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Law Library Briefs

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Roger Williams University School of Law Library



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Need A Laugh?

For those of you who need a laugh and have time to spare or need a study break, check out the law library's collection of humorous books about judges, juries, laws, lawyers, law schools, and law students! These books are generally shelved in the stacks in the **K183** and **K184** call number range. You can search the law library's webcatalog by the subjects: **Law---Humor**; **Law Schools---Humor**; **Law Students---Humor**; or **Lawyers---Humor** to locate other titles not mentioned in this issue of *Law Library Briefs*.

Here are some suggested brief humorous reads:

From the pen of William L. Prosser, *The Judicial Humorist: A Collection of Judicial Opinions and Other Frivolities* (K183 .J83 1952) contains works of legal fiction in addition to judicial opinions from the early 1900s to the publication date of the book.

Works by other authors include:

Loony Laws & Silly Statutes (K184 .L56 1994) is a quick read accompanied by some humorous cartoons. *Disorder in the Court:*

Great Fractured Moments in Courtroom History (K184 .S48 1992) has excerpts of trial transcripts in which lots of folks say the darndest things. *Presumed Ignorant!: Over 400 Cases of Legal Looniness, Daffy Defendants, and Bloopers from the Bench* (K184 .G744 1998) reflects the "human folly in the field of law." Supporting the theory that truth really is stranger than fiction is *Ludicrous Laws & Mindless Misdemeanors: The Silliest Lawsuits and Unruliest Rulings of all Times* (K184 .D38 1998). *The Lighter Side of Practicing Law*, 4th ed (K184 .L54 1998) is a compilation of humorous anecdotes told by 114 lawyers from around the United States (one of them is from Nan's home town in Maine!).

Check out a few Rhode Island laws in *You May Not Tie an Alligator to a Fire Hydrant: 101 Real Dumb Laws* (K184 .K66 2002). In addition to the book, the authors have a website (<http://www.dumblaws.com>) which is a collection of dumb laws in several foreign countries in addition to those in the United States.

For those of you with a fondness

for food, check out *Habeas Codfish: Reflections on Food and the Law* (KF3875 .A7 L48 2001). Chapters are: Assault with a Breadly Weapon; Big Beef Supreme; Nutrition Facts, Nutrition Fictions; Thou Shalt Not Commit Adulteration!; Food Fight: A Tale of Two Pizzas; Java Jurisprudence; The Legacy of Mr. Peanut; McBully, Ladle and Slander; From Bad Apples to Mad Cows; It's Not Nice to Defraud Mother Nature; Not So Strictly Kosher; Cruel and Unusual Condiments; and Just Desserts. On order is *Amicus Humoriae: an Anthology of Legal Humor* (2003).

For those of you who think the law school experience can be hilarious (seriously!), two fun reads are *Law School: A Survivor's Guide* (Reserve, K184 .G67 1994) and *The Law School Trip: The Insider's Guide to Law School* (Reserve, K183 .M32 2001).



The Law Library staff wishes all students the best of luck on their exams and congratulates the graduating class of 2004!

Research Tips from the Experts:

Job Search Strategies

This issue of *Law Library Briefs* continues the career theme of the February and March issues of *Law Library Briefs* and focuses on materials for information on job search strategies. The following books cover job search strategies generally:

☞ *Choosing Small, Choosing Smart: Job Search Strategies for Lawyers in the Small Firm Market* (KF297 .G47 2001) contains advice from practitioners and career counselors on obtaining employment with a small law firm.

☞ *Full Disclosure: The New Lawyer's Must-Read Career Guide* (KF297 .C37 2001) has chapters on beginning your job search, cover letters and resumes, your writing sample, strategies to obtain a job in a law firm, interviewing, and the summer associate experience.

☞ *Guerrilla Tactics for Getting the Legal Job of Your Dreams...Regardless of Your Grades, Your School, or Your Work Experience!* (KF297 .W35 1999b) is a compilation of words of wisdom from law school career directors. They discuss networking, rainmaking, correspondence, resumes, interviews, underplaying bad grades, getting into a law firm, nontraditional careers, and mistakes that law students make in their job searches.

☞ *How to Get the Job You Want in a Law Firm* (KF297 .T875 1997) has tips on networking, resumes, interviewing, and obtaining summer legal employment while attending law school.

☞ Books providing guidance on writing resumes and cover letters accompanied by sample resumes and cover letters include: *Best Resumes for Attorneys* (KF297 .F66 1994); *Cover Letter Magic: Trade Secrets of Professional Resume Writers*, 2d ed (HF5383 .E4787 2004); *Developing a Professional Vita or Resume* (HF5383 .M18 1997); and *The Legal Career Guru's Guide to the Perfect Legal Resume* (KF297 .E4 2000).

☞ Books containing tips on job interviewing include: *The Essential Book of Interviewing: Everything You Need to Know from Both Sides of the Table* (HF5549.5.I6 F37 1995); *Interview for Success: A Practical Guide to Increasing Job Interviews, Offers, and Salaries*, 8th ed. (HF4459.5.I6 K7 2003); *Knock Em Dead 2003* (HF5549.5.I6 Y37 2003); and *The Quick Interview and Salary Negotiation Book* (HF5549.5.I6 .F37 1995).

☞ Books about networking include: *It's Who You Know: The Magic of Networking in Person and on the Internet* (HF5382.7 .C45 1998) and *Networking for Everyone: Connecting with People for Career and Job Success* (HF5381 .T85 1998).

☞ To search for additional titles

not mentioned in this issue of *Law Library Briefs*, search the law library's webcatalog by the following subjects: **Cover Letters; Employment---Lawyers---United States; Employment Interviewing; Job Hunting; Resumes; and Social Networks.**

Study Aids

The law library has numerous materials to assist you in your review of the legal concepts in substantive areas of the law. Current editions of these materials are located in Reserve while older editions are shelved in the stacks. The Thomson/West "...in a Nutshell" series gives a cursory overview of a particular area of law while their hornbooks provide a more detailed discussion of an area of law with references to cases, statutes, and secondary sources. Aspen Law & Business publishes the *Examples and Explanations Series* and Matthew Bender publishes the *Legal Text Series* (titles in this series begin with "Understanding..."). To view available titles in these series, search the law library's webcatalog by typing in the titles: **Examples and Explanations Series, Hornbook Series, Legal Text Series, or Nutshell Series.**



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