

TEXAS SOUTHERN
UNIVERSITY

THURGOOD
MARSHALL
SCHOOL OF LAW
LIBRARY

Marshall News

Volume 10, Issue 3

February 2015



Welcome

Spring has not quite sprung, but the spring semester is definitely underway. That means research, writing and a hunt for internships. What separates you from the next candidate when competing for internships? Hopefully, your research and writing skills. Are you a little rusty at researching?

Do you need help sharpening your skills? Well Join the TMSLAW Library Staff for our annual Legal Research Bootcamp on Saturday, March 28, 2015. Registration is easy . Just visit the circulation desk and ask a staff member to register. Bootcamp will include a number of scenarios

that students will be able to actively work through. Additionally, a presentation will be made on how to use ProDoc and Lexis Nexis and Westlaw will be giving refresher courses. Breakfast and lunch will be served.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Harris County Dis- 2
trict Courts' 2015
Commemoration of
Black History
Month

Featured FREE App: 3
Fastcase for An-
droid, I-phone or
Tablets

The Library Gets a 3
Mini Facelift

L*R*B*C LEGAL RESEARCH BOOT CAMP



Date: Saturday, March 28, 2015

Time: 9AM – 1 PM

Location: TMSL – Rm 203

Registration begins at 8:30 AM

Breakfast and lunch will be served.

Please sign up at the Law Library Circulation Desk.

Contact person: Itunu Sofidiya
713-313-7125

Harris County District Courts' 2015 Commemoration of Black History Month



On Friday, February 13, 2015, the “Harris County District Courts’ 2015 Commemoration of Black History Month” program was held at the Texas 1st Court of Appeals. Presenters spoke about major cases that affected the lives of African Americans in Texas, from 1840 to 1951. Library Director, DeCarlous Spearman and Faculty Research Librarian, Danny Norris attended the event on behalf of the TMSL Law Library .

Judges and District Clerks described a number of land mark cases including *Zachariah Lewis v. Charles Bowman*, *Nelly Norris v. George Stevens* and *Jim Jordan v. Thomas Chubb*. Judge Vanessa Gilmore covered *State of Texas v. Joseph Choynski and Jack Johnson; Galveston County Cause No. 2314 (1901)*, which involved the criminal case of Jack Johnson, who would eventually go on to become the first heavy weight black boxing champion. Judge Maria Jackson discussed the *State of Texas v. Oliver Grimes, et al; Criminal Case No. 22159 (1917)*, which involved the Houston riot of 1917. Finally, Judge George C. Hanks Jr. discussed the famous *Joseph R. Willie, et al v. Harris County, Texas; Civil Action No. 11926 (1951)*. This was the case that unlocked access to Texas beaches for all.

At the end of the program, the guests were invited up the view the “newly discovered documents inside the Harris County courthouse tell the story of a freed slave who fought to maintain her freedom for herself and her children. Now, others are hoping to keep her story alive.”

Featured FREE App: Fastcase for Android, I-phone or Tablets

Have you ever found yourself in a courtroom hallway preparing for oral argument and wishing that you could search for a few more cases? Would you like to be able to log some legal research time during your subway or bus commute? How about double-checking a statute provision before walking into a client meeting or a settlement negotiation? Now you can.

Fastcase for the Android is the largest free law library on Android and it uses smart search



technology from Fastcase's fully-featured Web-based legal research application, which allows you to sort the most relevant results to the top of the list, customize and re-sort search results, and integrate citation analysis tools right into the results list.

This application is free, but you will need to register an account so that you can save favorites and your own customized search history. There are tons of customizable features, so the more you use the Fastcase App, the better it fits you!

- Free, searchable library of American cases and statutes
- Keyword (Boolean), natural language, and citation search
- Browse or search statutes
- Most relevant results first
- Customizable search results that you can sort five different ways
- Search results automatically display number of citing cases
- Jump right to most relevant paragraph of any case or statute
- Integrated research history
- Save favorite documents for use later
- Case law is updated regularly
- Mobile Sync with Fastcase desktop subscriptions

Works on Phone and Tablets

The Library Gets a Mini Facelift

Over the winter break, the library got a miniature facelift. The first floor of the library, including the staff offices had brand new carpet installed. The process was smooth and the library was only closed for a short period of time. Many thanks to all of the library staff, Derrick Wilson and everyone at the law school who was able to make this possible. During the summer, the library's basement will also receive new carpeting.





**Texas Southern
University Thurgood
Marshall School of
Law**
3100 Cleburne St
Houston, TX 77004

**Library Telephone
Numbers:**
Circulation: 713-313-
7125
Reference: 713-313-
1108

We're on the Web!
example.com

Contributions:

Karim Aldridge-Rand, Technical Services Director

Daniel Brackmann, Electronic Resources Librarian

Richard Clark, Government Documents Librarian

Nanette Collins, Reference Librarian

Patrina Epperson, Circulation Librarian

Danyahel Norris, Faculty Research Librarian

DeCarlous Spearman, Law Library Director

Editor: Itunu Sofidiya, Learning Resources Librarian

TMSL Library Mission

Mission Statement:

To promote excellence in academic achievement and the dissemination of legal information to the TMSL students, faculty, staff, and the community.

The Law Library seeks to bolster the professional and scholarly undertakings of its faculty, and students as well as support the research and reference needs of the law students, alumni, the university,

legal, and local communities. The Law Library is committed to strengthening the academic and professional skills of the students and faculty by integrating technology while supporting the law school curriculum, programs, and organizations. This support encourages research and programs that promote learning, scholarship, and familiarity with new and innovative

research products and techniques.