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May 2019 Library Blogs

Legal Beagle's Post

May 3, 2019

Congrats, graduates!



May 3, 2019

It is almost here! That day you have been waiting for since the first day of orientation: graduation day. 3Ls, you have come a long way and the Law Library extends a big Congratulations to you all!

[Law School Commencement](#) will take place on Friday, May 17th at 12:30 p.m. In preparation for the big day, why not take some time to listen to some of the “[best commencement speeches, ever](#)” and get jazzed up! Thankfully you no longer have to give a speech in Latin, Hebrew, or Greek in order to [get your diploma](#), so you can look forward to a day solely devoted to celebrating your accomplishments.

Although you will be transitioning to the next phase of your career, please remember that the law library is always here to be of service. In the short term, we have information on our website about [post-graduation access](#) to some of our subscription databases.

Graduates have until June 30, 2019, to redeem their LexisNexis Rewards points. They will send you an email reminder. Also, on July 1st your view of the Lexis Law School Home Page will switch from your current view to the graduate view. This new view will provide career and job search info and you will be awarded 10,000 Graduate Rewards points that can be redeemed for LexisNexis eBooks and online subscriptions for Lexis Practice Advisor, Lexis for Microsoft Office, and Law360. RWU Law graduates have unlimited use of Lexis Advance for 6 months after graduation, plus the [choice of one additional service](#). Lexis also has the [ASPIRE](#) program which provides 12 months of free access to federal and state cases, codes, regulations, law reviews, Shepard's, and Matthew Bender treatises to graduates who are engaged in verifiable 501(c)(3) public interest work.

Graduates will also have access to Thomson Reuters products, including Westlaw and Practical Law, for 6 months after graduation. Your “Grad Elite” access gives you 60-hours of usage on these products per month to gain understanding and build confidence in your research skills. While you cannot use it in situations where you are billing a client, Thomson Reuters encourages you to use these tools to build your knowledge of the law and prepare for your bar exam. In addition, you get access to job searching databases on Westlaw and TWEN for 18-months after graduation for 1-hour a month.

For those students who have received the graduation emails from Lexis or Westlaw but have changed their graduation dates, please contact our Lexis Representative, Steve Albro, at Steven.Albro@lexisnexis.com, or our Westlaw Representative, Holly Rush, at holly.rush@thomsonreuters.com.

Information about other alumni access privileges, including the HeinOnline Law Journal Library, can be found on the library's [RWU Law Alumni Services page](#).

Always remember that the librarians are here to provide reference assistance even when you are in practice and not in class. We are your librarians for life!

Good Luck! Congrats! We will miss you!

May 10, 2019

Celebrating a Historical Summer!



May 10, 2019

Happy summer everyone! During the summer we usually stray from legal research topics and pick a theme and stick to it for our summer posts. Last year we chose Rhode Island food (which was a fun and delicious theme!) and this summer we are choosing Rhode Island history. In every post, we will be discussing some aspect of Rhode Island history or a Rhode Islander of historic significance. To kick the season off, this post will be about Florence Murray.

If the name Florence Murray sounds vaguely familiar to you, it may be because the Newport County court house [is named in her honor](#). She was a Newport native and led a life of “firsts.” She was [the first woman](#) appointed to the Superior Court in Rhode Island (1956), the first female presiding judge of the Superior Court (1978), and the first woman appointed to the Rhode Island Supreme Court (1979). She also was elected to the Rhode Island Senate and [served there for four terms](#).

For more information on Florence Murray, see [Justice Florence Kerins Murray: The Legacy of a Pioneer in the Rhode Island Courts](#).

This summer when you are visiting Newport for fun or for your summer, stop by and see the portrait of Justice Murray which is located in the stairwell of the Florence K. Murray Judicial Complex. She was a Rhode Island trailblazer and legal pioneer!

May 24, 2019

Rhode Islander, Gilbert Stuart



May 24, 2019

Gilbert Stuart is considered one of the most successful portraitists of the early years of America. Stuart created more than 1100 portraits including the first five U.S. Presidents, prominent public officials, heroes of the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812, as well as high society men and women of the era. Stuarts' best known work is an unfinished portrait of George Washington, sometimes referred to as [The Athenaeum](#). This image of Washington is seen regularly. Its reverse image is on the [U.S. dollar bill](#).

Born in Saunderstown, Rhode Island, in 1755, Stuart began to show his artistic ability at the age of six. As a teen, he traveled and studied under artist Cosmo Alexander. Later, Stuart moved to England where he was recognized by the Royal Academy of Arts. There he studied under the American painter, Benjamin West. Before returning to the United States in 1793, he spent a brief time in Dublin, Ireland. He lived and worked in New York before moving to Philadelphia. In New York and Philadelphia, he garnered commissions from the rich and famous, leading to his sittings with President George Washington.

Today, Gilbert Stuart's works can be seen at museums around the globe. You can see his birthplace and some of his works at [Gilbert Stuart Birthplace & Museum](#) in Saunderstown. You can see other works at the [National Gallery](#) in Washington, DC or [Metropolitan Museum of Art](#) in New York.