



Welcome From the Director



We're back in the saddle again! Howdy yawl.... The Law Library Staff extends a special welcome to the **Class of 2017** and all **new faculty and staff members**. We also want to welcome back our returning students and faculty. We are looking forward to an exciting 2014 - 2015 academic school year. Within the next four months you will be bombarded with new words such as Blue-

book, Shepardize, Formbooks, Vernon's, Casebook and Case Analysis,

Like all new law students, you will be inundated with information.

The entire library staff is here to help you define some of these new terms, answer your questions and provide legal research help throughout your law school career.

Please stop by the Reference/Circulation Desk to say hello to the Law Library staff. While you are there, pick up some of the library's helpful publications including the **2014-2015 Library Guide, Electronic Databases Guide, Location Guide, Library Map** and an abundance of **pathfinders, bibliographies** and **research guides**.

This newsletter will provide some answers and insights to enrich your law school experience.

DON'T MISS VALUABLE INFORMATION

Updates are posted to the Law Library Web page and via **TWEN** emails. Make sure you are connected. Don't forget to like us on Facebook. Dig in with both legs and let's make it a good ride!

DeCarlous Y. Spearman
Law Library Director
Assistant Professor

Inside this issue:

AALL Conference	2
New Staff	2
Library Study Aids	3
IPADs	3
Library Hours of Operation	4
Library Food and Beverage Policy	4



AALL Conference in San Antonio, Texas

July 12– 15 two of TMSL’s law librarians attended the Annual American Association of Law Libraries’ Conference in San Antonio, TX. Director, DeCarious Spearman and Reference Librarian, Nanette Collins attended the super informative informational conference. Vendors Such as Lexis Nexis and Westlaw hosted huge parties which included great food, fireworks and a real live rodeo. One of the roundtables that our librarians participated in was the Joint Roundtable on Law Library Ser-



vices to Pro Se Patrons and Prisoners. Presenters included: Rita Dermody, Public Law Library of King County, Joan Bellistri, Anne Arundel County Public Law Library, Janine Liebert, LA Law Library, and Joan Cochet, National Center for State Courts. During the roundtable,

Librarians were able to share their very different takes on how to assist pro se patrons and or their families with expungements and other situations. Librarians also discussed the projects they are currently working on, revising websites, updating online database of law libraries offering services to prisoners, and ideas for future projects. TMSL librarians were able to add valuable feedback to all of the sessions they attended and look forward to next years conference in Philadelphia, PA.

New Staff

The law library would like to welcome our two newest staff members, Karim Aldridge-Rand– Technical Services Director and Dan Brackmann.– Electronic Resources Librarian.

Karim T. Aldridge Rand brings over 20 years of library experience and teaching with him to the TMSL Law Library. Mr. Aldridge Rand has been a member of the Texas Library Association since 1996. He is also a member of the School Librarian Association, American Federation of Teachers, Afro-American Historical & Genealogical Society and the African American Genealogical Society of Northern California.

Dan Brackmann is the library’s new Electronic Resources Librarian. Mr. Brackmann comes from Belleville, Illinois, where he has been a practicing attorney for the last fifteen years. The majority of his practice concerned the areas of civil litigation, real property, and probate. He is a graduate of the University of Cincinnati College of Law and the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Karim Aldridge-Rand

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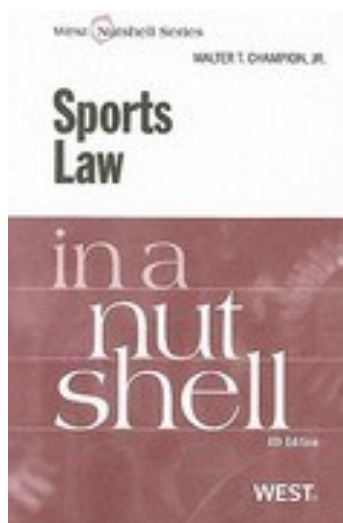
Dan Brackmann

Electronic Resources Librarian
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Law Library Study Aids and Supplements

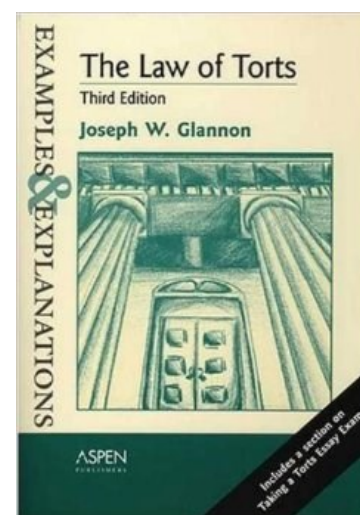
What kinds of the study aids does the library have? This is a question we often hear at the Circulation Desk. Although we do not buy all of the study aids which are available for you to purchase in the bookstore, we do carry some of them in the reserve section and make them available for use while in the Law Library. We also have some older editions in our circulation area which may be checked out from the Law



Library.

One of the most popular study aids we carry are the books in the "Law in a Nutshell" series. These are short works on broad legal topics which you can use when you need a quick overview of the law on a topic. The "Hornbook" series contains more detailed discussions of aspects of the law than the Nutshell books. Both the Nutshells and Hornbooks have been used by many students over the years. Two newer titles in the world of study aids are the "Understanding" books and the "Examples and Explanations" series. The "Understanding" books are discussions of the law, and are similar to the hornbooks. The "Examples and Explanations" books provide a short discussions of various topics of law, followed by questions and answers. Some students find that this question and answer format is a useful tool when preparing for exams.

These reserve materials can be checked out for 2 hours, for in-library use only. The earlier editions of these materials are kept in the



stacks, and may be checked out for 2 week time periods. If you want to check our online catalog for one of these study aids, try doing a keyword search using the series name and the name of the topic you are want to read. For example, you could do a keyword search for the terms nutshell and admiralty.

iPADs

Students, professors and staff are you interested in utilizing iPads within classrooms or during a meeting? Did you leave your iPad at home, or do you simply not own one? Worry no longer. The Thurgood Marshall School of Law (TMSL) Library is currently lending out iPads. Go to <http://www.tsulaw.edu/library/services/index.html>. Scroll down the webpage and read the iPad Documents. After reading the documents, come to the TMSL Circulation desk to borrow one.





Thurgood Marshall School of Law

Circulation Phone: 713-313-7125

Reference Phone : 713-313-1108

We're on the Web

<http://www.tsulaw.edu/library/>

Library Hours of Operation

OPERATING HOURS

MONDAY—THURSDAY

7AM –12AM

FRIDAY

7AM –10PM

SATURDAY

9AM—10PM

SUNDAY

12 NOON—12AM

REFERENCE HOURS

MONDAY– THURSDAY

8AM –8PM

FRIDAY

8AM-5PM

SATURDAY

9AM –5PM

SUNDAY

12PM-8PM

Contributions:

Richard Clark, Government Documents Librarian

Nanette Collins, Reference Librarian

Patrina Epperson, Circulation librarian

Danyahel Norris, Faculty Research Librarian

Editor:

Itunu Sofidiya, Learning Resources Librarian

Library Food and Beverage Policy



Beverages are permitted in a pre-approved, non-spill containers. Patrons with drinks in unapproved

containers will be asked to remove such items.

Food will be permitted in the form of individual snack size containers of dry foods like chips, cookies, candy, granola bars, and other relatively non-messy, individually

packed snack foods.

Please discard all food containers in the trash cans near the study rooms, basement elevator and at the main library exit.

All library staff members are authorized to enforce this policy.

Food is considered acceptable as long as it meets the following conditions:

If you can buy it in a vending machine and it's not a liquid, frozen or wet.

It is not meant to be eaten with a fork or spoon.

Food from vending machines like the one pictured are generally acceptable in the library.

Drinks and food are NOT allowed in the computer lab and photocopy area.

Let's work together to ensure our library is a place where you can study and research effectively.

