

# MARSHALL NEWS

OCTOBER, 2013

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- GET IGNITED** 2
- BOOK REVIEW** 2
- ACCESSING YOUR LIBRARY ACCOUNT** 3
- GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS** 4
- FEATURED FREE LEGAL APP** 5
- HOW TO BECOME A BETTER LAW STU-** 5

## DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

On your mark, get set, GO!! The law school race is just beginning for the class of 2016.

Law school is a marathon, and not a sprint. Breathe and take in each day as a new day. Get over what you did not accomplish yesterday. Each day is controlled by you, so just go for it! Remember that time is of the essence and it's ok to have questions, ask for help.

The entire library staff is here to help you define new terms, answer your questions and provide legal research help throughout your law school career. I want to take a moment to extend a special welcome to the incoming 1L's and to all of the new faculty members. I would also like to



welcome back our returning students and faculty. Please stop by the Circulation or Reference Desk to pick up some of the library's helpful publications including the Fall 2013-14 Library Guide, 2013-2014 Electronic Databases Guide, pathfinders, bibliographies and research guides. Happy Learning!

## NEW EXTENDED REFERENCE HOURS

Great news for law students and library patrons in need of reference assistance. The law library has extended its reference hours.

### THURGOOD MARSHALL LAW LIBRARY REGULAR OPERATING HOURS

**Monday–Thursday**

**7am–Midnight**

**Friday**

**7 am– 10pm**

**Saturday**

**9am–10pm**

**Sunday**

**12 Noon–Midnight**

### THURGOOD MARSHALL LAW LIBRARY REFERENCE HOURS

**Monday–Thursday**

**8am–8pm**

**Friday**

**8am– 5pm**

**Saturday**

**9am–5pm**

**Sunday**

**12 Noon- 8pm**



## GET IGNITED!

Students, did you forget your laptop? Do you feel like waiting for a computer in the computer lab? Professors and staff, are you interested in utilizing the Kindles or iPads for class or meetings? Worry no longer. The Thurgood

Marshall School of Law (TMSL) Library is currently lending out Kindle Fires and iPads for educational use. To inquire about borrowing a Kindle or an iPad, go to <http://www.tsulaw.edu/library/services/index.html>. Scroll

down the webpage and read our Kindle and iPad Policy. You may come to the TMSL Circulation desk to borrow either item.



## BOOK REVIEW OF “THE EIGHT SECRETS OF TOP EXAM PERFORMANCE IN LAW SCHOOL”

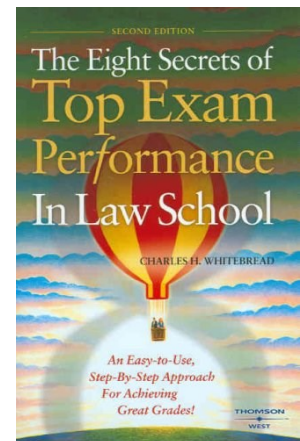
The Eight Secrets of Top Exam Performance in Law School, (2d ed.) is by Charles Whitebread

This little 150 page book contains sage advice on how to take, organize and prepare for law school exams. Every law student should spend some time reading this book. It is worth every minute. Topics covered in the book include how to look at

the “big picture” in each class instead of the minutiae contained in each case and a discussion on the IRAC method of analyzing legal issues. For test taking, the book explains how to organize your time and your answer, how to spot and analyze issues, how to get maximum points for an answer and a method for successfully handling multiple

choice questions.

This book is an excellent resource for 1L students who have never taken a Law School Exam and a good read for upper class students who want to hone their test taking skills. This book is available in the library.



## ACCESSING YOUR LIBRARY ACCOUNT



Epperson, Patrina  
3100 Cleburne St  
Houston, Texas 77004



[Preferred Searches](#)



RENEW SELECTED ITEMS

1 ITEM CHECKED OUT				
RENEW	TITLE	BARCODE	STATUS	CALL NUMBER
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">The eight secrets of top exam performance in law school : an easy-to-use, step-by-step approach for achieving great grades / by Charles H. Whitebread.c. 1</a>	31947000054515	DUE 11-25-13	KF283 .W48 2008



RENEW SELECTED ITEMS

[Library Home](#) | [Law School](#) | [TSU](#)

As a new school year begins, I want to inform all library patrons that you have the power to access our collection and manage the resources you have borrowed by logging into your library account. You can login to your library account by clicking on the Login link from the online catalog. Enter your last name and barcode number. It is important to access your library account because this feature allows you to keep track of items you have borrowed, renew

items, view any fines/fees, and place holds.

Logging in to your library account also allows you to access our databases remotely. Managing your library account online is a time saving benefit. Happy studying and have a prosperous school year.

**Accessing your account online allows you to access our databases remotely and manage your library account.**

## **GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS: THE MOST UNDERUTILIZED RESOURCE IN THE LIBRARY**

Government documents are the publications of government agencies- local, state, national and international. Since 1789, the U.S. Government has been “Keeping America Informed” by providing the public with non-fee access to federal government information. The GPO (Government Printing Office) is responsible for printing government agency material and administering distribution to their designated sites. The GPO’s FDLP (Federal Depository Library Program) is responsible for the distribution of government documents and materials in all formats to approximately 1,200 designated federal depository libraries in the U.S.

Each depository library receives documents it selects at no charge from the FDLP, but the documents are the property of the United States Government. Depository libraries receive, process, house, maintain, preserve and provide access to the documents and follow the federal policies and procedures of the GPO. Government Documents come in many different formats like books, periodicals, maps, charts, CD-ROMs, forms, pictures, DVD’s, microfilm and microfiche.

### **Why are Government Documents useful to law students?**

- It’s an authoritative source
- It’s easily accessible through the GPO online database
- Government documents are a great source for agency rules and statistical information



**FEATURED FREE LEGAL APP OF THE MONTH: FASTCASE**

Fastcase is a next-generation, web-based legal research service that provides access to U.S. cases and statutes.

The Fastcase mobile application is currently configured for use by iPhone, iPod

Touch, and iPad owners, the great part is that it is TOTALLY FREE.

Searches of the Fastcase database may be performed using citations, phrases, or keywords.

Boolean operators

and proximity connectors may be used in constructing search statements.

Fastcase may be downloaded from the iTunes App Store, Google Play or from the Fastcase website at <http://www.fastcase.com/>

**HOW TO BECOME A HAPPIER AND MORE SUCCESSFUL LAW STUDENT**

1. Be Reasonable. You must be reasonable about the demands you place on yourself. Create a schedule that includes time for resting and productive de-stressing activities.

2. Be Strategic. Take practice exams before your actual exam. Utilize all of your resources. There are a ton of free study aids located in the library available for 2-hour checkout. Simply ask a librarian for a supplement or sample question book on the topic you are studying.

3. Be Attentive. Pay attention in class. Listening will usually help you avoid any

confusion regarding the subject matter. Ask for help before it's too late. Please don't wait until the day before an assignment is due to look at the assignment.

4. Be Aware. Keep multiple reminders of exam dates, assignments and reviews. Be aware of any tutorials or reviews your teacher is providing. This will help you stay organized and help avoid the stress that comes from confusion or being unprepared.

5. Be You. By the time you enter law school you should have a pretty good sense of self. Don't lose your sense of self just because you have

entered the law school realm. If you learn best by listening, find recorded supplements. If you need to write things out, draft an outline.



**THURGOOD MARSHALL  
SCHOOL OF LAW LIBRARY**

**Library Telephone Numbers**

**Circulation: 713-313-7125**

**Reference: 713-313-1108**



**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.

**CONTRIBUTORS :**

**RICHARD CLARK, GOVERNMENT  
DOCUMENTS LIBRARIAN**

**SHANTE CLARK-DAVIS, ELECTRONIC  
RESOURCES LIBRARIAN**

**NANETTE COLLINS, REFERENCE  
LIBRARIAN**

**PATRINA EPPERSON, CIRCULATION  
LIBRARIAN**

**DANYAHEL NORRIS, FACULTY  
RESEARCH LIBRARIAN**

**ITUNU SOFIDIYA, LEARNING  
RESOURCES LIBRARIAN**

**We are on the Web**

**[http://www.tsulaw.edu/  
library/index.html](http://www.tsulaw.edu/library/index.html)**