

ASL LIBRARY NEWS

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What's New in the Library?

- Some of you will be starting the bar application process soon, and the Library has a number of resources that might help you. Our "Bar Exam Resources" web page (<http://www.asl.edu/Library/Library-Services/Bar-Examination-Resources.html>) offers a state-by-state listing of links to the bar exam regulations, plus any links to any existing prior examinations (including any answers, when they're available!). There's also a list of study guides we have in print – yes, some people still like to study with books – and a handful of links to various bar exam review courses, should you want to check out what is being offered by commercial vendors.
- Are you in a rules-based course this year, like Tax or Evidence or Civil Procedure? You might want an electronic copy of those, perhaps for "quick" access on a Kindle or tablet. Electronic rulebooks are one of the many offerings of CALI, the Center for Computer-Assisted Legal Instruction. Head on over to <http://www.cali.org> and click on the "EBOOKS" link. You'll find a number of titles, available as PDF, epub (for most tablets), mobi (for Kindles), and even as Microsoft Word documents so that you can make your own annotations. (CALI does ask for a donation for these if you're able to do so.) Oh, they also have about a thousand tutorials for law school classes too. For the authorization code, stop by the Circulation Desk.

	LexisNexis			Westlaw
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MON	Send an e-mail to one of the Lexis representatives to set up a personal consultation. Although there are no specific "office hours" this year, you can stop them between classes if you have questions.			12:00 pm – 2:15 pm
TUE				12:00 pm – 3:30 pm
WED				<i>no scheduled hours</i>
THU				12:00 pm – 2:15 pm
FRI				<i>no scheduled hours</i>

Other News

- Constitutional law scholars look forward to the First Monday in October, because that's when the new Supreme Court term begins. As always, the Supremes will have rested up over the summer, and will be ready to wrestle with some monumental cases (including a few redistricting ones from Texas and Arizona, and a repeat appearance of the race-conscious admissions program at the University of Texas at Austin (*Fischer*)), and a few that may fly under the radar. Here's a rundown of a few of the cases that the justices have agreed to hear this term, which begins on October 5:
 - Does a conspiracy to commit extortion require that the conspirators agree to obtain property from someone outside the conspiracy? (*Ocasio v. U.S.*, 14-361)
 - Does the Eighth Amendment require "individualized sentencing" for co-conspirators (capital defendants) when the traditional approach prefers joinder? (*Kansas v. Carr*, 14-449 and 14-450; there's also an issue here about jury instructions and the burden of proof of mitigating circumstances in a capital trial, which has been combined with *Kansas v. Gleason*, 14-452)
 - When *Miller v. Alabama* (2012) prohibited life without parole for juveniles, was that to be retroactively applied? (*Montgomery v. Louisiana*, 14-280)
 - Does ERISA preempt Vermont's health care database law that requires certain reports from insurance agencies? (*Gobeille v. Liberty Mut. Ins. Co.*, 14-181)
 - Can Congress confer standing to a plaintiff who suffers no concrete harm, based on a bare violation of a federal statute? (*Spokeo, Inc. v. Robins*, 13-1339)
 - Can a class action suit be certified if the class contains hundreds of members who were not injured and thus would not receive damages? (*Tyson Foods v. Bouaphakeo*, 14-1146)

To find out more about these cases – or others that are constantly being added to the docket – check out *U.S. Law Week* (in print at the Circulation/Reserve Desk and online in the "BNA Core" database). There's also the Supreme Court's own web site at <http://www.supremecourt.gov/>

- Every once in a while, a Supreme Court justice tries to throw a few humorous bits into a written opinion. Just a few months ago, in *Kimble v. Marvel Entertainment*, 576 US __, 135 S. Ct. 2401 (2015), the issue was payment over royalties for a Spider-Man web-shooter device. We were thrilled that Justice Kagan, writing for the Court, made sure to include Spider-Man's core philosophy ("with great power there must also come – great responsibility") while slyly noting that changing the law would involve a "whole web of precedents." She also managed to work in the theme from the 1960s cartoon ("doing whatever a spider can").

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