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Legal Beagle Blog (April 2013)

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Legal Beagle's Blog

Job Searching and Career Development: Using LexisNexis, Westlaw and Bloomberg Law

Posted by Library Blog on 04/11/2013 at 01:18 PM

In addition to the resources of the Office of Career Development, you can use LexisNexis, Westlaw, and Bloomberg Law for job searching and career development. These are great services for researching attorneys, law firms and companies such as cases involved in and news stories about.

[Bloomberg Law's](#) "Career Insights" contains advice, suggestions, and tips from practitioners on topics such as career options, interviews, networking, your job search, professional development, and summer employment. "Ask the Hiring Attorney" series of "Qs & As" are a must read before an interview with a law firm.

*Bloomberg Law is available to you up to six months after graduation for all your research needs. Click [here](#) for steps to register for Bloomberg Law.

The [LexisNexis Law Schools homepage](#) links to career resources for second and third year students (click "2Ls/3Ls" and select "Career Resources" from the pull-down menu). You can read articles about networking and resume and interview preparation in addition to watching recorded webcasts on legal, pro-bono and alternative careers. An excellent LexisNexis free web-based resource for information on hundreds of individual lawyers, law firms and organizations is [Martindale.com](#). Click the "Professional Development" tab to access the "[Career Center Home](#)" to search available jobs and read personal career stories as well as the latest news on career development. [Registration](#) is required to post a resume or create a job alert.

*If you have a registered Lexis Advance ID, you have unlimited access to Lexis Advance for all your research needs while you are enrolled in the law school.

[Westlaw's "Career Focus"](#) online and webinar training shows you how to use WestlawNext for networking, researching employers and law firms, prepare for informational interviews, and present yourself well in writing and in person. There are guides for research and interview preparation with employers in corporations, government, judiciary, law firms, and public interest organizations.

*[Extend your summer access](#) to Westlaw Classic or WestlawNext if you are taking law school classes, working on law review or moot court, researching for a professor, or in an unpaid, nonprofit public-interest internship/externship *pro bono* work required for graduation. Even if you do not meet the aforementioned criteria, limited access is still available in June and July. Graduating students can access both Westlaw Classic and WestlawNext for up to five hours each in June and July.

Court Rules

Posted by Library Blog on 04/18/2013 at 01:22 PM

A practicing attorney's toolkit should contain the court rules for the jurisdictions in which she is practicing. Thomson Reuters and LexisNexis publish compilations of state and federal court rules. In addition to the text of the rules, there may be Committee/Reporter/Compiler Notes offering a "legislative history" of the rule. The "Notes" typically indicate an adoption of or a variation from the federal rule and might contain references to case law that prompted a revision to the rule. As these are annotated publications, there will be "Notes of Decisions" to cases in which the Court has interpreted an individual rule. In addition to court rules, these publications contain the state's rules of professional conduct and its judicial code of conduct. If you are litigating in a federal district court or bankruptcy court, you will have to become familiar with that court's local rules which are included in these published compilations. Local federal court rules are often also available from the court's website.

For state courts rules, check to see if a law library in your jurisdiction has them available on their website. For example, the [Massachusetts Trial Court Law Libraries](#)' website has downloadable and searchable [Court Rules EBooks](#) with navigation aids and links. The ebooks are updated when rules or other publications are amended. You can even sign up to be notified when a new version is available. Another example is the [Connecticut Judicial Branch Law Libraries](#) which offers via its website the [Connecticut Judicial Branch Practice Book](#) containing current court rules and the official [Connecticut Code of Evidence](#).

If you want just the text of the Federal Rules of Evidence, Criminal Procedure or Civil Procedure, you can download them from the [CALI eLangdell Bookstore](#) for free! Click on the book's cover for information on downloading to your computer or mobile device.

Tips for Networking

Posted by Library Blog on 04/26/2013 at 01:08 PM

The Law School, the Office of Career Development, and the various student organizations offer numerous networking events throughout the academic year and even during the summer months. By participating in these events, you have opportunities to meet movers and shakers in the state's legal community and non-profits as well as judges, and prominent state and local politicians. Also, attending these networking events enables you to become better acquainted with the law school administration, faculty, and staff in attendance.

Here are some resources for you to consult for enhancing your skills at these networking events:

- *The Etiquette Edge: The Unspoken Rules for Business Success* ([Career, HF5389 .L36 2005](#)) (Although the focus is on workplace etiquette, there is information on the art of schmoozing and dressing appropriately).

- *The Opportunity Maker: Strategies for Inspiring Your Legal Career through Creative Networking and Business Development* ([Career, KF297. K37 2008](#))
- *Building Career Connections: Networking Tools for Law Students and New Career, Lawyers* ([Career KF297. G38 2007](#))
- *A Lawyer's Guide to Networking* ([Career, KF316.5 .S64 2006](#))

If you are unsure as to what is appropriate attire at these networking events, check out the [Happy Go Legal](#) blog posts on [professional attire](#) and [business casual](#) for women and men.