

3-2011

Legal Beagle Blog (March 2011)

Roger Williams University School of Law Library

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Recommended Citation

Roger Williams University School of Law Library, "Legal Beagle Blog (March 2011)" (2011). *Law Library Newsletters/Blog*. 86.
https://docs.rwu.edu/law_lib_newsblog/86

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Legal Beagle's Blog

Feeling unprepared about legal research?

Posted by Library Blog on 03/04/2011 at 03:44 PM

Legal research is as much art as science; it calls for strategy as well as serendipity. There are many approaches to legal research, and there is no single, or best way to conduct legal research. Methods vary according to the nature of the problem and depend on the researcher's subject expertise and research skills.

- *Fundamentals of Legal Research, 9th Edition* by Steven M. Barkan, Roy M. Mersky and Donald J. Dunn

(Reserve, KF240 .J32 2009)

The RWU Law Library will be having a series of "prep talks" starting the week of March 21st to help you refresh your research skills in preparation for your summer plans (and beyond). Come join us to learn practical research skills.

- Mondays at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m.
- Tuesdays at 11 a.m. and 3:15 p.m.
- Wednesdays at 9 a.m. and noon

Week 1: Federal and State Administrative Law Research

Week 2: Welcome to the Jungle:

Walk and Talk Library Tour focusing on print statutes, digests and reporters

Week 3: Rhode Island and Massachusetts Practice Materials

Week 4: Welcome to the Jungle:

Walk and Talk Library Tour focusing on print statutes, digests and reporters

Week 5: Secondary Sources

To register, email: LawLibraryHelp@rwu.edu

Attention Law Students! Are You Looking for Better Bandwidth?

Posted by Library Blog on 03/04/2011 at 03:57 PM

Connect to the **Students1** (Students1 SSID) wireless network, instead of the *Public* wireless network for better bandwidth. The **Students1** wireless network uses the same username and password as the old "*Students*" Wireless Network.

Students who have not previously registered their PC on the RWU computer registration system will be prompted to login and begin the registration/remediation process when connecting to the **Students1** wireless network for the first time. Registrations expire at the end of each semester.

Food for Fines 2011

Posted by Library Blog on 03/14/2011 at 12:00 AM

Have your studies kept you in a study room a little longer than scheduled? Have you returned a book after the due date or time? Would you like a chance to clear your fines and help others in need? Your opportunity has arrived!

From March 21st to April 1st, the law library is offering students the opportunity to help themselves and help others when paying off their accrued late fines by contributing to the East Bay Food Pantry or the Rhode Island Community Food Bank.

Students owing fines will receive a notice of their outstanding fines. During this two week period, qualifying contributions = fines waived. Attached is a flyer with the full program details.

The [Status Report on Hunger in Rhode Island 2010](#) by Rhode Island Community Food Bank included among the major findings that:

- 13.7% of Rhode Island households were food insecure in 2009 as determined by the USDA.
- 55,000 people were served each month at Rhode Island food pantries from Sept. 2009-Aug. 2010.
- Demand for food assistance increased by 45% between 2007 and 2010 in Rhode Island.

Please take this opportunity to clear your fines and support a worthy cause.

Rhode Island Bar Journal Features Two RWU Law Student Authors (and one alum!)

Posted by Library Blog on 03/14/2011 at 09:40 AM

Imagine if you were sitting alone in your apartment and a man began banging on your door and calling your name. He then demands you give him your 42" plasma TV for free because you promised it to him in an ad on Craigslist that you don't know anything about. What would you do?

This fact pattern is similar to an actual Rhode Island case as discussed in the [March/April, 2011 issue](#) of the *Rhode Island Bar Journal*. The article, *Cyberbullying - An Age Old Problem, a New Generation*, is co-written by the Honorable Brian P. Stern, Esq. and Roger Williams University School of Law student **Thomas Evans**.

The same issue of the *Rhode Island Bar Journal* features an article about the hazards of so-called litigation financing companies. The article, *Litigation Financing: Preying on Plaintiffs*, is co-written by John P. Baryllick, Esq. and **Jenna Wims Hashway**, a Roger Williams University School of Law student and RWU School of Law Review Editor-in-Chief.

In addition, the March/April issue of the Rhode Island Bar Journal also features *Cyber Crimes: Bullying, Stalking, Sexting & Texting* by Robert H. Humphrey, Esq. and **Kimberly A. Petta, Esq.** (Class of '09).

Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Posted by Library Blog on 03/25/2011 at 10:26 AM

With a phrase like "nuclear meltdown" being discussed in the news over the last few weeks, you might be interested in learning more about the governmental organization responsible for nuclear material safety and safeguards, nuclear regulatory research and nuclear reactor regulation in the United States. This body is called the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and was created by the Energy Reorganization Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5841). The forerunner of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission was the Atomic Energy Commission, which was established in 1954 by the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2011).

There are many resources available about nuclear energy in the United States and abroad. A brief history of the NRC and a summary of its structure and function is available in the *Federal Regulatory Directory* (Reference,

JK 610 .F43 2010). The federal regulations regarding nuclear energy are available in the *Code of Federal Regulations* in [Title 10](#). The [NRC website](#) has voluminous information available, including a map of existing [U.S. Nuclear Power Reactor Sites](#). For information about international nuclear energy conventions and agreements, the [International Atomic Energy Agency's website](#) (IAEA) provides helpful links.