
- While others are stuffing themselves with Thanksgiving turkey, all the smart law students will be stuffing themselves with CALI tutorials! If your Internet access is a bit poor, you can check out a copy of the CALI CD at the Circulation Desk for three days. But if you're going somewhere with superfast Internet, you can do the lessons online if you've registered using the secret ASL authorization code, which is **[not in online version!]** (and it is case-sensitive).

Other News

- Daylight Savings Time ends on the first Sunday in November (November 4). Don't forget to "fall back" one hour. (If you got a new – or even a "hand-me-down" – computer over the summer, be sure it has the most recent updates, as DST had different dates this year than it has in the past.)
- One frequent question we get at the Reference Desk is a variation of "I know what the law on this topic is in my state, but what is the law in all the other states?" You may need to create a "50-state survey" for a class assignment or even for a senior partner. There haven't been many good ways to do this – other than the old-fashioned look-in-each-state's-code. But now both Lexis and Westlaw offer fairly easy ways to compile this information for your topic.
 - In Lexis, you'll need to scroll down to see the "Legislation and Politics – U.S. & U.K." section. Click on the "View more sources" link for that section. You will then see "LexisNexis 50 State Surveys, Legislation & Regulations." You can click on the little square icon for information about the database, or click on the link itself to access the list of topics. (Note that Lexis helpfully warns you that you *would* be charged for this type of information if you were using a law firm account – but under your school account, it is already paid for.)
 - In Westlaw, the "law school" tab provides you with the "Statutes" section, and under that you should see "50 State Surveys." You then have the choice of doing a search, or you can browse by topic by clicking on "Table of Contents" in the upper-right corner of the white area of the screen.
 - If your after-law-school future doesn't include Lexis or Westlaw, you're not completely out of luck. The National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) compiles similar information on its web site at <http://www.ncsl.org/programs/lis/lr/50statetracking.htm>
- November 6 is Election Day. If you're a Virginia voter, be sure to check out <http://www.sbe.virginia.gov/> to see the candidates on the ballot. And while our little community may be too small to start up a "vote swapping" club, the Ninth Circuit recently decided that swapping votes was not quite the same as *buying* votes (which is illegal) and thus the activity was protected by the First Amendment. *Porter v. Bowen*, 496 F.3d 1009 (9th Cir. 2007).
- We don't have a lot of room to discuss the lawsuit against Google by a man who was convinced that his upside-down social security number spelled out "Google," and that was a violation of his privacy. Needless to say, the lawsuit was dismissed. Court documents can be found on Justia at <http://tinyurl.com/2tatbo>