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Legal Beagle Blog (September 2012)

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Legal Beagle's Blog

Creating and Managing Your Passwords

Posted by Library Blog on 09/14/2012 at 02:17 PM

The following rules for creating strong passwords are abridged from the April 2012 YourABA e-news article [Security Fundamentals: Passwords](#) --

- Use a minimum of eight characters
- Use a variety of characters
- Do not use a single dictionary word or common phrase
- Use *phrases that* combine multiple common but unrelated words
- Use different passwords for different services/devices
- Choose security questions that are less ordinary or answer the security question with false but memorable information
- Be sure that the URL for the website you are logging into looks legitimate and that the browser shows a secure connection
- Never write down your password in an unsecure location.

If you need help keeping track of your passwords, use a password management tool designed for that purpose. There are several free and fee-based password management tools. If you are looking for recommendations on a password manager, listen to this recent *Kennedy-Mighell Report* [podcast](#) on the [Legal Talk Network](#). Hosts Dennis Kennedy and Tom Mighell discuss:

- [LastPass](#)
- [1Password](#)
- [Roboform](#)
- [IronKey](#)

Staff in the Law Library use [Passpack](#) which allows one to have up to 100 entries for free! With Passpack, you only need to remember three things:

- User ID
- Password
- Packing Key
- [SUBSCRIBE](#)

Your U.S. Law Week Email

Posted by Library Blog on 09/20/2012 at 10:16 AM

Ever noticed among the numerous law school emails that you get is a weekly one from Lucinda Harrison-Cox, Associate Law Librarian? This weekly email contains the highlights of newly-added content to the [Bloomberg BNA U.S. Law Week](#). *U.S. Law Week* is the premier digital resource offering up-to-date coverage of recently decided state and federal appellate cases, the latest federal agency administrative decisions and regulations, and legal news about the President and the U.S. Congress.

One key feature of *U.S. Law Week* includes actions by the U.S. Supreme Court during their current term. You can find out if a case has been granted or denied *certiorari* and read summaries of oral arguments and opinions as soon as they are released. Another notable feature is “Circuit Splits”: subject area listings of recently decided cases in which two or more Circuit Courts of Appeals have reached different conclusions on the same legal issue. This feature can be helpful when researching a topic for a paper or law review article! Lastly, *U.S. Law Week’s BNA Insights* provides original analysis from leading practitioners on the latest legal, legislative, regulatory, and business developments.

Newspapers in the Law Library

Posted by Library Blog on 09/27/2012 at 04:35 PM

For those who enjoy reading newspapers, the Law Library offers a wide variety of them for your reading pleasure. The newspapers are shelved in the stands located to your left as you enter the glass doors to the library. For state news and local news, there is the [Providence Journal](#) and the [Bristol Phoenix](#), respectively. Other newspapers include the [Boston Globe](#) and the [New York Times](#). If you are interested in business news, you can read the [Providence Business News](#), [Financial Times](#) or [Wall Street Journal](#).

For coverage of national legal news, [Lawyers USA](#) and [National Law Journal](#) are standard fare. The Law Library also subscribes to a few state legal newspapers. Among them are [Connecticut Law Tribune](#), [Massachusetts Lawyer Weekly](#), [New York Law Journal](#), and [Rhode Island Lawyers Weekly](#). In addition to recently decided cases, these publications report on controversial legal issues and noteworthy activities of local attorneys and judges. Occasionally a law school professor or a Dean provides analysis and commentary of a high-profile case! Summaries of important court decisions for the past six months are a standard feature of these legal newspapers and can be a source of inspiration for a bar examiner’s essay question!