



Law Library News

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WEBSITE OF THE MONTH

Florida Constitution



<http://www.law.fsu.edu/crc>
Florida State University College of Law has a compilation of documents which traces the chronological development of Florida's Constitutions. Located on their digital projects site, you can find copies of all of Florida's Constitutions, amendments, and Supreme Court decisions affecting ballot positions to name a few items available for review.

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Are You Certified??

Michelle Cosby

Did you know that you could be certified in using Lexis and Westlaw? Both companies offer certification training right here on our campus. Taking these courses helps you familiarize yourself with each system, and allows you to become a more sophisticated researcher. Additionally, certification is something that you can use on your resume to dazzle potential employers.

You should be certified every year, so if you certified as a 2L and you are now a 3L, you should take the class again. This helps you

keep up with all the changes of each system.

All certification classes will be held in room D236. If you are interested in additional trainings, please check the library's website at <http://library.law.miami.edu/training.html>. For times and dates, see the Training Schedule on page 4.

For a description of the library's own certification program, see the December/January 2007 issue of Law Library News.



Fast Case

Helen Wohl

We have subscribed to FASTCASE, an alternative to Lexis/Westlaw for case law. FASTCASE is available for free to members of the Florida Bar (and certain other state bar associations in the country.) So, students may have an interest in learning about this since they will have access to it if they later become admitted in Florida.



FASTCASE has many of the same features as Westlaw/Lexis. Its specialty is its claim that it can help you quickly find the "seminal case" for a given search. There is relevancy ranking even for terms and connectors searches; users can also sort search results by the most cited case (either most cited within the entire FASTCASE database or alternatively, most cited within the list of search results.) Look for FASTCASE and the current password on the law library's list of Subscription Databases

<http://library.law.miami.edu/databas.html>.

Practical & Inspiring

Helen Wohl

Students may be interested in reading the following books that are in the treatise collection:

Fight Back and Win: My Thirty Year Fight Against Injustice and How You Can Win Your Own Battles, by Gloria Allred and Deborah C. Rybak, 2006. (KF373.A44 A3 2006)

From Finals to the Firm: the Top Ten Things New Law Firm Associates Should Know, Including a Bonus Chapter Exclusively for Summer Associates, by Calvin Gladney and Raymond Millien, 2003. (KF300.Z9 G53 2003)

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See Page 4 for upcoming training classes.

Researching Criminal Law

Mark Plotkin



Recent high-profile criminal prosecutions in Florida have brought many legal issues to light. How to keep up with the latest in criminal law? Below are some sources to get you started.

Treatises

Wayne R. LaFave, *Substantive Criminal Law* (Treatise KF 9219.L386, Westlaw) (Abridgement available on Reserve) (The same author also has books on criminal procedure, and search and seizure.)

Mary M. Cheh, *Criminal Procedure* (Reserve KF 9619.5 .C44 2005)

Donald F. Samuel, *Eleventh Circuit Criminal Handbook* (Treatise KF9619.E58, Lexis)

Russell E. Crawford, *Florida Criminal Practice & Procedure* (Florida KFF575.C73, Lexis)

Law Reviews

American Criminal Law Review (Anglo-American Periodicals, Lexis, Westlaw)

Criminal Law Bulletin (Anglo-American Periodicals, Westlaw)

Criminal Law Forum (Anglo-American

periodicals, Lexis, Westlaw)
Georgetown L.J. – Annual Review of Criminal Procedure (Anglo-American periodicals, Lexis, Westlaw)
Journal of Criminal Law & Criminology (Anglo-American Periodicals, Lexis)

Statutes/Legislation

18 USC/USCA/USCS (federal codified criminal laws)

Bill text – Westlaw, Lexis, Thomas (<http://thomas.loc.gov>).

Florida Statutes and Florida Statutes Annotated, Chapters 775-899

Bill text - Westlaw, Lexis, Florida Senate (<http://www.flsenate.gov>).

Legal Newsletters

ABA Criminal Justice newsletter (Anglo-American Periodicals, Lexis)
Criminal Law Reporter (Looseleaf KF 9615.C7, Lexis, Westlaw, and <http://library.law.miami.edu/bna.html>)

The *Criminal Law Reporter* contains issues from 1996-present. Included are an up-to-date news section (High-lights), case summaries from all jurisdictions,



and an index.
Digests
Criminal Law Digest (KF 9210.3 .C75 1983) – a multi-volume set that indexes criminal law

cases.

Web sites of Interest:

ABA Criminal Justice Section - <http://www.abanet.org/crimjust/home.html>
 Bureau of Justice Statistics - <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/>
 Findlaw Criminal Law section - <http://criminal.findlaw.com/>
 Florida Statutes - <http://www.flsenate.gov/Statutes/>
 National Criminal Justice Reference Service - <http://www.ncjrs.gov/>
 Treasury Depart. Foreign Assets Control - <http://www.treas.gov/offices/enforcement/ofac/>
 United States Code - <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/uscode/index.html>

Web Site of the Month cont.



Once at FSU's main digital projects site, you have the option of choosing either the Florida's Constitutions: The Documentary History

(<http://www.law.fsu.edu/crc/index.html>)

or the Table of Contents

(<http://www.law.fsu.edu/crc/conhist/contents.html>).

The Florida's Constitutions link takes you into the world of the Florida Constitution Revision Commission, while the Table of Contents link provides an in-depth look at the history of Florida's organic law through the six constitutions and the various amendments.

The other collections available through FSU's Digital Projects page

(<http://www.law.fsu.edu/library/collection/digitalprojects.html>) include Florida Supreme Court Records and Briefs, Human Rights Documents, and Limits in the Seas and International Boundary Studies.

Did You Know?

Mark Plotkin

Did you know that when the University of Miami School of Law opened in 1926, providing its 20 students with three classrooms and a 3500-volume library, it was housed in the Anastasia Building?

The Anastasia Building was a large, three-story, triangular building enclosing a substantial internal courtyard. It was located at the intersection of Anastasia and University Avenues, just west of Le June Road. (The Coral Gables War Memorial Youth Center now occupies the site).



Anastasia Building

The Anastasia Building was supposed to be a temporary building. However, financial distress caused by the hurricane of 1926, a collapse of real estate values, and local and national economic depressions kept the university in the Anastasia Building for more than two decades!

New Florida Administrative Law Web Site

Barbara H. Brandon

The Florida Secretary of State [SOS] has just redesigned its Web site for the **Florida Administrative Weekly** [FAW] and the **Florida Administrative Code** [FAC]. These two publications form the backbone of the State's administrative rulemaking structure and are the state analogs to the **Federal Register** and the **Code of Federal Regulations**.

The SOS has made many improvements to the site, including a very good search engine and numerous online finding tools. The interface is also more user-friendly than comparable Federal Web sites. The Web address is <https://www.flrules.org/>.



The FAW is published weekly on Friday. All notices and proposals for new regulations and amendments to existing regulations must be published in the FAW as part of the promulgation process. In addition, each **Florida Administrative Weekly** may contain notices of changes, corrections, withdrawals, public hearings and notices about other administrative matters pending before various state agencies.

The FAW is the only Florida source for the history or intent behind regulations. Since the FAC is a loose-leaf publication, historical versions of regulations are difficult to find. Therefore the FAW is the mechanism for examining the text of a regulation as it stood in a particular year.

The FAW is available online in three ways. All FAW issues from January 1, 2006 forward are searchable simultaneously at the new site. Individual items in weekly issues may be retrieved online from January 1, 1999 at <http://faw.dos.state.fl.us/fawframes.html>. These are PDF files and can be searched using the PDF search feature to locate material in a particular issue. The FAW is also available in Lexis for full-text searching from January of 1996 to the present.

The print FAC is the official codification of state regulations. This is a loose-leaf publication that is updated monthly by adding or replacing pages. Like its federal counterpart, the FAC is organized by title, with each number representing a department, commission, or other agency. Besides the language of each section, the FAC text includes a history note labeled "Specific Authority." This will indicate both the statutory provision authorizing the rule, and history on whether the rule has been modified, renumbered, or repealed. The new Web site allows you to search for regulations by entering a statutory provision that would authorize rules on a particular subject.

The online **Administrative Code** is not official but it is updated more speedily than the print version. The system works

much like the e-CFR. The FAW is published weekly on Friday; the electronic version of the Administrative Code at the Department of State site incorporates changes in the text of a rule by close of business the following Monday. This makes it truly easy to update a regulation.

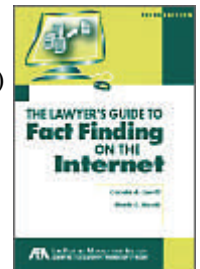


Full-text searching on the site is quite useful. When you enter a query it brings up both the proposed rulemaking notices and the promulgated rule. This is a very efficient way to do a search for rules on a particular topic. And remember that this is a *free* resource.

The site also has two other features of note. There is a listserv that will provide you with an automatic notification of developments when a particular rule interests you. Secondly, the site allows you to submit electronic comments on proposed rules. In conclusion, this is a very useful site that Florida practitioners and law students should rely on to locate regulatory information.

Practical & Inspiring cont.

Lawyer's Guide to Fact Finding on the Internet, 3rd ed., by Carole A. Levitt and Mark E. Rosch, 2006. (KF242.A1 B55 2006)

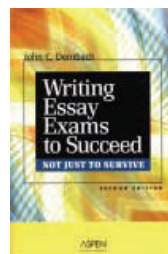


Lawyers Working to End Homelessness, ed. by Amy Horton-Newell, 2006. (KF336.L393 2006)

Legal Briefs & Bytes: Enlightening and Amusing Insights on the Law, ed. by John C. Szarko, 2006 (Treatise K58.L44 2006)

Noble Purposes: Nine Champions of the Rule of Law, ed. by Norman Gross, 2006 (KF353.N63 2006)

Succeeding in Law School by Herbert Ramo, 2006 (KF283.R36 2006)



Summer Associates Guide to a Permanent Job Offer, by Sharon E. Sonnett and Sabrina Clorfeine, 2006. (KF287.S86 2006)

Writing Essay Exams to Succeed (Not Just to Survive), 2nd ed., by John C. Dernbach, 2007. (KF283.D47 2007)



**Spring Hours
(January 8th - April 25th)**

	Library Hours	Reference
Mon.-Thurs	7am-Midnight	8am-10pm
Friday	7am-10pm	8am-6pm
Saturday	9am-10pm	10am-6pm
Sunday	9am-Midnight	Noon-8pm


Don't miss the annual **Ultimate Research Refresher** coming in May.

Training Schedule

Classes will be held in room 236 unless otherwise noted. Sign up sheets are at the circulation desk.

- Wednesday, April 4, 1:00 - 2:00 - Wednesday Workshop: Government Information **F200**
- Wednesday, April 4, 4:30-5:30 - Westlaw: Prepare to Practice
- Thursday, April 5th, 4:30 – 5:00 - Lexis: Public Records Searches
- Monday, April 9, 12:30-2:00 - Westlaw Certification I-III
- Tuesday, April 10th, 12:30 – 1:00 - Lexis: Exam Preparation Workshop
- Thursday, April 12th, 12:30 – 1:00 - Lexis: Cost Effective Tips and Time Saving Skills
- Monday, April 16, 12:30-2:00 - Westlaw Certification I-III
- Tuesday, April 17th, 4:30 – 5:30 - LexisNexis Certification Class
- Thursday, April 19th, 1:00 – 1:30 - Lexis: Cost Effective Research

Free Movies!



Did you ever want to see a film from the Law Library's collection of films but didn't know which one to request? The library has a list of all of the popular films available (<http://library.law.miami.edu/videos.html>). The next steps are to choose a specific film, check it out, and take it home to watch.

To recommend a law-related film, contact Robin Schard (rschard@law.miami.edu).



**Computer Column
U.S. Government
Information on the Web**

When you are not using the Library facilities, you may not want to use a paid subscription database without first trying to obtain free information on a government Web site. Not all government sources are in the .gov domain. Some are in the .fed.us, edu., .mil, and/or .org domains. Also, remember that most government agencies have a link to career opportunities in their agency. Below is a list of selected search engines for government information:

Thomas, <http://thomas.loc.gov>: Administered by the Library of Congress for the Congress. It has congressional materials (e.g. bills, reports, directories, committee information).

GPO Access, <http://www.gpoaccess.gov>, links to executive, congressional and judicial materials that are published by the U.S. Government Printing Office.

USA.gov (formerly firstgov.gov), <http://www.usa.gov/>, is the official Web portal of the United States government. It has official documents as well as informational materials.

Library Directory	
▪ Circulation & Reserves	284-3563
▪ Reference Desk	284-3585
▪ Automated Operator	284-2250
▪ Administrative Office	284-2251
Other University Libraries	
▪ Richter Circulation	284-3233
▪ Richter Reference	284-4722
▪ Medical Library	243-6403
▪ Marine Library	361-4060

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Law Library News is also available on the Law Library's web site (<http://library.law.miami.edu/info.html#news>).

Send all comments and contributions to: Virginia Templeton at vtemplet@law.miami.edu or 284-1927.

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