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3-2013

Legal Beagle Blog (March 2013)

Roger Williams University School of Law Library

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Recommended Citation

Roger Williams University School of Law Library, "Legal Beagle Blog (March 2013)" (2013). *Law Library Newsletters/Blog*. 103.

https://docs.rwu.edu/law_lib_newsblog/103

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Legal Beagle's Blog

Job Search Resource: Encyclopedia of Associations

Posted by Library Blog on 03/06/2013 at 04:17 PM

The Law Library's specialized Reference Collection is located to the right as you enter the library, in four stand-alone book cases, together with shelving that sits adjacent to the Main Computer Lab. You can use the resources in the Reference Collection to look up the meaning of a legal term of art, obtain tips for polishing a writing piece, find a pithy quote, or locate a biography of a judge for a clerkship, including contact information.

One such gem within the Law Library's reference collection is *The Encyclopedia of Associations*. On-campus access to this resource is provided by the RWU Library's [Gale Directory Library](#) database.

The Encyclopedia of Associations (Reference, AS22 . E5) is a compilation of contact information and descriptions of professional societies, trade associations, labor unions, cultural and religious organizations and fan clubs worldwide. This is a great research tool to locate potential employers in an area of interest, learn more about a particular industry, or find a group of like-minded folks to join. Few are aware that this is the research tool that law librarian Nan Balliot showed Betty Anne Waters ('98) when she was looking for organizations that might help her free her brother from a wrongful conviction. It led her to connect with the [Innocence Project](#) and its director, attorney Barry Scheck. The rest, as they say, is history.

If you need assistance using this resource or any of the others in the Reference Collection, do not hesitate to ask the Librarian staffing the Reference Desk for help.

Bloomberg Law Training

Posted by Library Blog on 03/21/2013 at 11:29 AM

Free to students up to six months after graduation, the Bloomberg Law service offers a wide-variety of primary legal materials and secondary resources. There is even a citator (like Shepard's or KeyCite). Secondary sources on Bloomberg Law include those published by the American Bar Association, BNA (e.g. topical reports) and Practising Law Institute. Transactional law resources on Bloomberg include EDGAR and DealMaker documents and clauses, drafting guides and transactional treatises. Bloomberg Law also provides extensive coverage of court dockets and filings from courts that offer electronic filing, including those courts on PACER.

Follow these steps to register for Bloomberg Law:

- Go to <http://about.bloomberglaw.com/lawschools/overview>.
- Click “**Register for a Law School Account**”
- Fill out the form using your **law school email address**.
- You **do not need** to fill in the “Activation Code” box.
- Be sure to select “Roger Williams University School of Law” and “full-time student” from the appropriate pull-down menu.

Learn more about Bloomberg Law by attending a training session conducted by Eric Malinowski, our Bloomberg Law trainer. For second and third year students, sessions will be held Tuesday, March 26 through Thursday, March 28 from 12:30 p.m. to 1:15 p.m. in the Training Lab. To register, click on the [session](#) you want to attend.

Washington, D.C. News and Career Resources

Posted by Library Blog on 03/28/2013 at 02:52 PM

Our nation’s capital is a “happening” place! For those who like to keep abreast of the activity of the three branches of government or want to work in one of them, here are some resources for you.

- [The BLT: The Blog of Legal Times](#) contains news on “law, lobbying, politics, crime, courts, business and culture.” Check out this blog for its coverage of U.S. Supreme Court oral arguments and decisions.
- [Roll Call](#) “has been the source of news on Capitol Hill since 1955.” Useful for a writing project is news about [federal policy by topical area](#).
- [SCOTUSblog](#) is an amazing resource for not only news and commentary about U.S. Supreme Court cases but also access to U.S. Supreme Court calendar, petitions, briefs, and audio and transcripts of oral arguments.
- [Department of Justice Blog](#) is a great read of what’s going on with the nation’s largest law firm.
- [Bloomberg BNA topical databases](#) are truly among the best authoritative resources for news and commentary about executive, legislative, and judicial activity in your area of interest. You can sign up for email alerts of newly added content. Located in the D.C. metropolitan area, this [company](#) is always looking for law school graduates with sharp analytical minds and excellent writing skills.

In addition to the services of the Office of Career Development, here are additional resources for guidance on getting a job with the “feds”:

- *Career Opportunities in Politics, Government, and Activism* (Stacks, [KF299 .G6 A94 2008](#))
- *Ten Steps to a Federal Job: How to Land a Job in the Obama Administration* ([Career, KF297 .T76 2009](#))
- [USAJOBS.gov](#) is the federal government’s official jobs website