

ASL LIBRARY NEWS

January 12, 2015

Volume 18 Number 6

What's New in the Library?

- The first holiday of Spring Semester is right around the corner. The Library will not be staffed on Martin Luther King, Jr., Day, which is Monday, January 19. We will have card access for students from noon to midnight. The prior weekend hours will be unchanged: Saturday, staffed 9 am to 5 pm with card access from 9 am to midnight, and Sunday, staffed noon to 8 pm with card access from noon to midnight.
- Have you heard of Law360 before? It's now part of our LexisNexis subscription, so you can access it at <http://www.law360.com/> (it can also be accessed inside of Lexis Advance). Any time you are on campus, you can have access to daily legal news categorized into over 40 different practice areas. Stories about particular cases often have links to the related filings, which may be most helpful in cases still at the trial-court level. You can even subscribe to practice-oriented newsletters by clicking on our school's name in the upper-right corner, and then choosing "Newsletter Signup" from the drop-down menu. If you need help with this new service, stop by the Reference Desk.
- Winter weather is coming, so please be aware that our staff schedule may change unexpectedly due to poor weather conditions. This may impact the hours Reserve material is available, so please don't wait until the last minute to get access to your assigned readings!
- Our Lexis and Westlaw student representative "office hours" will be posted later in the semester (and in our February newsletter). If you need to contact one of them, send them an e-mail:

LEXIS

Micah Bailey – mbailey15@my.asl.edu
Jennifer Polk – jpolk16@my.asl.edu
Zachary Smith – zsmith15@my.asl.edu

WESTLAW

Kelsea Wagner – kwagner16@my.asl.edu

- Smoking is not allowed in the Library or on the Library steps (and ramp) leading into the building. This is not a new policy, but a reminder that the only approved smoking area on campus is in the picnic area behind the main classroom building. And no, the rule does not get waived when it is raining or cold.

Other News

- Some of you may already be thinking about your summer plans. If you hope to get some experience being a law clerk – or even if you just want to know what might be expected of you in that position – Westlaw has a very good (but hidden) guide called "Law Clerk's Guide to Success." It covers some basic topics like civil and criminal procedure, a bit about case management, and even some tips on performing legal research. Find the hundred-page book, along with a few other research resources, at <http://lawschool.westlaw.com/marketing/display/SG/1> It's Flash-based, so iPeople may not be able to view it; for those of you with an iPad or iPhone, we've posted a PDF of the book on our site at <http://www.asl.edu/Documents/Library/pubs/WestlawClerkGuide.pdf>
- In another Westlaw story, one enterprising law student had grown frustrated with WestlawNext's emphasis on simplicity. So last summer, he created a Google Chrome extension that "enhances" the WestlawNext service in several ways. (It automatically adds a table of contents, reformats statutory provisions to expand and collapse sections, and highlights the page numbers in Bluebook format.) There's hope for a Firefox extension coming soon, and he may do something similar for Lexis Advance. Westlaw, though, has remained silent about this new tool. To check it out (remember: you must be using Google Chrome as your Internet browser to use it), visit <http://www.bestlaw.io/>
- The American people have spoken, and have voted in some old and some new Senators and Representatives to the 114th Congress, which began on January 6, 2015. Will there be more government shutdowns like in the prior session, or will this time be different? You can follow Congressional news through a number of sources, including the print-based *Congressional Index* in Reference (which keeps track of bills on their way to becoming laws), and via our online databases such as ProQuest Congressional (click on "Electronic Databases" on our web page to find it). The Library of Congress also offers for free <http://www.congress.gov/> which showcases all the activities going on under the Capitol Dome. (Tip: There are nine short videos here that explain the intricacies of the legislative process; those could be especially helpful if you plan on doing an externship with a legislator at any level.)
- Two brewers were both selling a beer called "Salvation." Rather than sue each other, the Russian River Brewing Company in California and Avery Brewing in Colorado decided to work together to produce an even better version of the brew. The result was a Belgian Strong Dark Ale that they decided to name "Collaboration Not Litigation Ale." Interestingly, due to the increase in craft brewing, there has been a corresponding increase in trademark disputes due to beer names. One place to learn more is at http://blogs.westword.com/cafesociety/2014/02/avery_brewing_russian_river.php

The [ASL Library News](#) (ISSN 1535-539X) is published monthly during the academic year (except for two combined issues: Aug/Sept and Apr/May) by the Appalachian School of Law Library, Grundy VA 24614. Uncredited stories are written by Chris King, Public Services Librarian. If you would like to respond to any story in this newsletter, please contact Chris or leave a message in the upstairs suggestion box.