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LAW LIBRARIES AND THE LAYPERSON:  
A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF  
SELF-HELP BOOKS.

by  
Kristen M. McKeaney

A Thesis

Submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirements of the  
Master of Arts Degree in the Graduate School  
of Rowan University  
May, 1997

Approved by

Professor

Date Approved May 5, 1997

## ABSTRACT

Kristen M. McKeane

Law and the Layperson: A Bibliography of Self-Help Materials, 1997, Dr. Lynne Levy, School and Public Librarianship.

Although the goal of a comprehensive legal library is to be a resource to professionals and the general public, the issue of providing legal assistance to laypersons via the library is a complex one. Compiling the legal resources to benefit the lay public is challenging. This paper attempts to systematically identify and suggest resources following pre-set criteria of affordability, content usefulness, timeliness and reasonableness of management.

The primary form of this paper is a bibliography following a subject specific format. The bibliography is further defined into sections of legal reference books, internet sites, legal directories, general references and agencies. The bibliography was compiled with the primary goal of assisting in the start up phase of a self- help legal reference room for the use of non-professionals. This addition to a library would allow the general public to access information without undue assistance from library staff or professional patrons of a legal library. With that in mind the resources suggested are intended to be user-friendly and self explanatory. Although comprehensive, these materials would not over-extend the facilities of a public library. The writer offers this bibliography as a reference for those legal libraries interested in this approach to a growing phenomenon of non-professionals seeking information in an attempt to manage their own legal proceedings.

## **MINI-ABSTRACT**

**Kristen M. McKeaney**

**Law and the Layperson: A Bibliography of Self-Help Materials  
1997**

**Dr. Lynne Levy**

**School and Public Librarianship**

This paper examines the issue of reasonably providing legal resources for laypersons engaged in research while acting as their own attorney in preparation to participate in a variety of legal proceedings. Data on appropriate materials for a library to own was collected and listed in the form of a comprehensive bibliography.

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## CHAPTER 1

### INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this paper is to determine what legal resources a law library should purchase when establishing a room that is geared towards assisting the layperson. The main reason I am writing this paper is because the library I work in has many visitors who are doing their own legal research. I work in the Theodore F. Jenkins Memorial Library in Philadelphia, which is a membership library. By this I mean that any attorney who wants to join our library must pay a fifty dollar annual fee to become a member. At the present time we have over twelve thousand members. The other way for someone to use our library is to pay a five dollar daily fee. Each week, approximately one hundred people buy a daily pass. Most of these are people acting as their own attorney in a legal proceeding. This can range from something simple, such as changing their name, to something more involved like representing themselves in a criminal case.

At the present time, we have seven reference librarians on staff. Two librarians are working at the reference desk at any one time. Unfortunately, when laypeople come to Jenkins they want the reference librarians to tell them exactly what they need to do, how to fill out all the appropriate forms and all the procedural steps to follow. We can not afford to spend too much time with these patrons because we are always busy. Many of them feel they have the right to our undivided attention for as long as they need it.

Usually we do not even know what it is that they need. We always tell them that we are not attorneys and that all we can do is to show them the books that they need. Some people accept this and do the work on their own, but a number of people get upset and question us again and again about what they need to know.

As a result of this situation, the director of the library would like to set up a room separated from the rest of the library containing books geared toward the patron performing their own legal research. One of the reasons the room would be separated from the rest of the library is because many times patrons will walk up to an attorney in the library and ask them for help with their problem. This is a very awkward situation for both the attorney and for us to handle. This room would have a selection of books covering a wide range of topics, as well as general legal books such as references on doing legal research.

The questions that arise when we consider setting up this room are the following: What books should we purchase? How much will it cost to buy the necessary books? and How much room will the books require? I will answer all of these questions in my paper.

Some of the words you may encounter while reading this paper that you may not be familiar with are as follows:

**Layman** - One of the people, and not one of the clergy; one who is not of a particular profession (*i.e.* non-lawyer).

**Pro se** - For one's own behalf; in person. Appearing for oneself, as in the case of one who does not retain a lawyer and appears for himself in court.

**Self-help** - Taking an action in person or by a representative outside of the normal legal process with legal consequences, whether the action is legal or not; *for example*, a "self-help eviction" may be a landlord removing the tenant's property from an apartment and locking the door against the tenant.

My project will include a bibliography of books that I feel are necessary to make this room a success. I will also include the cost and size of the book along with the bibliographic information. There is also a list of internet sites that may be of some assistance to the layperson. A list of agencies that we could refer people to if we do not have the information they need is also provided. Finally, I will give the publishers address and phone number for every book included in the bibliography. This way, if the patron wants to order the book we can provide them with the necessary information to do so.

## CHAPTER 2

### SEARCH OF THE LITERATURE

Every day librarians in both law and public libraries deal with the problem of assisting the layperson with legal reference questions. There is much controversy in the library profession concerning just how much help, if any, librarians should provide. Some people feel very strongly that librarians should help the layperson, but just how much help should be provided? In the article "From the Reference Desk to the Jail House: Unauthorized Practice of Law and Librarians" (Brown, 1994), the author says that while the problems the patrons face are disheartening, they are also a separate issue; this being the question of providing reduced cost or free legal services to the poor. Brown points out that many Americans are unable to afford health care, yet no one expects a medical librarian to give free medical care. In "Legal Reference Service: The Delivery Process" (Schanck, 1978), the author says that in public libraries in particular, the staff is not trained enough in legal research to provide adequate help, nor do most libraries have sufficient legal resources. He further states that librarians, including law librarians, have made attempts to make legal information more accessible to the public. In "Reference Service vs. Legal Advice: Is it Possible to Draw the Line?" (Mills, 1979), the author says that most law libraries are set up to serve a specific group, such as a bar association, and serve the public only secondarily. She says we should ask if libraries are justified in

servicing this secondary group of users. Libraries have to consider if they have the funds, space and materials to help a group other than the one they were intended to serve. Another viewpoint is found in "The Authorized Practice of Legal Reference Service" (Mosley, 1995). He believes that the "pro se" litigant should be viewed the same as anyone else using the library. Mosley says that reference librarians must not leave patrons to fend for themselves. They must work with the patron until materials are found that satisfy the user.

This statement leads to another consideration. How much time can the librarian afford to spend with the layperson? In "Legal Information for the Public: A Public Library Perspective" (Crowther, 1992), a survey of the statistics log at Williamsburg Regional Library showed that with most patrons, the reference librarians spent an average of five minutes. Law librarians, however, spend an average of thirty minutes or more on one reference question. Schanck says some people believe that librarians should not provide much help to the layperson, not only because they are not trained in the law, but also because it would not be in the best interest of the patron. Schanck recommends advising the patron to seek a lawyer's advice for the following four reasons: an attorney has better access to the facts, an attorney has a more complete knowledge of the law, they can research the law at their leisure, and they understand the practical functioning of the legal system. Mills agrees with this. She also says librarians should refrain from giving legal advice primarily because a layperson could easily be misled by what the librarian tells them, and this could, in turn, cause them harm.

Crowther goes a step further by saying that librarians in the public library are not familiar enough with the legal system to ask the questions necessary to identify helpful resources for the patrons. Also, many public libraries set cost limits for books in their circulating collection. The Williamsburg Regional Library, for example, does not purchase anything over thirty dollars. Law books are expensive and this price limit cuts down on what libraries can purchase for their legal collections.

So, who then, is entitled to assistance with preparing and filing legal documents? The answer is prison inmates. Brown discusses how the United States Supreme Court decided that prison authorities must assist inmates in filing and preparing legal documents. The assistance must come from people educated in the law, or they must provide an adequate law library.

There is really no clear distinction between legal assistance and legal advice. Mills says that answering a question about the law becomes legal advice when the "Answer requires skill and familiarity with the law, or when the listener relies on the answer as an accurate statement of his rights." (p. 186) Mosley indicates that the Virginia State Bar Association's Standing Committee on the Unauthorized Practice of Law says that legal assistance would constitute providing legal materials to patrons that supply a specific cite to cases or statutes. However, if the patron does *not* supply specific cites, and the librarian provides them with the information, this is considered the unauthorized practice of law.

Schanck says that the librarian needs to avoid pointing to a case or statute and

stating that “This is the law.” (p. 63) If a patron brings something to you and asks you what it means, you should err on the side of caution, even if it appears clearcut, and advise them to figure it out for themselves or to consult an attorney.

Both Brown and Mills say that a patron is entitled to be pointed in the right direction, told the location of materials, and given an explanation on how to use a digest or book. The patron must then personally go to the book and select the proper case, statute or forms. The patron is also responsible for interpreting and drafting legal documents on their own. They also say that when explaining how to use a digest, the librarians should use a generic topic as an example, not the patron’s specific issue. Mosley disagrees and says that pointing to a source of information or showing a person how a source is used and walking away is not reference work. Obviously, there are many viewpoints on this matter, yet this only serves to cloud the issue further.

Many law librarians are dual-degreed. That is, they possess both a Masters in Library Science and a law degree. This leads to yet another complicated situation. Can the lawyer-librarian provide more service than the librarian without the law degree? Kathy Garner, the author of “Lawyer-Librarians in Public Law Schools: The Ethical Conundrums of Pro Bono Activities,” suggests that JD-MLS librarians should perform mandatory pro bono service and provide patrons with “enhanced” legal service. Not everyone would agree with this idea. Brown simply states that librarians should not provide legal advice regardless of whether they are dual- degreed or not. Mills says that JD-MLS librarians who give legal advice are guilty of engaging in the unauthorized

practice of law, because their primary responsibility is towards the library, which employs them, not the libraries' "clients." Since the institution itself cannot engage in the practice of law, neither can its employees.

The librarian should keep in mind that if they give incorrect advice, the library, as well as the librarian, could become the target of a malpractice suit. In "Malpractice: Is the Sky Falling?" (Cremieux, 1996) a definition of malpractice is provided from Black's Law Dictionary. It is defined as "Professional misconduct or unreasonable lack of skill that results in injury, loss or damage to the recipient of those services." (p. 148) Cremieux says that many people believe that they cannot be charged with malpractice if no money changes hands. This is not true. Malpractice does not depend on money being exchanged. Mills says that the fact that no money was charged matters very little once fraudulent intent or a duty owed is established.

Another subject that is the cause of much debate is how much librarians should worry about malpractice. One camp says librarians should be concerned, the other says that there is no reason for concern. In "Chicken Little at the Reference Desk: The Myth of Librarian Liability" (Healey, 1995), the author states that because a search of the literature on the subject revealed no actual cases against librarians, the profession is overreacting and should concentrate on doing their job and stop worrying about the threat of malpractice.

Brown says that when a librarian gives legal advice, not only are they violating ethical codes, the librarian and the library risk being sued for malpractice if the advice is

incorrect or if the patron misinterprets the advice. Schanck agrees with this school of thought and says that the reference librarian should take a conservative view to avoid jeopardizing their reputation or that of the library.

Other than repeatedly advising the layperson that the librarians are not attorneys, what are librarians to do? Mills suggests referring the person to a local legal aid society or a lawyer referral service. She also suggests referring them to other agencies whenever possible. The library, she says, should have the address and phone numbers of agencies readily available. Crowther agrees with this method of dealing with laypeople. She recommends that this list be updated at least once each year. Brown goes a few steps further by providing ten rules for libraries to follow. She mentions posting signs listing what functions the librarians do not perform, such as analyzing particular situations or recommending legal forms. Another suggestion is to develop one page research handouts, or pathfinders, on commonly asked reference questions, such as how to locate a case or a list of form books the library owns. Above all, she stresses repeating legal disclaimers and qualifications throughout the reference interview and urging the patron to contact a lawyer.

## CHAPTER 3

### LEGAL BIBLIOGRAPHY

There are many legal books on the market right now. Factoring in the idea that the library is looking for books geared towards the layperson narrows this number down considerably. With this in mind, I chose books that fit specific criteria. The criteria are as follows:

1. *Cost* - How much is this book? Is this the best source available for the price?
2. *Timeliness*- How old is this book? I tried to choose books written within the last five years. However, this sometimes was not possible due to the limited number of books available for the layperson.
3. *Size* - Due to the fact that space is limited, I avoided big sets of books. If comparable information could be found in a one volume book, a five volume set was avoided.
4. *Content* - I looked for books that I thought would be used by the patrons and asked: Does the book contain the information that would be needed? Is the book written in a clear, concise way that will be easier to understand than a similar book geared towards the practicing attorney?

What follows are approximately eighty titles of both legal reference books and subject specific books for the layperson.

## AIDS

Burris, S. (1993) Aids law today: A new guide for the public. New Haven: Yale University Press. 24 cm. \$45.00.

Jarvis, R.M. (1991) Aids law in a nutshell. St. Paul: West Publishing. 19 cm. \$17.50.

Terl, A.H. (1992). Aids and the law: A basic guide for the nonlawyer. Washington, DC: Hemisphere Publishing Corporation. 24 cm. \$45.00.

## ANIMAL LAW

Barrie, A. Cats and the law. (1990) Neptune City, NJ: T.F.H. Publications. 25 cm. \$14.95.

Randolph, M. (1994) Dog law. 2nd ed. Berkeley: Nolo Press, 1994. 23 cm . \$12.95.

## ART LAW

Norwick, K.P. (1992) The rights of authors, artists and other creative people: The basic ACLU guide to author and artist rights. Carbondale: Southern Illinois University Press, 2nd Ed. 18cm. \$7.95.

## BANKRUPTCY

Your legal guide to consumer credit: With a special section on bankruptcy. (1994) Chicago: American Bar Association, Public Education Division. 23 cm. \$2.50.

Elias, S. (1996) How to file for bankruptcy. 6th ed., Berkeley: Nolo Press. 28 cm. \$25.95.

Epstein, D.G. (1995) Bankruptcy and other debtor-creditor laws in a nutshell. 5th ed. St. Paul: West Publishing Company. 19 cm. \$17.00.

## COPYRIGHTS

Foster, F.H. (1993) Patents, copyrights and trademarks. 2nd ed. New York: Wiley & Sons. 27 cm. \$59.95.

Fishman, S. (1994) Copyright your software: How to copyright all types of computer programs and interfaces. 1st ed. Berkeley: Nolo Press. 28 cm. \$39.95.

Fishman, S. (1996) The copyright handbook: How to protect and use written works. 3rd ed. Berkeley: Nolo Press. 28 cm. \$24.95.

## CORPORATION LAW

Mancuso, A. (1996) Form your own limited liability company. 1st ed. Berkeley: Nolo Press. 28 cm. \$24.95.

Mancuso, A. (1996) How to form a nonprofit corporation. 3rd ed. Berkeley: Nolo Press. 28 cm + 1 computer disk. \$39.95.

Mancuso, A. (1994) Taking care of your corporation. 1st ed. Berkeley: Nolo Press. 28 cm + 2 computer disks. \$39.95.

## COURT

Warner, R.E. (1995) Everybody's guide to small claims court. 6th ed. Berkeley: Nolo Press. 23 cm. \$18.95.

## CRIMINAL LAW

Loewy, A.H. (1987) Criminal law in a nutshell. St.Paul: West Publishing Company. 19 cm. \$16.00.

Podgor, E.S. (1993) White collar crime in a nutshell. St. Paul: West Publishing Company. 19 cm. \$16.00.

## EDUCATION LAW

Alexander, K. & M.D. Alexander. (1995) The law of schools, students, and teachers in a nutshell. 2nd ed. St. Paul: West Publishing Company. 19 cm. \$16.00.

Fisher, L. & D. Schimmel, C. Kelly. (1995) Teachers and the law. 4th ed. White Plains: Longman Publishing. 24 cm. \$32.50.

Gordon, W.M. , C.J. Russo & A.S. Miles. (1994) The law of home schooling. Topeka: National Organization on Legal Problems of Education. 23 cm. \$25.95.

Klicka, C.J. (1995) The rights to home school: A Guide to the law on parents' rights in education. Durham: Carolina Academic Press. 22 cm. \$19.95.

## ELDER LAW

Frolik, L.A. & R.L. Kaplan. (1995) Elder law in a nutshell. St. Paul: West Publishing Company. 19 cm. \$18.50.

Margolis, H.S. (1992) Elderlaw forms manual: Essential documents for representing the older client. Boston: Little, Brown. 30 cm. \$79.95.

Matthews, J.L. & D.M. Berman. (1995) Social security, medicare and pensions. 6th ed. Berkeley: Nolo Press. 28 cm. \$19.95.

Ramage, M.S. (1993) Pennsylvania elder law handbook: All the state and federal laws Pennsylvania senior citizens need to know before seeing a professional. Bala Cynwyd, PA: Elder Law Press. 28 cm. \$50.00.

Warner, R.E. (1996) Get a life: You don't need a million to retire well. Berkeley: Nolo Press. 23 cm. \$18.95.

## EMPLOYMENT LAW

Petrocelli, W. & B.K. Repa. (1994) Sexual harassment on the job. 2nd ed. Berkeley: Nolo Press. 23 cm. \$18.95.

Repa, B.K. (1996) Your rights in the workplace. 3rd ed. Berkeley: Nolo Press. 23 cm. \$19.95.

Steingold, F.S. (1994) The employer's legal handbook, 1st ed. Berkeley: Nolo Press. 23 cm. \$29.95.

### FAMILY LAW

Fundamentals on family law. (1996) Harrisburg, PA.: Pennsylvania Bar Institute. 28 cm. \$59.00.

Philadelphia County domestic relations practice. (1995) Harrisburg, PA.: Pennsylvania Bar Institute. 30 cm. \$79.00.

Four county domestic relations practice: Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery. (1995) Harrisburg, PA.: Pennsylvania Bar Institute. 30 cm. \$79.00.

Family violence & the child custody process: A legal guide for protecting children. (1996) Philadelphia, PA: Women's Law Project. \$29.00.

Collins, V.F. & G. Wall. (1994) Smart ways to save money before and after the divorce. 1st ed. Berkeley: Nolo Press. 23 cm. \$14.95.

Curry, H. & D. Clifford and R. Leonard. (1996) A legal guide for lesbian and gay couples. 9th ed. Berkeley: Nolo Press. 28 cm. \$24.95.

Diamond, L. (1989) How to handle your child custody case. A guide for parents, psychologists, and attorneys. Buffalo, NY: Prometheus Books. 24 cm. \$13.95.

Howell, S. (1995) No fault divorce in Pennsylvania: A how to guide. Camp Hill, PA.: Aubergine Marketing. 28 cm. \$24.95.

Ihara, T.L. & R.E. Warner. (1994) The living together kit, 7th ed. Berkeley: Nolo Press. 28 cm. \$24.95.

Leonard, R. & S. Elias. (1996) Nolo's pocket guide to family law. 4th ed. Berkeley: Nolo Press. 22 cm. \$14.95.

Lyster, M.E. (1995) Child custody. Building agreements that work. Berkeley: Nolo Press. 28 cm. \$24.95.

Pekala, B. (1994) Don't settle for less: A women's guide to getting a fair divorce and custody settlement. NY: Doubleday. \$22.00

Pelberger, N. (1992 & 1996 supplement) Pennsylvania divorce code: With forms. Philadelphia, PA.: G.T. Biesel Company. 26 cm. \$69.00.

Sales, B.D. & C.J. Beck and R.K. Haan. (1993) Self-representation in divorce cases. Chicago: American Bar Association. 28 cm. \$20.00.

Saltman, D.A. (1989) Don't get married until you read this: A laymen's guide to prenuptial agreements. NY: Barron's. 23 cm. \$9.95.

Truly, T. (1995) Grandparents rights: With forms. 1st ed. Clearwater, FL.: Sphinx Publishing. 28 cm. \$19.95.

Woodhouse, V. & V.F. Collins with M.C. Blakeman. (1996) Divorce and money: How to make the best financial decisions during divorce. 3rd ed. Berkeley: Nolo Press. 28 cm. \$24.95.

### **IMMIGRATION LAW**

Canter, L.A. & M.S. Siegel. (1995) U.S. immigration made easy. 5th ed. Berkeley: Nolo Press. 28 cm. \$ 39.95.

Lewis, L.N. & L.T. Madlansacay. (1996) How to get a green card: Legal ways to stay in the U.S.A. 2nd ed. Berkeley: Nolo Press. 28 cm \$24.95.

Schreuder, S.A. (1995) How to become a United States citizen: A step-by-step guidebook for self instruction. 5th ed. Occidental, CA.: Nolo Press - Occidental. 28 cm. \$30.00.

Weissbrodt, D.S. (1992) Immigration law and procedure in a nutshell. 3rd ed. St. Paul: West Publishing Company. 19 cm. \$16.95.

### **LANDLORD - TENANT**

Representing residential landlords and tenants. (1995) Harrisburg, PA.: Pennsylvania Bar Institute. 3 volumes. 28 cm.

Hill, D.S. (1995) Landlord and tenant law in a nutshell. 3rd ed. St. Paul : West Publishing Company. 19 cm. \$16.00.

Stewart, M. & R.E. Warner and J. Portman. (1996) Every landlord's legal guide: Leases & rental agreements, deposits, rent rules, liability, discrimination, repairs & maintenance, privacy, property managers, problem tenants. 1st ed. 1 volume & 1 computer disk. Berkeley: Nolo Press. 28 cm. \$29.95.

### NEIGHBOR LAW

Jordan, C. (1994) Neighbor law: Fences, trees, boundaries and noise. 2nd ed. Berkeley: Nolo Press. 23 cm. \$16.95.

### PRISON LAW

Branham, L.S. & S. Krantz. (1994) Sentencing, corrections, and prisoners' rights in a nutshell. 4th ed. St. Paul: West Publishing Company. 18 cm. \$17.00.

Mushlin, M.B. (1993) Rights of prisoners. 2nd ed. Colorado Springs, CO.: Shepard's/McGraw-Hill. 2 volumes. 27 cm. \$150.00.

### REAL ESTATE

Residential real estate. (1995) Harrisburg, PA: Pennsylvania Bar Institute. 30 cm. \$59.00.

Bruce, J.W. (1991) Real estate finance: In a nutshell. 3rd ed. St. Paul: West Publishing Company. 19 cm. \$16.50.

### TAX LAW

Daily, F.W. (1996) Stand up to the IRS: Defend yourself in an audit. Berkeley: Nolo Press. 28 cm. \$24.95.

Daily, F.W. (1995) Tax savvy for small business. 1st ed. Berkeley: Nolo Press. 28 cm. \$26.95.

Saltzman, M.I. (1991 & 1996 supplement) IRS practice and procedure. 2nd ed. Boston: Warren, Gorham & Lamont. 25 cm. \$87.75.

Sprouse, M.L. (1988) How to survive a tax audit: What to do before and after you hear from the IRS. (rev. ed.) NY: Penguin Books. 20 cm. \$7.95.

### **WILLS & TRUSTS**

Clifford, D. (1996) Make your own living trust. 2nd ed. Berkeley: Nolo Press. 28 cm. \$19.95.

Clifford, D. (1995) The quick & legal will book. 1st ed. Berkeley: Nolo Press. 23 cm. \$17.95.

### **WOMEN'S RIGHTS**

Ross, S.D. [et al.] (1993) The rights of women: The basic ACLU guide to women's rights. 3rd ed. Carbondale: Southern Illinois University Press. 19 cm \$7.95.

## LEGAL REFERENCE SOURCES

### LEGAL RESEARCH

Jacobstein, J.M. & R. Mersky and D.J. Dunn (1994) Fundamentals of legal research. 6th ed. Westbury, NY: Foundation Press. 26 cm. \$37.00.

Jones, V.C. (1994) Legal research for non-lawyers: A self-study manual. Washington, D.C.: Special Libraries Association. 28 cm. \$55.00.

McKinney, R.A. (1996) Legal research: A practical guide and self-instructional workbook. St. Paul: West Publishing Company. 28 cm. \$17.00

Schachner, R.W. (1993) How and when to be your own lawyer: A step-by-step guide to effectively using our legal system. Garden City Park, NY: Avery Publishing Group. 23 cm. \$14.95.

### DICTIONARIES

The American Heritage dictionary of the English language. (1992) Boston: Houghton Mifflin. 29 cm. \$145.00.

Black's law dictionary. (1990) 6th ed. St. Paul: West Publishing Company. 26 cm. \$19.50.

Prince, M.M. (1993) Bieber's dictionary of legal abbreviations: Reference guide for attorneys, legal secretaries, paralegals, and law students. 4th ed. Buffalo, NY: William S. Hein. 24 cm. \$45.00.

Sloane, R. (1987) The Sloane-Dorland annotated medical legal dictionary. St. Paul: West Publishing Company. 26 cm. \$158.25.

### **LEGAL DIRECTORIES**

Martindale-Hubbell law directory. (1996) Summit, NJ: Martindale-Hubbell, Inc. 23 volumes at 26 cm each. \$645.00.

Naifeh, S.W. & G.W. Smith (1995) The best lawyers in America: 1995 - 1996. 6th ed. Aiken S.C.: Woodward/White. 24 cm. \$100.00.

### **GENERAL REFERENCES**

Congressional Quarterly's guide to the U.S. supreme court. (1990) Washington, D.C. : Congressional Quarterly, Inc. 29 cm. \$199.95.

The guide to American law. Everyone's legal encyclopedia. (1983 & 1995 supplement). St. Paul: West Publishing Company. 19 volumes at 27 cm each. \$124.95.

Law and legal information directory. (1997) Detroit, MI.: Gale Research. 29 cm. \$325.50.

Nolo's everyday law books: Answers to your most frequently asked questions. (1997) Berkeley: Nolo Press. \$21.95.

The world almanac and book of facts. (1996) NY: Newspaper Enterprise Association. 22 cm. \$8.00.

### **LEGAL THESAURUS**

Burton, W.C. (1992) Legal Thesaurus. 2nd ed. NY: MacMillan. 26 cm. \$16.95.

Roget's II: The new thesaurus. (1984) NY: Berkeley Books. 18 cm. \$17.00.

## CHAPTER 4

### INTERNET SITES FOR LEGAL RESEARCH

The following are internet addresses that may be helpful in assisting the layperson. They are arranged alphabetically by subject and contain a brief summary of what can be found at each site. Sites were chosen based on what they contained and how helpful they appeared to be.

#### Adoption

<http://www.webcom.com:80/webweaver/> - Sections with information, resources and support for adoptees, birth parents and searchers. Also has books and articles about adoption.

#### Advice & Counsel Incorporated

<http://tsw.ingress.com/tsw/adviceco/> - Run by a San Francisco based law corporation, this site offers the non-attorney basic resources on wills, trusts, and estate planning.

#### Aids

[http://www.frathehouseboys.com:80/links/HIV\\_links\\_1.html](http://www.frathehouseboys.com:80/links/HIV_links_1.html) - National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases runs this site. It contains AIDS-related information.

#### American Law Sources On-Line

<http://www.lawsources.com/also/alsohome.html> - Comprehensive compilation of links to federal and state legal resources.

### Attorney Yellow Pages

<http://www.newsquest.com/attorney> - Directory of attorneys.

### Bankruptcy

<http://www.turpike.net:80/WORLDWIDEIMPORTS/bank.html> - Information on bankruptcy by the National Consumer Law Center.

### Consumer Price Index

<http://stats.bls.gov:80/newsrel.htm#OPLC> - Gives current CPI figures.

### Copyright FAQs

<gopher://gopher.lib.virginia.edu:70/11//alpha/copyright> - Has full table of contents, copyright basics, common questions and resources for further assistance.

### Criminal Law

<http://snipe.uke.ac.uk:80/law/spu/259links.html> - Links to primary legislation and to other criminal law sources. Guide to research in criminal law.

### Divorce

<http://www.primenet.com/~deau/> - Comprehensive site for divorce related information, including laws and legal issues.

### Education

<http://www.ed.gov/> - A government sponsored source for education related materials.

### ElderLaw Resources Page

<http://www.panix.com/~goldfarb/elderlaw.html> - Contains Seniorlaw Home Page, Information on Medicare and Medicaid and Quick Index to Information.

### Federal Rules of Civil Procedure

<http://www2.law.cornell.edu/folio.cgi/frcp> - Contains compilation of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

### Inter-law's 'lectric Law Library

<http://www.inter-law.com> - Mimics the rooms of a law library with a clickable map. Rooms have titles such as "Layperson's Law Lounge" and the "Forms Room".

### IRS

<http://www.lawresearch.com:80/ctaxirs.html> - Comprehensive table of contents. Contains income tax forms, instructions, publications, regulations and more.

### LawCrawler

<http://www.lawcrawler.com/> - Contains law review articles, US Constitution, Supreme Court Opinions, Court of Appeals decisions arranged by circuit, US state laws and more.

### LawMall

<http://www.ocsny.com/lawmall> - Run by a New York civil litigator. Contains a number of legal self-help pamphlets.

### LawMarks

<http://www.iwc.com/entropy/marks/bkmrkjsm.html> - Contains rules of court, court opinions, federal documents & more.

### Legal dot Net

<http://www.legal.net/idn2.html> - Resource for lawyers and non-lawyers. Contains services such as online calculation of child support. Non-Lawyers may ask for advice through "Dear Esquire".

### Legal Research FAQs

[gopher://gopher.eff.org:70/00/eff/legislation/legal/law\\_research.faq](gopher://gopher.eff.org:70/00/eff/legislation/legal/law_research.faq) - Written specifically for the laymen. Lengthy and through explanations about how to conduct your own legal research.

### NOLO Press

<http://www.nolo.com> - Contains articles available in NOLO News. Written in clear, easy-to-understand language.

### Patents

<http://www.uspto.gov> - Includes full text of patents issued since January 1, 1994.

### Seamless WebSite

<http://www.seamless.com> - Provides legal articles, job listings, chat lines and links to more than 1,000 other law sites.

### Sexual Harassment

<http://www.vix.com/pub/men/harass/harass.html> - Contains sexual harassment court opinions.

### Small Business Administration

<http://www.sbaonline.sba.gov/> - Includes topics such as starting your own business, financing the business and expanding the business.

### Supreme Court Opinions

<http://www.law.cornell.edu/supct> - Makes Supreme Court Opinions available to the public.

### Tax Forms & Information

<http://www.irs.ustreas.gov> - Lists and describes tax sites with information for people trying to prepare their own taxes. Also links to foreign, federal and state tax forms, laws and regulations.

### U.S. Immigration Law FAQs

<http://www.charm.net/~nayak/info.html> - Information on all types of immigration questions such as student visas, name changes, marriage to a US citizen and more.

## CHAPTER 5

### LEGAL AID OFFICES

AIDS Law Project  
1251 Chestnut Street  
Suite 1200  
Phila., PA. 19107  
(215) 587-9377

AIDS Legal Center of Pennsylvania  
1554 Cherry Street, #519  
Phila., PA. 19107  
(215) 440-8555

Alternative Justice Center of Philadelphia  
337 Chestnut Street  
Phila., PA. 19104  
(215) 552-8199

American Civil Liberties Foundation  
of Pennsylvania  
P.O. Box 1161  
Phila., PA. 19105  
(215) 582-1513

Battered Women Legal Defense  
Clearinghouse - National Office  
125 South Ninth Street, #302  
Phila., PA. 19107  
(215) 351-0010

Center for Disability Law and Policy  
1617 JFK Boulevard, Suite 800  
Phila., PA. 19103  
(215) 557-7112

**Community Legal Services**  
1424 Chestnut Street  
Phila., PA. 19102-2505  
(215) 981-3700

**Consumer Bankruptcy Assistance  
Project, Incorporated**  
Fresh Start Clinic  
1424 Chestnut Street  
Phila., PA. 19102  
(215) 981-3770

**Defender Association of Philadelphia**  
121 N. Broad Street, 10th Floor  
Phila., PA. 19107-1913  
(215) 568-3190

**Disability Legal Resources Center**  
801 Arch Street  
Phila., Pa. 19107  
(215) 238-8070

**Education Law Center, Incorporated**  
801 Arch Street, Suite 610  
Phila., PA. 19107  
(215) 238- 6970

**Homeless Advocacy Project**  
1424 Chestnut Street  
Phila., PA. 19102  
(215) 981-3762

**Juvenile Law Center**  
801 Arch Street, Suite 610  
Phila., PA. 19107  
(215) 625-0551

**Legal Assistance for Disabled Persons**  
Six Franklin Plaza, Suite 512  
Phila., PA. 19102  
(215) 587-3350

**Pennsylvania Health Law Project**  
801 Arch Street, Suite 610A  
Phila., PA. 19107  
(215) 625-3663

**Philadelphia Elder Law Center, Inc.**  
1700 Sansom Street, Suite 201  
Phila., PA. 19103-5209  
(215) 972-0767

**Philadelphia Volunteers for the Indigent Program**  
1424 Chestnut Street, 3rd Floor  
Phila., PA. 19102  
(215) 981-7100

**Philadelphia Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts**  
251 South 18th Street  
Phila., PA. 19103  
(215) 545-3385

**Public Interest Law Center of Philadelphia**  
125 South 9th Street, Suite 700  
Phila., PA. 19107  
(215) 627-7100

**Saint Thomas Moore Society of Philadelphia**  
Pro Bono Program  
2600 One Commerce Square  
Phila., PA. 19103-7098  
(215) 564- 8091

**Senior Citizen/Judicare Project of**  
**Philadelphia, Incorporated**  
1101 Market Street, 11th Floor  
Phila., PA. 19107  
(215) 238-8943

Southwestern Pennsylvania Legal Services  
Client Assistance Program  
1650 Arch Street, Suite 2310  
Phila., PA. 19103  
(215) 557-7112

Support Center for Child Advocates  
801 Arch Street, Suite 608  
Phila., PA. 19107  
(215) 925-1913

Temple Legal Aid Office  
1719 North Broad Street  
Phila., PA. 19122  
(215) 204-1800

University of Pennsylvania, Law School  
Clinical Law Program  
3400 Chestnut Street  
Phila., PA. 19104  
(215) 898-8427

Women Against Abuse Legal Center, Inc.  
1321 Arch Street, 9th Floor  
Phila., PA. 19107  
(215) 686-7082

Women's Law Project  
125 South 9th Street, Suite 401  
Phila., PA. 19107  
(215) 928-9801

## CHAPTER 6

### LIST OF PUBLISHERS

American Bar Association  
750 N. Lake Shore Drive  
Chicago, IL. 60611  
(312) 988-5000

Aubergine Marketing  
2929 Gettysburg Road  
Camp Hill, PA., 17011

Avery Publishing Group  
120 Old Broadway  
Garden City Park, NY 11040  
(516) 741-2155

Barron's Educational Series, Inc.  
P.O. Box 8040  
250 Wireless Boulevard  
Hauppauge, NY 11788  
(516) 434-3311

Berkley Books  
200 Madison Avenue  
New York, NY 10016  
(212) 951-8800

G.T. Bisel Company  
Washington Square  
Philadelphia, PA.  
(215) 922-5760

Carolina Academic Press  
700 Kent Street  
Durham, NC 27701  
(919) 489-7486

Doubleday & Co., Inc.  
666 5th Avenue  
New York, NY 10103  
(212) 765-6500

ElderLaw Press  
720 Argyle Road  
Wynnewood, PA 19096  
(215) 668-5300

Foundation Press  
615 Merrick Avenue  
Westbury, NY 11590-6607  
(516) 832-6950

Gale Research, Inc.  
Book Tower  
Detroit, MI 48226-1822  
(313) 961-2242

HALT, Inc.  
1319 F. Street, NW, Suite 300  
Washington, DC 20004  
(212) 347-9600

William S. Hein  
1285 Main Street  
Buffalo, NY 14209  
(800) 828-7571

Hemisphere Publishing  
1900 Frost Road, Suite 101  
Bristol, Pa. 19007  
(215) 785-5800

Houghton Mifflin  
222 Berkeley Street  
Boston, MA., 02116  
(617) 351-5000

John Wiley & Sons, Inc.  
605 3rd Avenue  
New York, NY 10158-0012  
(212) 850-6418

Little, Brown & Co.  
84 Beacon Street  
Boston, MA 02108  
(800) 343-9204

Longman  
95 Church Street  
White Plains, NY 10601  
(914) 993-5000

Macmillan Publishing Co., Inc.  
866 3rd Avenue  
New York, NY 10022  
(212) 702-2000

Martindale-Hubbell  
P.O. Box 1001  
Summit, NJ 07902-1001  
(800) 526-4902

National Organization of Legal Problems on Education  
3601 SW 29th Street, Suite 223  
Topaka, KA., 66614  
(913) 273-3550

Newspaper Enterprise Association  
200 Park Avenue  
New York, NY, 10166  
(212) 692-3824

**NOLO Press**  
950 Parker Street  
Berkeley, CA. 94710  
(415) 549-1976

**Penguin Books**  
375 Hudson Street  
New York, NY 10014-3657  
(212) 366-2000

**Pennsylvania Bar Institute**  
P.O. Box 1027  
Harrisburg, PA 17108  
(800) 932-4637

**Prometheus Books**  
700 East Amherst Street  
Buffalo, NY 14215  
(800) 421-0351

**Shepards/McGraw-Hill**  
555 Middle Creek Parkway  
P.O. Box 35300  
Colorado Springs, CO 80935-3530  
(719) 488-3000

**Special Libraries Association**  
1700 18th Street, NW  
Washington, DC, 20009  
(202) 234-4700

**Southern Illinois University Press**  
P.O. Box 3697  
Carbondale, IL 62902  
(618) 453-2281

**Sphinx Publishing**  
P.O. Box 2005  
Clearwater, FL 34617  
(813) 587-0999

TFH Publications  
1 TFH Plaza  
Union & 3rd Streets  
Neptune City, NJ 07753  
(908) 988-8400

Warren, Gorham & Lamont  
31 St. James Avenue, 4th Floor  
Boston, MA. 02116-4101  
(617) 423-2020

West Publishing Company  
610 Opperman Drive  
P.O. Box 64526  
St. Paul, MN. 55164-0526  
(800) 328-9424

Women's Law Project  
125 South 9th Street, Suite 401  
Philadelphia, PA., 19107  
(215) 928-9801

Woodward/White  
129 First Avenue, SW  
Aiken, SC, 29801  
(803) 648-0300

Yale University Press  
302 Temple St.  
New Haven, CT 06520  
(203) 432-0960

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