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Legal Beagle Blog (March 2012)

Roger Williams University School of Law Library

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Legal Beagle's Blog

HeinOnline: A Wealth of Legal Information at Your Finger Tips! Part I

Posted by Library Blog on 03/02/2012 at 10:21 AM

[HeinOnline](#) offers a wide-range of primary and secondary legal materials for the researcher easily searched within topical libraries and downloadable in *pdf* format.

If you are unable to find a pre-1980s law review or bar journal article on LexisNexis or Westlaw, try searching HeinOnline's **Law Journal Library**, which contains law reviews and journals from their inception. The HeinOnline Law Journal Library is the go-to-resource for cite checking law reviews. To access it from off-campus, don't forget to use the link on the law library's Database List at [/library/research-resources/databases](#).

Did you know that you can receive an email notification when a new issue of a journal becomes available on HeinOnline? From the Law Journal Library, first register for a Hein account by clicking on the **"MyHein"** button under the masthead. Click the link to **"Create an Account"** and enter a Username, Password and Email Address. For User Type, select **Student**. (Tip: Do not check the option to receive promotional material from the publisher unless you want a lot of advertising and other emails. J) After setting up a MyHein account, you can select any journal in the Law Journal Library for the option **"Create eTOC Alert."** You will receive an email containing the Table of Contents when the latest issue is added to the database. It is easy to add and delete TOC Alerts from your account.

These are just a few of the two dozen or so HeinOnline Libraries. Be sure to read the next installment of the Legal Beagle blog for descriptions of other HeinOnline Libraries.

HeinOnline: A Wealth of Legal Information at Your Finger Tips! Part II

Posted by Library Blog on 03/07/2012 at 05:55 PM

[HeinOnline](#) offers a wide-range of primary and secondary legal materials for the researcher easily searched within topical libraries and downloadable in *pdf* format.

For those participating in moot court competitions, the **National Moot Court Competition Library** provides access to records, briefs, and related organizational materials from the first to the most recent competition. Similarly, the **Philip C. Jessup Library** includes the Problems, Judges' Briefs, Rules, and leading written memorials which comprise each competition. Several publications of the International Law Students Association are available.

Need to find many different states' laws on a particular subject? Be sure to look at the **Subject Compilation of State Laws Library**, which contains references to secondary sources such as law review articles, and websites published between 1960 and 2010 that contain citations to state statutes. Hundreds of topics, from Abandoned Property to Zoning, are covered.

If you are researching a major federal law, use the **U.S. Federal Legislative History Library** to determine if there is a compiled legislative history for your law. A compiled legislative history for your law contains citations and sometimes full-text documents that can help you ascertain Congressional intent such as the enacted bill and versions of it in the House and Senate, committee hearings, committee reports, transcripts of legislative debate as published in the *Congressional Record*, and a Presidential signing statement. This library also has the database *Sources of Compiled Legislative Histories* which is useful for locating any books, articles, and Legislative Histories available on the law you are researching. There are options to browse by session of Congress or by Public Law.

These are just a few of the two dozen or so HeinOnline Libraries. Be sure to read the next installment of the Legal Beagle blog for descriptions of other HeinOnline Libraries.

HeinOnline: A Wealth of Legal Information at Your Finger Tips! Part III

Posted by Library Blog on 03/30/2012 at 11:18 AM

The William S. Hein & Co., Inc. was an early leader in microfilming official federal government publications from their inception. These publications consisted of primary legal authority such as cases, statutes and agency regulations. Fortunately for the researcher, many of these publications are now easily accessible via [HeinOnline](#).

If you are looking for a statute passed by Congress, you can find it as it was enacted during the Congressional session in the ***U.S. Statutes at Large* library**. There are options to browse by the statute's popular name or its Public Law number. You can also find the statute as codified in the ***U.S. Code* library**. There is complete coverage of the ***U.S. Code*** dating back to 1925 – 1926. To locate debate in the House or Senate about a statute, check out the **U.S. Congressional Documents library** to find floor debate published in the ***Congressional Record*** or one of its three predecessor titles. Coverage of floor debate dates back to 1798!

In the **U.S. Supreme Court Library** are U.S. Supreme Court cases published in the official ***U.S. Reports*** as well as books and periodicals related to the Supreme Court.

If you are researching a federal agency's rules or even its proposed ones, the **Federal Register Library** offers access to the daily ***Federal Register*** issues and the annual ***Code of Federal Regulations*** (also in its own separate HeinOnline library). If you need to locate an agency's decision that is unavailable online, try searching the **U.S. Federal Agency Documents, Decisions, and Appeals library**.

The **U.S. Presidential Library** is a treasure trove of Presidential signing statements, Executive Orders, State of the Union and Inaugural addresses, and speeches. If you like Presidential history, there are numerous publications to satisfy!