

# Clark County Law Library

# News & Notes

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Published By the  
Staff of the  
Clark County Law Library  
Kevin L. Clanton, *Director*

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The Clark County Law Library News & Notes is a publication of the Clark County Law Library, 309 South Third St., Suite #400, Las Vegas, NV, 89101, as an informational guide to library services to aid the Southern Nevada community in its legal research.

## Our Conference Room



The Clark County Law Library is now accepting reservations for the Conference Room which is available Monday-Thursday 8am-6pm, Friday 8am-4pm and Saturday 10am-4pm.

Reservations are on a first come basis. Available seating is up to 25 people.

The Law Library can provide the following for your specific needs; conference phone, TV/DVD/VCR, wipe-off board and projector screen.

There is no charge for booking your next deposition, staff meeting or staff training with the Clark County Law Library. Some restrictions apply. Call today for your reservation (702) 455-4696.

Karen Byrd

## "Free Westlaw" Is No Oxymoron

Wouldn't it be wonderful if anyone could utilize Westlaw for FREE, without any subscription charge?

Now, you can. Recent changes here at the Clark County Law Library make this possible. The Law Library has entered into an agreement with WestGroup to acquire four subscriptions to Westlaw.



Imagine: No per-minute charge. No subscription fee or database charge. **UNLIMITED FREE USE**, subject only to the provision that, if other patrons are waiting their turn, a 15-minute time restriction will be in effect.

Users will pay only for any pages they may choose to print.  
(Continues, P.2)

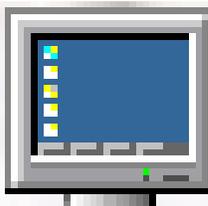
The Westlaw subscription is being offered at a greatly reduced cost to the library, made possible due to the large number of print subscriptions the Law Library maintains. While the library is not offering comprehensive access to every Westlaw database (there are, after all, hundreds of them) we feel that the effect of adding Westlaw to the library's repertoire of available research options will greatly enhance our value to the legal community.

- Search the Nevada Lawyer and Nevada Law Journal
- Gaming regulations
- West Legal Directory's database of federal judges
- Restatements
- McQuillin
- WestlawPro Insurance

...and more!

What, exactly, is being offered? For starters, federal and state statutes, regulations, and cases are now available, even unpublished cases, along with a variety of specialized topical databases, including:

West Legal Directory (Nevada)—find any attorney by name, with address, position & title, date admitted to the bar, and number of people in the firm.



- ALRs
- AmJur 2d
- Employment Discrimination Coordinator
- Norton Bankruptcy
- Nevada Attorney General Opinions

Additionally, patrons can utilize KeyCite, a process similar to Shepardizing, to determine whether the case at hand is still good law—cited cases can be checked to see if they are still controlling authority, and the history, treatment, length, and relevance of a case can quickly be ascertained at a glance.

The availability of (free!) KeyCite *alone* is sufficient to constitute good news for the Law Library, and we expect it to become very popular indeed.

Although we anticipate a demand for KeyCite, and are currently training our staff to be able to respond helpfully to requests for assistance in its use, we do understand that some attorneys will continue to desire to utilize the paper Shepard's, the more "traditional" way to verify authoritativeness of caselaw. Don't worry: You

may continue to rely on Shepard's—the library has no plans to discontinue our subscriptions to them. We will continue to offer both methods, depending on individual preference. We realize that, due to the cost, it is impractical for smaller law firms to carry them.



Plans are being made for the library to host introductory training sessions on the use of Westlaw and KeyCite later this spring. Watch for an announcement in our next issue of this newsletter. For those of you who are so excited by the prospect of (free!) Westlaw availability and cannot wait, drop on by and the staff will assist you in finding what you need.

For more information, you may contact Kevin Clanton at 455-4695.

Kevin Clanton



## Our new librarian



The Clark County Law Library welcomes Cristin Haake to the position of Law Librarian for the Clark County Law Library.

Ms. Haake will be responsible for providing reference services for both the legal community, as well as for the general public. She will also perform various technical services for the Clark County Library's online public access catalog, Sunburn.

Ms. Haake has previously served as a medical librarian with the American Heart Association National Center Library in Dallas, Texas, and as a corporate librarian for the Exxon Chemical Plant in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Ms. Haake received a Master of Library and Information Science degree and a Master of Education degree from Louisiana State University.

She is a member of the Special Libraries Association. Ms. Haake enjoys jogging in her spare time and has completed four marathons.

Haake states, "I am very excited to be working in the field of law. I am confident that my professional experiences working in various types of special libraries will assist patrons with their information needs."

The staff of the Law Library shares her confidence.

## Celebrate Black History Month at the Clark County Law Library!



February is Black History Month and the Clark County Law Library is celebrating Nevada's rich legal history with exciting displays for the public.

Located next to the Law Library's collection of newspapers and consumer publications, patrons will find the displays of articles, pictures, and other resources highlighting prominent African American judges and lawyers found throughout Nevada's

history. Selected books of interest from the Clark County Law Library's collection will also be prominently placed with the displays. In addition, bookmarks celebrating Nevada's legal history will be available for patrons to take along with them following the viewing of the display.

Nevada jurists, the Honorable Johnnie B. Rawlinson, the Honorable Michael Douglas, the Honorable Karen Bennett-Haron, the Honorable Lee A. Gates, and the Honorable Kenneth Howard, will be featured in the display. Biographies of these prominent African American justices will be available for the public to read and view at their leisure.



The Clark County Law Library will also highlight Nevada's legal history with the display on Mr. Charles Kellar, a civil rights attorney who helped draft the briefs in the landmark case of *Brown vs. Board of* (Continues, P.4)

*Education of Topeka* and who was instrumental in fighting injustice in the state of Nevada.

Please stop by and visit the displays located in the Clark County Law Library throughout the month of February. Celebrate Black History Month and enjoy the examination of local, Nevada history.

Cristin Haake

## The 2<sup>ND</sup> Edition



The law library is about to unveil the new edition of the informational business card CD.

The CD was a hit and many loved the eye catching media, so we updated the CD and now have it ready for publishing.

Get the CDs while they are hot. These CDs don't last.

The CD allows you to carry in the palm of your hand all paper flier information we print in the library.

Michael Buttars



## Technology Changes

The Law Library has made some changes. These changes have given a new look to the library and brought us into the next millennium, with technology upgrades and other advancements.

The Library purchased 8 new Public PCs, not only are they new but these computers have word processing capabilities for document creation. We have 2 typewriters in our copy-room creating another way to type documents.

We will be introducing Westlaw access on 4 of our Public PCs along with other already available data bases in CD or online.

We have two new in-house web catalog PCs. Searches for materials can be made from these new PCs.

Some of our furniture and bookshelves are also new.



Michael Buttars

## "The law reviews are back and better than ever!"

You may have noticed that the new shelves in the periodicals area looked rather bare for the past several months. This is due to the largest Bindery project the Law Library has ever undertaken. We sent an incredible 10,000 volumes to be rebound at a cost of over \$40,000. The binding process transforms flimsy paperback pamphlets into sturdy books, preserving the material and discouraging theft.

This service is performed by Silver State Industries Printshop/Bookbindery at the Nevada State Prison in Carson City. Their motto is "We Have The Time To Do It Right". The prison has

performed this service for the library for many years, keeping the funds used in Nevada and allowing inmates to learn valuable job skills.

Going forward, law reviews will be sent out to the bindery on a regular basis. If you have difficulty locating a particular volume, don't give up. Check with the Reference Desk. The library maintains a subscription to HeinOnline, giving us access to many law reviews via the internet. We will be happy to find out whether the publication you need is available.

Thank you for your patience and please let us know if there is anything we can do to make your research more productive and pleasant.

Shelly Newton