Legal Beagle Blog (February 2013)

Roger Williams University School of Law Library

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So You Want to Be a Litigator!

Posted by Library Blog on 02/12/2013 at 09:04 AM

Taking Trial Advocacy? Participating in trial team? Intend to pursue a career as a litigator?

Check out the resources offered by the Law Library for opening statements and closing arguments, direct and cross-examinations, motions, and jury instructions. Search the Law Library’s WebCatalog by keyword for recent publications by the National Institute of Trial Advocacy, the ABA Section of Litigation as well as many other publishers.

To hone your trial and appellate advocacy skills, sign up to access the CVN Law School to watch the video of civil litigation or trial advocacy video clips. Make sure to use your law school email address when signing up for access!

Information about selected resources is provided in the RWU Law Guides: Jury Instructions, Legal Forms and Criminal Defense.

For those who want to pursue a career as a litigator in Rhode Island, the Law Library offers various CLE (Continuing Legal Education) publications. Many are published by the Rhode Island Bar Association or the National Business Institute. To locate additional publications for Rhode Island civil and criminal practice, search the Law Library’s WebCatalog by the subject: Trial Practice- Rhode Island. Some recent CLE publications are:

- *Advanced Trial Tactics* (KFR538 .A751 2010)
- *Dirty Litigation Tactics: How to Deal with the “Rambo” Litigator* (KFR538 .D57 2011)
- *“May it Please the Court”: Effective Case Presentation at Trial* (KFR538 .T75 2011)
- *Winning Your First Civil Trial* (KFR538 .W56 2006)

To help you organize your career as a litigator (or even while a law school student), check out the amazing listing of litigator apps at LITIG8R TECH.

A Growing Area of Law Practice: Elder Law

Posted by Library Blog on 02/22/2013 at 09:16 AM

Due to an aging population, a growing area of law practice is elder law. The 2013 February issue of the Student Lawyer includes the cover story Exploring Growing Areas of Law. The growing areas of law mentioned in the article are elder law, insurance law, and foreclosure work.
Profiled in the article are two elder law attorneys whose work involves helping families navigate a maze of estate, health care, financial, and other issues faced by their aged loved ones. They point out that it takes a very special personality to practice elder law because very detailed rules are being applied in an emotional and crisis-filled situation. Educating clients is something that they say that they spend a lot of time doing, giving people a very human and practical synopsis of the rules and the law as they apply to their situation.

Both attorneys say that trust and estate law is the entrée into an elder law practice and that students are advised to take courses in that area as well as a course in tax law. They recommend that students join student divisions of bar association sections in those areas.

Check out the National Elder Law Foundation and the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys to learn more about this specialized area of law practice.

**Careers in Education and Education Law**

Posted by Library Blog on 02/27/2013 at 06:26 PM

For those who are interested in a career in education or in education law, the Law Library offers various resources for your use. Here are five selected resources to check out.

The *Chronicle of Higher Education* is the publication offering the latest news, commentary and essays about public, private and community colleges and universities. You can browse jobs by position type or conduct a keyword search. Access to the *Chronicle of Higher Education* is controlled by IP address, so be sure to use the link from our Digital Resources page to get to the publication.

Ursula Furi-Perry’s *Fifty Unique Legal Paths: How to Find the Right Job* (Career KF297 .F87 2008) has a chapter on careers in academia and education.

The Bernard Koteen Office of Public Interest Advising has a publication *Education Law: A Career Guide* (2009). There is information on practice settings, content areas, and finding a job. Personal narratives, a listing of organizations, and education law web resources are also included in the Guide.

To find a blog on the topic, go to the Justia BlawgSearch listing of the most popular education blogs or the ABA Journal’s Blawg Directory’s listing for Education Law.

Consult the Education Law Association to learn more about this specialized area of law practice.