

Truth, Justice, and Information for All

The Official Newsletter of the Collin County Law Library

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www.co.collin.tx.us

Jul Aug Sep 2007

The Collin County Law Library Has Moved!

The Collin County Law Library moved to the new Collin County Courthouse in August. Our new address is:

**Collin County Law Library
2100 Bloomdale
Suite 10216
McKinney, TX 75071**

We are pleased to add that our telephone numbers and email address information have not changed. Library hours of operation are still 8:00am - 5:00pm, Monday - Friday.

The New Library



The new Law Library space is located on the first floor of the courthouse in the rear of the building. The space has plenty of windows to let in natural light, four walls, and overhead lighting. The new library has about the same square footage as the old space; however, the library collection itself is

the same. All of your favorite legal resources are still here and available for use.

***Note:** Due to some problems during the move, some of our shelving had to be replaced and some of the books had to be stored on carts in a space behind the library until the new shelves arrive. The materials in storage are: the State Bar of Texas CLE coursebooks and the ALRs. If you need to use these materials, just ask a librarian and we will be happy to show you where they are.

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**Research
Question of the
Day:**

**When will the 2007
State Bar of Texas
summer CLE
coursebooks arrive
at the Law Library?**

To find the answer,
turn to Page 6!

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**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

Library Move, *continued...*

Security Procedures

Everyone who comes into the new courthouse is required to go through a security checkpoint similar to that set up in the old courthouse building. In addition, court offices are now located in secured areas behind locked doors. All attorneys needing access to court offices will need to fill out an Application for Secured Access and have their hands scanned at the Homeland Security desk in the front of the building. These Applications may be obtained on the Texas Judge web site at: www.texasjudge.com, at the security desk, or in the Law Library.

Attorney Lounge

The new courthouse 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. The door to this room should be unlocked during the day; however, if the door is locked and you need inside, just ask a law librarian. We have an extra key and will be happy to unlock it for attorneys.

Library Policy Changes

As Collin County grows, the Law Library is working to accommodate the legal resource needs of a rapidly increasing community of attorneys and citizens. There is now even less room in the new library space for seating. In order for the library to ensure that it can provide adequate space and resources to its users, attorneys are asked to observe the following guidelines for using the library facility:

The work tables and study areas in the Law Library are designated for library researchers ONLY. Attorneys are not permitted to hold attorney-client meetings of any kind in the Law Library. Attorneys who wish to meet with their clients or witnesses should make use of the meeting rooms located outside each courtroom in the courthouse.

Cell phone use is not permitted in the Law Library. Now that the library has moved to a small, enclosed space, voices carry and cell phone conversations are more disruptive. We ask that people use their cell phones outside of the Law Library in the large hallways of the building.

The new courthouse is fully-equipped with wireless Internet access throughout the entire building, including the Law Library. Attorneys are welcome to use their laptops in the Library; however, we ask that laptop users sit in the study carrels located in the back of the Library to allow researchers access to the larger worktables.

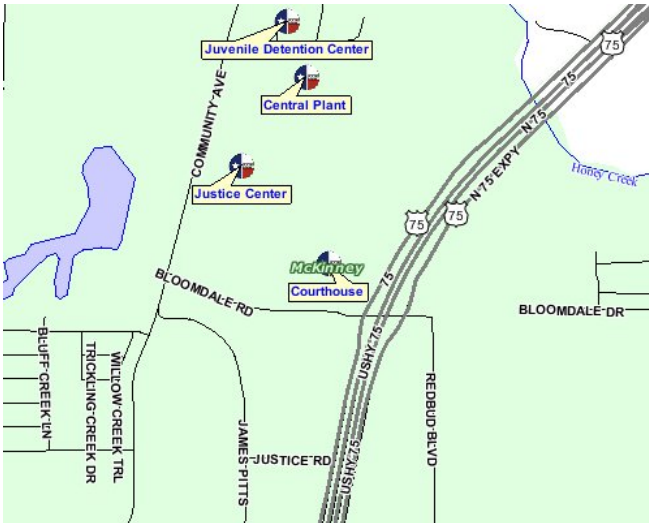
We appreciate your cooperation.

A view of the new Law Library attorney workstation.



Online Interactive Map of Collin County

<http://gis.collincountytx.gov/collin/default.jsp>



Finding county offices (such as the new courthouse) has never been easier! The Collin County website offers an interactive map of the county to help people find their way around. You can enter an address and a map of that area is displayed. The map also allows you to find county offices. Choose which county office you are looking for from the drop-down menu (the courthouse, for example), and the map will zoom into that location. You can pan across the map in several directions as well as zoom in or out for more detailed directions.

The Interactive Map was created by the Collin County GIS/Rural Addressing Department.



New on the Shelves...

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



- Sampson & Tindall's Texas Family Code Annotated, 2007 edition (with CD-ROM) - includes the changes made by the recent Texas Legislature
- O'Connor's Family Code Plus, 2007-2008 ed.
- O'Connor's Probate Code Plus, 2007-2008 ed.
- O'Connor's Texas Civil Forms, 2007 ed.
- O'Connor's Federal Civil Forms, 2007 ed.
- Federal Civil Judicial Procedure and Rules, 2007 rev. ed. - from Thomson West
- Navigating the Federal Trial, 2007 ed. - by Robert E. Larsen
- Courtroom Handbook on Texas Evidence, 2007 ed. (Texas Practice Series)
- Texas Legal Directory, 2007 ed.
- 2007 Dallas County Bench Book - includes Collin County and Denton County
- The Bluebook: A Uniform System of Citation, 18th ed. - from Harvard Law Review Association



**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



Internet Spotlight

Litilaw: Published Articles for Litigators <http://litilaw.lexbe.com>

Litilaw is an online collection of litigation-related articles available for free on the Internet. The articles included are written by lawyers as a part of presentations given at CLE seminars or published in legal periodicals. Articles can be browsed by procedural topic—including ADR, expert witnesses, civil trial practice, practice management, and more. You can also browse by substantive topics such as bankruptcy, employment and labor, intellectual property, personal injury, etc. The entire collection of articles can also be searched by keyword.

Dallas-Fort Worth Immigration Lawyer Blog <http://dfwimmigrationlaw.clarislaw.com/>

A legal blog, or “blawg,” you may want to check out is the Dallas-Fort Worth Immigration Lawyer Blog. On this blog, a DFW immigration attorney discusses immigration and naturalization issues specific to Texas.



StandDown Texas—Death Penalty Blog <http://standdown.typepad.com/>

The StandDown Texas blog discusses death penalty law and practice in Texas. The site also offers an extensive listing of death penalty information resources both online and in print.

Justices of Texas 1836-1886 <http://tarlton.law.utexas.edu/justices/>

The UT Tarlton Law Library has created a digital library collection of materials related to the justices who served on the Texas Supreme Court and the Texas Court of Criminal

Appeals from 1836-1886. The collection includes portraits of each justice, biographical information, citations to opinions, and links to additional resources about that justice. The collection is also indexed and searchable.

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

Legal Research Links on Law Library Web Site

www.co.collin.tx.us/law_library/

The Law Library has added a **Legal Research Links** page to our web site. Now you can access the very best the web has to offer in free legal research resources right from the Collin County Law Library web site. We have compiled primary law resources for both Texas and Federal law, as well as sites that allow you to access online law reviews and journals, court web sites, legislative research sites, other law libraries around Texas, and more!

Each of the web sites listed was hand-selected by your law librarians and carefully evaluated for quality of information and ease of use.

****Please note:** The web sites included on our Legal Research Links page provide information that is NOT based on opinion. However, online resources are not considered to be authoritative. For the OFFICIAL version of the law, visit the Law Library.



CLE Opportunities



2007 Advanced Guardianship Course



The Law Library is offering the Advanced Guardianship Course 2007 at no charge to assist attorneys in meeting the requirements to receive court appointments as Guardian Ad Litem in the Collin County courts. This course is a self-study DVD course worth 5 hours (3.25 hours ethics) Self-Study credit. In order to qualify for Guardian Ad Litem certification, you must complete a training program that is at least 3 hours in length. Certification lasts two years from the date of the certificate. Attorneys who have been certified twice (four total years consecutively) may be certified a third time for four years. In order to receive Guardian Ad Litem appointments in the Collin County courts, you must submit a resume with a cover letter to each court for which you want to receive appointments.



Role and Duties of the Attorney Ad Litem in Child Protection Litigation Course



The Law Library also offers the *Role and Duties of the Attorney Ad Litem in Child Protection Litigation* course. Completion of this course fulfills the 3 hour CLE training requirement to become an Attorney Ad Litem in DFPS termination and conservatorship suits. This is a self-study DVD course worth 3 hours (.5 hour ethics) Self-Study credit. The Law Library is providing this course at no charge to assist attorneys in meeting the requirements to receive court appointments as Attorney Ad Litem in termination and conservatorship suits filed by the DFPS in Collin County. In order to receive Attorney Ad Litem appointments in the Collin County courts, you must submit a resume with a cover letter to each court for which you want to receive appointments.

Coming Soon: 2007 Advanced Criminal Law Course

The Collin County Law Library will be offering the State Bar of Texas Custom CLE Advanced Criminal Law Course 2007 to attorneys. The cost for taking this course will be \$341.00 per person. For this price, you will view the DVDs and receive a copy of the course books for you to keep. The course provides 26.25 hours of participatory and 2.25 hours of ethics credit. *A minimum of two attorneys* must participate each time the course is administered; the course must be completed within a *single calendar month*. The Law Library is providing the administration of this course to assist attorneys in meeting the requirements of our local judges for court appointments for indigent defense.

Demand for this course is high, so sign up today!

Federal Court Practice Course 2007

The Law Library also has the State Bar of Texas Federal Court Practice Course 2007 with DVDs available for check-out. If you are interested in taking this course for participatory credit to receive certification for practice in federal court, please contact Judy McCullough in the Law Library at 972-548-4255.

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**When will the 2007 State Bar of Texas
summer CLE coursebooks arrive
at the Law Library?**

Answer:

October!

Each year, the Law Library orders many of the coursebooks from the summer's State Bar of Texas CLE courses. The coursebooks usually arrive sometime during the month of October, so the 2007 books will be here soon.

Some of the coursebooks we expect to receive include:

- Advanced Criminal Law 2007
- Advanced Family Law 2007
- Advanced Estate Planning & Probate 2007
- Advanced Elder Law 2007

As always, CLE coursebooks may be checked out of the Law Library.

Please note that the Law Library does not administer all of the State Bar of Texas CLE courses. For information about the CLE courses that the Library *does* administer, see page 5 of this newsletter.

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A Little Legal Humor...

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Stu's Views

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

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