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Roger Williams University School of Law

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Thurgood Marshall Display in the Library

When Thurgood Marshall was a kid and acted up in class, his teacher punished him by banishing him from class and forcing him to read the Constitution. (Wow. That backfired!) Thurgood Marshall grew up to be a civil rights champion and the first African-American to be an Associate Justice on the U.S. Supreme Court.

While all law students know that Thurgood Marshall was a prolific civil rights advocate, not all students know the depth of his passion and his impact on American law. Below are some interesting online finds on Thurgood Marshall:

- [1967 newsreel video of Thurgood Marshall’s nomination to Supreme Court](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...) and another newsreel where you can see Justice Marshall donning his robe for the first time.
• The documentary *The Road to Brown* which tells the story of the Brown v. Board of Education.

• An interview with Thurgood Marshall, which focuses on civil rights issues that arose during the Kennedy administration, from the collection of the JFK Presidential Library’s Oral History Program.

For the next few weeks we will be displaying in the library some of the works in our collection about and by Thurgood Marshall. To learn more about what our library has on and by Thurgood Marshall, check out our online guide to the display.

February 8, 2018

**Highlighting Business Research Resources**

As members of the Roger Williams University community, the students at the law school have access to a trove of business research resources. RWU is home to the Mario J. Gabelli School of Business which is AACSB International-accredited, an accreditation that only 5% of business schools worldwide have!

One of the benefits of having a business school on campus, is that the University Library maintains an impressive collection of business research databases which are also available to law students. A list of these business-related databases can be found on the University Library’s research guide for Business.

One of the most helpful databases for law students doing business research is the Gale Business Insights: Global which provides company history information and industry analysis. For
example, use the Company Finder to search by state and choose Rhode Island. In the search results you will find Costa, Inc. in Lincoln, RI which makes watches, pens, sunglasses, and other items. In the company page, select Company Histories to learn that the company was founded by “Alonzo Townsend Cross, a 19th-century English inventor who steered his family into pen manufacturing in 1846 in the state of Rhode Island, the birthplace and headquarters of A.T. Cross Company.” The historical narrative about the company continues, “For all intents and purposes, [the company] created the market for high-priced, prestigious pens in the United States, emerging as the first U.S. manufacturer of fine writing instruments with any appreciable might to compete in an arena dominated by foreign manufacturers.” Finally, the narrative discusses a 1997 product by Cross called the iPen: “During 1997 the Cross iPen debuted, generating $1 million in revenue that year. The iPen could be used to mark up and edit electronic documents on a Windows 95 PC, while at the same time performing all of the functions of a mouse.”

The history of Rhode Island’s Costa, Inc. is one example of company research that can be done with the Gale Business Insights: Global database, or with other of the business research databases available. If you have questions about business research or business research databases, Ask a Librarian.

February 16, 2018

Presidential Research and Trivia

This upcoming Monday, February 19th is President’s Day! And what’s the best way to spend this holiday? By doing presidential themed trivia, of course! Here are a few questions to get you started:
Who was the first president born in a hospital?

A. George Washington  
B. Jimmy Carter  
C. John Quincy Adams  
D. Theodore Roosevelt

Who was the only president to serve two nonconsecutive terms?

A. John Quincy Adams  
B. Theodore Roosevelt  
C. Grover Cleveland  
D. Abraham Lincoln

What was the salary of the first president?

A. $10,000  
B. $18,000  
C. $22,000  
D. $25,000

The answers may (or may not) surprise you!

If you are itching for a longer study break, you can always brush up on more presidential trivia or dive into some presidential research. The Law Library has many resources in its collection for this type of research, including HeinOnline’s U.S. Presidential Library. This collection has many publications related to U.S. Presidents, including daily and weekly compilations of presidential documents; the Public Papers of presidents; Code of Federal Regulations Title 3 (President); and others.

If you are interested in presidential research, your friendly librarians are here to help! You can stop by the reference desk, send us an email, or chat with us online.

February 22, 2018

Focus on Library Resources: Corporate Counsel Profiler
Research is not only important to your Legal Practice assignments but it is also important for your job search! One research tool available to you through the library is the Corporate Counsel Profiler.

The Corporate Counsel Profiler provides a search interface which allows you to access data on in-house counsel in large corporations but also attorneys that practice in non-profits, universities, credit unions, hospitals, labor unions, museums, religious organizations, trade associations, and more.

As an example, I searched Rhode Island and I was quickly able to find the names and biographical data for in-house counsel at CVS, Hasbro, Inc., Brown University, and Alex and Ani. I was also able to use the search feature to identify RWU alumni who are working as in-house counsel and obtain their email addresses.

While the law school’s best resources on all things job-related is the staff of the RWU Office of Career Development, the library has many career research resources. Two examples are our Timesaver on Job Searches and our Timesaver on Career Exploration.

For more information on the Corporate Counsel Profiler, please drop by the Reference Desk or chat with us online at http://lawguides.rwu.edu/AskaLibrarian.