

ASL LIBRARY NEWS

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What's New in the Library?

- Early October brings visits from our electronic vendors Lexis and Westlaw. Lexis hits campus first (the week of October 3), with Westlaw stopping by the following week. Most of their time will be with the 1L LP training, but if you have questions, check their schedule at the Circulation Desk to see when they might have time to see you.
- October also kicks off our first "Get REAL!" (Research and Electronic-Assisted Learning) tutorials for the semester. Stop by the Reference Desk on Wednesdays at 1:30 pm for a quick refresher on a number of legal research topics. On October 19, we'll be talking about how to find treatises. Then on October 26, we'll cover the important task of finding cases. Each class runs only about fifteen minutes, so you can squeeze it in before your evening reading! We'll run a few more topics next month too so that your brains will be full before the Thanksgiving holiday!
- If you haven't been using CALI lessons, then what are you waiting for? The Center for Computer-Assisted Legal Instruction spent their summer enhancing all their lessons so they can be used on iPads and iPhones (and yet still work with those old-fashioned laptops and desktop computers). Online access requires you to set up a username and password – if you know the authorization code is **[not in online version!]** (which is case-sensitive). Or check out a DVD with all the lessons at the Circulation and Reserve Desk; it's yours for three days.

Who's New in the Library?

Nick Stump was born and raised in the town of Buckhannon, West Virginia – not to be confused with our native Buchanan County of Virginia, which is a strange if not unpleasant coincidence. Nick attended West Virginia University for both his undergraduate and law degrees (working for the WVU Law Library throughout the course of the latter program), before occupying the Reference Librarian position this fall here at the ASL Library.

Nick will have regular shifts at the Reference Desk. His work hours will most often be nights and weekends, when many of our other professional librarians are unavailable. Please feel free, at any time, to visit Nick in the Reference Office for any and all questions.

Other News

- The first Monday in October is a special day on lawyers' calendars: it's the first day of a new U.S. Supreme Court Term. The Supremes have their work cut out for them as they interpret the two-centuries-old U.S. Constitution as it relates to modern-day problems. Here are just a few of the cases that the High Court will hear this year:
 - Can the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act be applied retroactively to those who offended prior to the law's enactment? *Reynolds v. U.S.*, 10-6549
 - Does a death row inmate have a right to federal habeas corpus review after an Alabama court did little to contact the prisoner's lawyers after mail to them – in this case, the ruling the attorneys were to appeal – came back unopened? *Maples v. Thomas*, 10-63
 - Is a *Miranda* warning necessary for currently incarcerated prisoners when they are questioned about different crimes? *Howes v. Fields*, 10-680
 - Does Section 514 of the Uruguay Round – which restored copyright status to thousands of works that had fallen into the public domain – violate the First Amendment or the Progress Clause? *Golan v. Holder*, 10-545
 - Is a blanket requirement of a strip search for anyone arrested and brought to a particular jail, even those arrested for minor offenses? *Florence v. Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Burlington*, 10-945

If you are interested in any of these cases – or want to see what else the justices will encounter this year – we have a number of great resources available, including the *U.S. Law Week* (in print at the Circulation and Reserve Desk and online in the "BNA Core" database). There's also the Supreme Court's own web site at <http://www.supremecourt.gov/>

We should also point out – just in case you hadn't seen the promotional pieces – Professor Stewart Harris' "Your Weekly Constitutional" podcast, which discusses both historical cases and very recent ones. Find it on our web site at <http://www.asl.edu/About-ASL/Connect-with-ASL/Your-Weekly-Constitutional.html> (yes, those hyphens are necessary).

- We're as much of a Johnny Cash fan as anyone is – he married June Carter, whose family lived here in Southwest Virginia and helped start country music – but we were reminded of his song "One Piece at a Time" when reading a recent bankruptcy case. An Oregon family had all the parts to assemble a 1926 Ford Model A, but hit a financial tough spot so they filed for bankruptcy. That state's law allows a "vehicle" to be exempted. But a bankruptcy court couldn't put the pieces together to allow the family to keep the "vehicle." See *In re McMillin*, 441 B.R. 348 (D. Ore. 2010).

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