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Law Library Blog (November 2017): Legal Beagle's Blog Archive

Roger Williams University School of Law

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November 2017 Library Blogs

Legal Beagle's Post

November 3, 2017

Veterans Day

Posted by Library Blog on 11/03/2017 at 10:44 AM

Every November 11 we observe Veterans Day as a way to honor those that have served in the United States Armed Forces. This national holiday was first observed in 1919 when President Woodrow Wilson proclaimed November 11 as [Armistice Day](#). A year earlier on that date an armistice, or temporary cessation of hostilities, occurred between the Allied Forces and Germany to effectively end World War I. In 1954, President Eisenhower issued a [proclamation](#) to rename the holiday as Veterans Day and today Veterans Day is a legal public holiday (see [5 U.S.C. §6103](#)).



In honor of this national holiday, please take a moment next week to stop by the Law Library to give a “salute” to your RWU Law colleagues, students, faculty, friends, and family who are serving or have served by completing one of the forms at the Circulation Desk. Filled out forms will be hung at the Law Library entrance as a way to show our gratitude for their service. The University will also be holding a [Veterans Day Ceremony](#) on Friday, November 10 at 11:00am.

If you are interested in learning more about veterans law research and the Law Library's collection on veterans law, visit our [LawGuide](#) on the subject.

November 8, 2017

Stonewall Inn – Fifty+ Years in History

Posted by Library Blog on 11/03/2017 at 11:42 AM

Christopher Park, located immediately across the street from the Stonewall Inn in Greenwich Village, was named a national historic monument in June 2016. [The Proclamation](#) establishing the monument stated in part that in “the early morning hours of June 28, 1969, a riot broke out in response to a police raid on the Stonewall Inn, at the time one of the City's best known LGBT bars. Over the course of the next several days, more demonstrations and riots occurred in the surrounding neighborhood including Christopher Park. During these days, because of its strategic location across from the bar, Christopher Park served as a gathering place, refuge, and platform for the community to voice its demand for LGBT civil rights. The Stonewall Uprising is considered by many to be the catalyst that launched the modern LGBT civil rights movement.”



On Wednesday, November 15, Marek P. Bute '05, will be the Keynote Speaker at [RWU Law's Inaugural Stonewall Lecture](#) held on the Bristol Campus. RWU Law's annual Stonewall Lecture Series honors the numerous individuals who have fought for LGBTQ equality and justice, and the many contributions they have made to advance this modern day civil rights movement.

The events of 1969, known as the Stonewall uprising or riots have been recognized not only for their role in the LGBT rights movement, but also for playing an essential role in [feminist history](#). The searches "stonewall uprising" or "stonewall riots" on [HeinOnline](#) provide many opportunities to learn more about legal influence of those individuals who took a stand over fifty years ago.

For more from the perspective of a historian, social scientist, or political scientist, consider searching in [JSTOR](#), [Project MUSE](#), or [Political Science Complete](#).

Don't forget! The RWU Law Librarians can assist you with your research using all University licensed databases. Contact us at lawlibraryhelp@rwu.edu to make an appointment for a research consultation.

November 10, 2017

Wellness is Important!

Posted by Library Blog on 11/09/2017 at 04:17 PM

The library's commitment to help students wherever they are means that we are always trying to find new and different ways to support the wellness of law students.

One way that we are working actively to support our students is via our online LawGuide about [Stress Management, Mindfulness and Wellness](#). This guide features resources in the library and outside the library to encourage wellness. The last page of the LawGuide is a photo tour of reflective spaces on the RWU Campus (pictures by the library's own Kathleen MacAndrew!).



In addition, the library's collection contains resources in print and online that provide information on how to help manage exam stress. We are always looking to expand and develop our collection in this area. One awesome resource we discovered recently is a podcast by Stanford Law School Professors Joe Bankman and Sarah Weinstein. [This monthly podcast](#) is focused exclusively on wellness and mental health in the legal profession.

Finally, we have a well-stocked coloring book a collection for those who prefer to color or do(odle) rather than listen, read, or talk. While there are some colored pencils and coloring pages in the stacks, there are also crayons, doodling books, and other coloring supplies, which can be borrowed at the circulation desk.

Our library staff cares about you and your wellness. You must take care of yourself before you can take care of your school work and others. If you prefer advice from a superstar instead of a librarian, it looks like DJ Dhaled is thinking along the same lines we are. In the words of DJ Khaled, "[It's a cold world. Bundle up. Key](#)"

November 17, 2017

Exam Time Reminders

Posted by Library Blog on 11/17/2017 at 09:13 AM

Finals are almost here and the library has a few reminders: stay calm, stay caffeinated, stay courteous.



Over the next few weeks, please remember that sound carries in the library, especially when you are entering or leaving. Even whispers can be louder than you realize and distracting to your colleagues trying to study. While some students prefer to work in small groups in study rooms and appreciate the chatter of other students, some students prefer to study in silence.

For a relaxed group chat or to grab a snack during your studies, the Law Student Lounge is a perfect spot! And don't forget that you can [book a study](#) room for individual or group study sessions.

Please note that when you book a study room from 11/30 through the end of the fall exam period, the library staff will be strictly enforcing the group study room policy. Please read the full [policy](#) to ensure that you comply with its terms. We will be actively canceling reservations that do not comply with this policy and repeated failures to comply with the policy will result in the loss of reservation privileges through the end of the current semester.

The library hopes to provide an atmosphere which can accommodate the learning and studying preferences of all of our patrons. Please be respectful to all law students by being mindful of your noise level in the library.

For any questions about our study room policy, please contact the library staff.

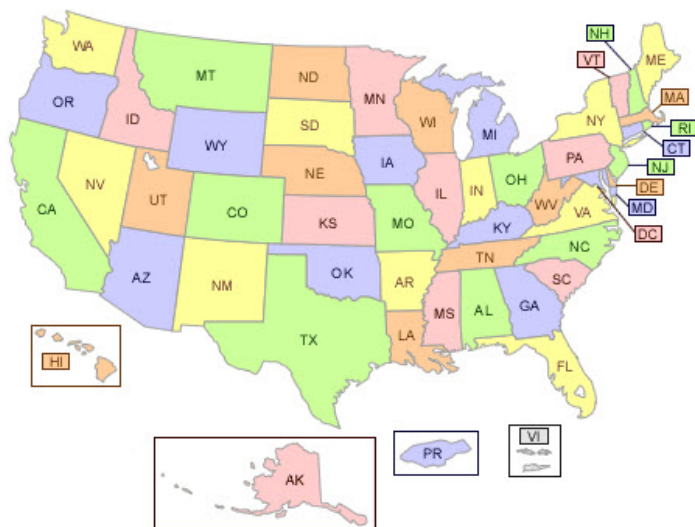
November 24, 2017

Finding State Law Resources

Posted by Library Blog on 11/21/2017 at 10:47 AM

Researchers looking for state law materials from states outside their own state are often faced with certain practical difficulties. The first is that no library can maintain print materials for every state. The second is that sometimes even in the highly digitized world of online research, you still need to see a resource the way it appears or appeared in print. The reasons are varied:

- Getting the page citations correct
- Viewing a photograph that appeared in an article
- Reading information from an accompanying graph or other graphic



Traditional online research services are not at a point where they fill these gaps consistently. They also do not always provide the depth of historical coverage that a researcher might need.

So where does a researcher go when these materials are not available in their library? One excellent resource is [HeinOnline](#).

HeinOnline provides many types of state materials in a searchable image-based (pdf) format. Some materials are current. Other materials are for those times when you need historical research. Among the many types of primary state materials available are:

- [State Session Laws](#), includes session laws of all 50 U.S. DC, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. All states are current within 60 days of the printed publication, and all states are available back to inception.

- [State Statutes: Historical Archive](#), includes superseded state statutes for all fifty states, DC, and Puerto Rico.
- [State Reports: Historical Archive](#), includes a listing of all the reporters for each state, DC, and Puerto Rico, with links to selected reporters. Availability of full-text varies by state.
- [State Attorney General Reports and Opinions](#), includes all fifty states, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

Do you need help identifying the best primary resources on an issue? HeinOnline does not neglect state specific secondary sources for research.

- [Bar Journals](#), more than 125 state and local bar journals are available to search by subject, citation, or browse by journal title/state.
- [National Survey of State Laws](#), a database providing a comparison information on a state-by-state basis for many of the most prevalent and topical state legal issues. The information is presented in a chart format.
- [Subject Compilations of State Laws](#), subject organized database compiling references to articles with extensive discussion comparing multiple state's laws.

November 30, 2017

Cookie Law

Posted by Library Blog on 11/30/2017 at 03:24 PM

The holiday season is just around the corner and you know what that means: sweet treats galore!

Cookies (and cookie dough!) are a favorite for many, but these snacks aren't immune from being the subject of lawsuits. Some recent cases include consumers falling ill after eating at a [New York raw cookie dough shop](#) and a [class-action suit](#) about mislabeled protein amounts.



To stay in the know on these cookie cases, or any other topic you might want to research, check out the various [Alert Services](#) offered by Bloomberg, Lexis, and Westlaw. Alert Services provide you with an efficient method to continue to monitor developments on a specific question or topic that you are researching. Once you have developed a good search, you can use the Alert Services to automatically run that search and provide any new resources of the type selected.

If you have any questions about how to set up an alert, be sure to contact the RWU Law Librarians at lawlibraryhelp@rwu.edu.