



Truth, Justice, and Information for All

The Official Newsletter of the Collin County Law Library

ISSUE 2007-02

www.co.collin.tx.us

Apr May Jun 2007

Collin County Courthouse Moving This Summer!

The long-awaited Collin County Courthouse move is upon us. The Collin County Law Library, District Courts, District Clerk, and District Attorney's office will be moving to the new courthouse building this summer.

*****Note:** *The information in this article is subject to change. As we get closer to the move, dates and courthouse closure information will firm up. We will try to post updated information in the Law Library regarding the move as we receive it.****

Moving Dates

The moving dates have been set for the week of **July 30—August 3**. The Law Library will be **CLOSED** during that week. Please note that the Advanced Criminal Law Course takes place the week before the move (July 23-26) and the Advanced Family Law Course takes place the week after the move (August 6-9). As a result, some of the District Court judges may be out of the office during those weeks, in addition to the moving week. Be sure to check with the individual courts to find out the specific closure dates for the District Courts.

New Location

The address for the new courthouse will be:
**2100 Bloomdale Dr.
McKinney, TX 75071**

The Law Library, Central Jury Room, and the main offices for the District Clerk will all be located on the first floor. There will also be one or two District Courts on the first floor as well. Everyone who comes into the new courthouse will be required to go through a security checkpoint similar to that set up in the current courthouse building. Escalators are located inside the central atrium of the building to take people to the upper floors.

(Continued on page 2)

?

**Research
Question of the
Day:**

**Where can I go to
find law review and
journal articles on
the Web?**

To find the answer,
turn to Page 6!

?

**Receive This
Newsletter
Via E-mail!**

If you would like to receive
this newsletter via e-mail,
please email us at:
kgill@co.collin.tx.us
or call the Law Library at:
972-548-4260

Courthouse Move, *continued...*

The New Law Library

The new Law Library will be located on the first floor at the rear of the building, just past the Central Jury Room. The library space will be only slightly larger than the current library; however, it will be a more useable space due to the rectangular shape of the room. We are happy to report that the new space will have large windows all along one wall as well as **overhead lighting!** The library will also have **four walls** and a larger front reference desk for the librarians. The Library Director's office is located at the front of the library and a librarian Work Room where the librarians can process materials for the collection is located at the back of the library.

The entire current library collection of books, media, computers, etc. will be retained and is moving with us to the new building. Additional new attorney workstation computer terminals and workspaces have been requested for the new library, and we expect to bring these terminals in over time in the future. The new courthouse will be fully-equipped with wireless Internet access throughout the entire building, including the Law Library.

Attorney Lounge

The new courthouse also has a room designated as an Attorney Lounge where attorneys can work on case files, collaborate, and relax. The Lounge is located on the first floor directly across the hall from the Law Library. We don't have any information yet regarding furnishings for the Lounge; however, there are several power outlets and three data ports where computers could be hooked up. In addition, the room will have wireless Internet access, so attorneys can get online using their laptops.

If you would like to see the floor plan for the new courthouse building, we have a copy of it at the Law Library.

(right)

This map shows the location of the new courthouse (in red) at 2100 Bloomdale Drive. The new building is north of the Wilmeth Road exit on I-75 and just southeast of the Collin County Sheriff's Office and Jail.



Important Notice to Attorneys: Check-Outs

Due to the upcoming move to the new courthouse, library materials will NOT be available for check-out beginning July 16th. **ALL borrowed materials (including CLE) MUST be returned to the Law Library no later than Friday, July 13th.** In addition, the Law Library will not be administering the Advanced Guardianship CLE and the Attorney Ad Litem CLE courses during this time. Check-out of materials (including CLE) will resume once we get settled into the new facility. Thank you for your cooperation during this transition period.

Internet Spotlight

City Codes Online
www.municode.com
www.amlegal.com/library/

You can access the code of ordinances for many cities on the Internet for free at the Municipal Code Corporation website and the American Legal Publishing website. These two sites offer the full text of city codes from cities across the U.S., including Texas. Both sites have indexes and search features available so that you can find the section you are looking for by topic. The Law Library also has current print copies of the Plano, Allen, Sachse, and Dallas City Codes of Ordinances.

**Actual Innocence Database
 from UT Tarlton Law Library**
[http://web.austin.utexas.edu/
 law_library/innocence/search.cfm](http://web.austin.utexas.edu/law_library/innocence/search.cfm)

The Actual Innocence Database created by University of Texas Tarlton Law Library provides a searchable database of articles, websites, legislation, and other resources related to wrongful convictions. Items are categorized topically by cause of wrongful conviction, such as: forensics/DNA, eyewitness identification, false confessions, jailhouse informants, police and/or prosecutorial misconduct, and ineffective representation.

Dallas County Law Library Online Catalog
<http://txlawlib.dallascounty.org/#focus>

The Dallas County Law Library now has a fully-searchable online library catalog available from their website.

FirstGov now known as USA.gov
www.usa.gov
<http://usasearch.gov>

The official portal to the U.S. government has changed its name to USA.gov and gotten a whole new look. The site is designed to serve as an access point to the public for U.S. government information and services on the web. In addition, the new USAssearch.gov replaces the FirstGovSearch feature, which lets you search the entire USA.gov site.

USAssearch.gov combines the searching capability of Google with a clustered results display. It groups the results of your search into topically-arranged clusters to help you sort through your hits more quickly and effectively. Results can also be sorted by topic, agency, and source.

Blawg: FOIA Blog
<http://thefoiablog.typepad.com>

This legal blog, or blawg, is written by a Washington, DC based attorney and addresses issues concerning the Freedom of Information Act. It discusses FOIA legislation, exemptions, and litigation.

Blawg: The Mac Lawyer
www.themaclawyer.com

The Mac Lawyer blog offers tips and advice for attorneys who practice law and use a Mac rather than a PC computer.

The opinions expressed on these web sites are not representative of those of Collin County or the Collin County Law Library.



Librarian Attends Conference

Assistant Law Librarian Katy Gill attended the annual conference of the Texas Libraries Association in San Antonio in April. The theme of the conference was "Strong Libraries, Strong Communities" and was attended by over 8,000 librarians and library exhibitors from across Texas and the United States. Katy met with other librarians from around Texas to discuss common library issues and services.



New on the Shelves...

The following titles have been added to the Collin County Law Library collection:



- Conducting Scientifically Crafted Child Custody Evaluations - by Jonathan W. Gould
- Clinician's Guide to Child Custody Evaluations, 3rd ed. - by Marc J. Ackerman
- Texas Rules of Court (State, Federal, Local), 2007 ed. - from Thomson West
- O'Connor's Texas Causes of Action Pleadings, 2007 ed. - by Michol O'Connor
- Scientific Evidence, 4th ed. - by Paul C. Giannelli & Edward J. Imwinkelried, Jr.
- Roach's Texas Rules of Evidence Annotated, 2007 ed. - by John R. Roach & Michael J. McCormick
- The Judge's Evidence Bench Book - by Leo H. Whinery, Theodore P. Roberts, & Robert B. Smith
- Texas Objections - by Harvey Brown & Ken Curry (includes accompanying CD-ROM)
- Federal Civil Judicial Procedure and Rules, 2007 ed. - from Thomson West
- Navigating the Federal Trial, 2006 ed. - by Robert E. Larsen
- Federal Court of Appeals Manual, 5th ed. - by David G. Knibb
- Federal Criminal Appeals - by Lissa Griffin
- Federal Grand Jury: A Guide to Law and Practice, 2nd ed. (West's Criminal Practice Series) - by Susan W. Brenner & Lori E. Shaw
- Electronic Crime Scene Investigation: A Guide for First Responders - from the U.S. Dept. of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, National Institute of Justice (July 2001)
- Searching and Seizing Computers and Obtaining Electronic Evidence in Criminal Investigations - by Orin S. Kerr - from the U.S. Dept. of Justice, Computer Crime and Intellectual Property Section (January 2001)
- Intoxication Manslaughter: Investigation & Prosecution - by Richard Alpert (from the Texas District & County Attorneys Association)
- Traffic Stops - by Diane Burch Beckham (from the Texas District & County Attorneys Association)
- Juveniles, 2005-2007 ed. - by Chris Hubner & Sharon N. Pruitt (from the Texas District & County Attorneys Association)
- Rights of Juveniles, 2d (2007 ed.) - by Samuel M. Davis
- Texas Sentencing, 5th ed. - by Ken Anderson & John Bradley
- The Bluebook: A Uniform System of Citation (aka: *The Harvard Bluebook*) - the new 18th edition!



**For assistance in finding these new titles in the library
or for information about upcoming titles,
just ask a law librarian!**

Call 972-548-4255 or email: jmccullough@co.collin.tx.us



Courthouse Holiday Office Closure

**The Collin County Courthouse (and the Law Library) will be CLOSED on
Wednesday, July 4th
for the Independence Day holiday**

Westlaw Searching Made Easy

Tired of wading through dozens of hits in your results list when using Westlaw? There are special symbols called Boolean Operators that you can use when entering your search terms that will help to make your search more specific. Clip and save this handy guide to searching with terms and operators!

<u>Operator</u>	<u>Example</u>	<u>Results</u>
&	conversion & automobile	This search will retrieve only those documents that contain <i>both</i> the word “conversion” <i>and</i> the word “automobile” within the same document.
/s	conversion /s automobile	This search will retrieve only those documents that contain the word “conversion” and the word “automobile” within the same <i>sentence</i> .
/n (where n = number of words)	conversion /3 automobile	This search will retrieve only those documents that contain the word “conversion” appearing <i>within 3 words</i> of the word “automobile.”
a space	conversion automobile	This search will retrieve only those documents that contain <i>either</i> the word “conversion” <i>or</i> the word “automobile” within the same document.
“ “	“attractive nuisance”	This search will retrieve only those documents that contain the <i>phrase</i> “attractive nuisance” with the terms appearing in that <i>exact order</i> within the same document.
%	conversion % automobile	This search will retrieve only those documents that contain the word “conversion” <i>but not</i> the word “automobile.”

For more information and assistance in how to use Westlaw, just ask your law librarian!

Call: 972-548-4255 or 972-548-4260

Email: jmccullough@co.collin.tx.us or kgill@co.collin.tx.us

?

Where can I go to find law review and journal articles on the Web?

Answer:

Many law schools now provide **free** access to their law reviews and journals online. Coverage varies, depending on the law review. Some schools only make current issues available online, while others have archives of older issues dating back several years. In addition, some provide access only to the tables of contents, while others offer the full-text of articles.

You can find links to most of the major law school law review websites at Findlaw's Academic Law Reviews and Journals page at:

<http://stu.findlaw.com/journals/index.html>

You can search the table of contents of many major law reviews from one central location at the University of Texas Tarlton Law Library site at:

http://tarlton.law.utexas.edu/tallons/content_search.html

You can also search the full-text of articles from some law reviews from the University Law Review Project's site at:

www.lawreview.org

?

A Little Legal Humor...

Reprinted with permission.

Stu's Views

© Stu All Rights Reserved www.STUS.com



NO, Counselors!
"Meet and confer"
outside.



Collin County Law Library
210 S. McDonald St., Suite 203
McKinney, TX 75069

Judy McCullough, Director of Law Library
phone: 972-548-4255
email: jmccullough@co.collin.tx.us

Katy Gill, Assistant Law Librarian
phone: 972-548-4260
email: kgill@co.collin.tx.us

Hours of Operation:
Monday - Friday
8:00 am - 5:00 pm

Visit us on the Web:
www.co.collin.tx.us
www.texasjudge.com