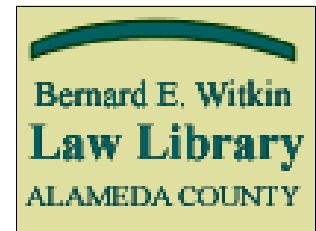


# News From... The Alameda County Law Library



125 12th Street Oakland, CA 94607 Phone: (510) 208-4800

Winter 2011

Volume 3, Issue 1

## New Training Room Available for Rent

### Points of Interest:

- **Borrowing Privileges:**  
ANY attorney can obtain a library borrowing card for a fee of \$5.00.
- **Collection Strengths:**  
ALL California practice guides published by Rutter Group, CEB, and Matthew Bender.
- **Free Electronic Services:** Westlaw, Lexis, Shepards, OnLaw, VerdictSearch, SmartRules & HeinOnline.
- **MCLE:** CDs & DVDs available for rent.
- **Conference Rooms:** available for rent.
- **Wi-Fi Hotspot!**

The Alameda County Law Library recently completed a significant renovation project at the Main Library, converting the former Copy Center into Conference Room 8, a large training room. Configured like a classroom, the room can seat 26 people. The room is equipped with a computer, an attached wireless projector, a wall-mounted screen, and a sound system, allowing speakers to incorporate Power-Point, audio, or video elements into their presentation. If you wish to use your own laptop with any of the equipment, the library can provide compatibility software.

The library uses Conference Room 8 for MCLE and public education programs, but the room can also be rented by groups and members of the public. It is an ideal space in which to conduct a training session, present a legal education program, or engage in trial preparation.

The fee for renting Conference Room 8 is set at \$40.00/hour. An additional \$30.00 equipment fee is charged to use the screen and projector.

For more information, or to make a reservation, call the library's Administration Office at (510) 272-6483.

To view information about other conference rooms available for rent at the Main and Branch locations, please visit our [Conference Room](#) page.

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*Conference Room #8*

## Wi-Fi Network Name Change

The Alameda County Law Library offers patrons access to free wireless Internet service at its Main and Branch locations. To reduce confusion, the library recently changed the name of its wireless network from “Internet” to “**LAW\_LIBRARY\_WIFI**.” No password is required to use the library’s wireless network.

As an added benefit, patrons in the library can also access two of the library’s subscription databases, [OnLaw](#) and [HeinOnline](#), directly from their laptops through the library’s wireless network.

The databases are accessed from the library’s [Legal Databases](#) page. The database descriptions include hyperlinks for connecting to OnLaw and HeinOnline through the library’s wireless network.

Screenshots from the [Legal Databases](#) page:

### OnLAW

Provides web access to all of CEB's print materials in such areas as Business Law, Civil Litigation, Criminal Law, Employment Law, Estate Planning, Evidence, Family Law, Real Property, ~~Torts, and Workmen's Compensation~~. Laptop access is available to CEB's materials and its downloadable forms in Word at <http://ceb.com/OnLAW/ipaccess/default.aspx> in both libraries via WiFi. OnLAW is available on several public computers at the Main Library and on a public computer at the Branch Library in Hayward.

### HeinOnline

HeinOnline provides the full text of more than 1,200 law reviews and journals beginning with volume one. The PDF format means that footnotes appear on the same page as the related text. Tables and illustrations appear exactly as in the print law review. HeinOnline is available in the library on most library computers and available over WiFi to your laptops at <http://www.heinonline.org/HOL/Welcome>



## SAVE THE DATE!

May 5, 2011



*13th Annual Bernard E. Witkin Institute:*  
**“Practical Ethical Issues for Lawyers in a Rapidly Changing Environment”**

Program Presented by Mark Tuft  
 Co-author, *California Practice Guide: Professional Responsibility*

Check-In and Complimentary Lunch: 11:30—12:00 p.m.  
 Program: 12:00– 1:00 p.m.

1 Hour Ethics Credit

**Registration Fees: \$25.00/Advance Registration; \$35.00/Day of Event**

*Complimentary lunch will be provided*

## Is It Checked Out?

Quickly determine if the book you need is on the shelf or checked-out of the library by reviewing its catalog record. An item's current circulation status is indicated at the bottom of its record, under the "Inventory" heading, and "Activity Type.Status" sub-heading. A book displaying the status of "On Loan" is currently checked-out of the library. A book that is "Ready for Loans" is on the shelf and available for check-out to registered borrowers.



### To check an item's circulation status:

- Begin by performing a search in the online catalog to retrieve the item record: <http://202.sydneyplus.com/netopac/Alameda/Portal.aspx>
- Next, open the item record and scroll down to the "Inventory" section.
- Under "Activity Type.Status," note if the book is "Ready for Loans" or "On Loan."

If the item is "Ready for Loans," you can place the book on a 48-hour hold by calling the Reference Desk at (510) 208-4832.

If the item is currently "On Loan" to another patron, you can place the book on reserve and the library will notify you via email when it becomes available.

Information about obtaining a borrowing card and checking out materials can be found in the library's "Circulation Policy": <http://www.acgov.org/law/refservices/circulation.htm>

### Screen Shot: Item "Ready for Loans"

BOOK-SERIAL	HOLDING SUMMARY			
<b>Title</b>	Genetics : a handbook for lawyers / by A. Jamie Cuticchia.			
<b>Publisher</b>	Chicago, Ill. : American Bar Association, 2010.			
<b>Year</b>	2010			
<b>Physical desc</b>	viii, 217 p. ; 23 cm.			
<b>Call number</b>	KF 9666.5 .C88 2010			
<b>Author</b>	Cuticchia, A. Jamie.			
<b>Subject</b>	DNA fingerprinting -- Law and legislation -- United States Forensic genetics -- United States Genetic screening -- Law and legislation -- United States			
<b>Abstract</b>	A brief history of genetics -- The human genome project -- Genetic variation -- DNA fingerprinting for paternity testing -- DNA forensics -- Genetics and health -- Genetic rights -- The unexpected -- How to talk to the jury about genetics.			
<b>Holdings</b>	Main collection; circulating title.			
<b>Notes</b>	Includes bibliographical references and index.			
<b>Inventory</b>				
Found 1 record(s)				
Volume Number	Volume/Issue	Copy Number	Call Number (LC)	Activity Type.Status
	2010 edition	1		Ready for Loans

### Screen Shot: Item "On Loan"

BOOK-SERIAL	HOLDING SUMMARY			
<b>Title</b>	Legal writing : getting it right and getting it written / Mary Barnard Ray and Jill J. Ramsfield.			
<b>Publisher</b>	St. Paul, MN : West, c2010.			
<b>Year</b>	2010			
<b>Edition</b>	5th ed.			
<b>Physical desc</b>	xliv, 484 p. : ill. ; 26 cm.			
<b>Call number</b>	KF 250 .R39 2010			
<b>Author</b>	Ray, Mary Barnard. Ramsfield, Jill J.			
<b>Subject</b>	Legal composition Law -- United States -- Language			
<b>Holdings</b>	Main collection; circulating title.			
<b>Inventory</b>				
Found 1 record(s)				
Volume Number	Volume/Issue	Copy Number	Call Number (LC)	Activity Type.Status
	5th edition	1		On Loan

## Follow Us on Facebook and Twitter!

The Alameda County Law Library has entered the realm of social media. “**Like**” us on [Facebook \(www.facebook.com/alamedacountylib\)](http://www.facebook.com/alamedacountylib) and “**Follow**” us on [Twitter \(http://twitter.com/AClawlibrary\)](http://twitter.com/AClawlibrary) to find out what’s happening at the law library, including information about upcoming educational programs, new books, Lawyers in the Library, and special events. We will also post links to useful legal websites and law-related news stories. Facebook followers can comment on our posts. Links to our Twitter and Facebook pages are featured on the library website ([www.acgov.org/law](http://www.acgov.org/law))

### Quick Links

- Conference Room Reservations
- [Library Facebook](#)
- Library Newsletter
- Library Reference Blog

### Connect with Us

- ✉ Join Law Library E-mail Subscription Lists
- ✉ [Library Twitter](#)
- ❓ Ask a Librarian

Screen Shot: Alameda County Law Library on Facebook



[Edit Page](#)

[Promote with an Ad](#)

[View Insights](#)

[Suggest to Friends](#)

#### Information

Location:  
125 Twelfth Street  
Oakland, CA, 94607

#### Insights

[See All](#)

64 Monthly Active Users

0 Daily New Likes

24 Daily Post Views

0 Daily Post Feedback

Insights are visible to page admins only.

65 People Like This

### Alameda County Law Library

Wall Info Events Photos Notes Links >> +

Share: [Status](#) [Photo](#) [Link](#) [Video](#)

Write something...

Alameda County Law Library + Others

Just Alameda County Law Library

Just Others

Spam

[Settings](#)



**Alameda County Law Library** New From VerdictSearch.com: Tobacco company slapped with \$152 mil verdict for distributing cigarettes to children. Read full case report: <http://www.verdictsearch.com/index.jsp?do=news&rep=recent&art=192229>

The VerdictSearch database contains searchable case reports summarizing jury verdicts, judgments, settlements, an...

[See More](#)



News

[www.verdictsearch.com](http://www.verdictsearch.com)

105 Impressions · 1.90% Feedback

[February 25 at 9:21am](#) · [Unlike](#) · [Comment](#) · [Share](#)

[You and Brittani Spaniel like this.](#)

Write a comment...



**Alameda County Law Library** California Criminal Sentencing Enhancements, CEB, 2010  
New Title! California Criminal Sentencing Enhancements, CEB, 2010

This is the first book to bring together the various elements of sentencing enhancements including the Three Strikes Law, Chelsea’s Law and the One Strike Law, and the STEP Act (Street Terrorism Enforc...

[See More](#)



## New Library Resource Guides Available

The library has finished converting its series of “Research Guides” into tri-fold “Resource Guides.” Each subject-specific “Resource Guide” lists relevant resources in the library, on the Internet, and in the community for individuals seeking legal information or assistance in a particular area of the law. The library currently maintains 22 “Resource Guides,” on topics ranging from “Child Custody and Family Support” to “Starting a Small Business.”

The complete list of “Resource Guides” can be viewed here: <http://www.acgov.org/law/refservices/researchguide.htm>

Hard copies of the “Resource Guides” are available at the Main and Branch libraries. The guides are meant to be printed double-sided, flip on short edge. To make the tri-fold brochure, fold the “Resources for...” page and the “Community Resources” page inward. When folded correctly, the “Resources for...” page becomes the front cover of the brochure, and the maps of the Main and Branch libraries appear on the back.

Bernard E. Witkin  
ALAMEDA COUNTY  
LAW LIBRARY

*Resources for...*

*Obtaining  
Social Security &  
Medicare Benefits*



[www.acgov.org/law](http://www.acgov.org/law)  
510-208-4800

Bernard E. Witkin  
ALAMEDA COUNTY  
LAW LIBRARY

*Resources for...*

*Collecting  
Judgments & Debts*



[www.acgov.org/law](http://www.acgov.org/law)  
Main: (510) 208-4800  
Branch: (510) 670-5230

Bernard E. Witkin  
ALAMEDA COUNTY  
LAW LIBRARY

*Resources for...*

*Professional  
Responsibility*



[www.acgov.org/law](http://www.acgov.org/law)  
Main: (510) 208-4800  
Branch: (510) 670-5230

## Popular Practice Guides Available on Library Databases



Many of the law library's most popular practice guides, formbooks, and encyclopedias are available electronically through Westlaw, LexisNexis, or OnLaw. These subscription databases can be used free of charge by library patrons at the Main and Branch libraries.

Westlaw and LexisNexis can be accessed on library terminals, and OnLaw can be accessed on library terminals and on patron laptops through the library's wireless network (LAW\_LIBRARY\_WIFI).

Here is a select list of secondary sources available through our subscription databases:

### LexisNexis

- ***California Forms of Pleading and Practice (Complete Series)***

**Delivery Options:** Print (.25/page), Email (free), Save to USB drive (free)

### Westlaw

- **Rutter Guides**
- ***West's California Code Forms with Practice Commentaries***
- ***Miller & Starr California Real Estate Forms***
- ***California Civil Practice Series***
- ***California Transactions Forms***
- ***California Jurisprudence***
- ***American Jurisprudence***
- ***American Law Reports***

**Delivery Options:** Print (.25/page), Save to USB drive (free)

### OnLaw

- **Continuing Education of the Bar Practice Guides (ALL)**
- **Continuing Education of the Bar Action Guides (ALL)**

**Delivery Options:** Print (.25/page), Save to USB drive (free); Patron Laptop

Visitors to the library can enter OnLaw from their laptops through this hyperlink:

<http://ceb.com/OnLAW/ipaccess/default.aspx>

You can view a complete list of the Continuing Education of the Bar titles currently available through OnLaw here: <http://www.ceb.com/info/onlaw.asp>

## Library Forgives Fines During Amnesty Campaign

Because law books are expensive to process and replace, library fines are steep. Library patrons who fail to return their books on time are fined \$1.00/day for each overdue item. As an additional penalty, the patron's borrowing privileges are automatically "suspended," and the patron is prevented from borrowing additional items from the library until the outstanding items are returned and the fines are paid. Fines accumulate quickly, and even if a long-overdue book is eventually returned, patrons often hesitate to pay their fines, and are thus barred from checking out additional titles.

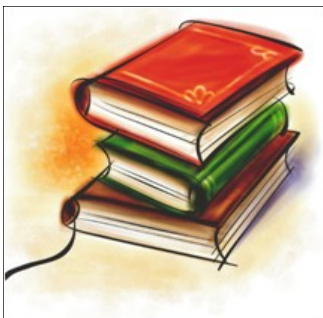
In an effort to recover overdue books and increase circulation, from Tuesday, January 18th to Friday, February 4th, the law library observed its first-ever fee amnesty period, forgiving the fines of patrons who returned overdue books to the library. Patrons who returned overdue materials also had their patron records cleared and their library borrowing privileges reinstated. At the patron's request, the library also forgave outstanding fines for overdue books that had been returned previously.

Library Director Mark Estes explains the motivation behind the amnesty initiative: "I want people to use the library; checking out books is one of the ways people can use the library. But, if you have outstanding fines or fees you can't check out books. So, during our amnesty period, return the overdue books, get the fines waived and checkout more books – just bring them back on time."

The fine amnesty program resulted in the recovery of several long-overdue books and returned many borrowers to good standing. The largest fine waived was \$300.00 for two law books. The smallest fine forgiven was \$1.00. A book checked out in 1991 by a non-lawyer was the book missing the longest.

Patrons who participated in the amnesty campaign were asked to submit inventive, creative excuses for why they failed to return their books on time. One patron reported that they had mistakenly returned their books to a nearby general public library. An attorney could not return her books because she was in Los Angeles for six months working on an urgent federal death penalty habeas evidentiary hearing. Another attorney loaned a book to a judge, who proceeded to share it with her colleagues.

Patrons can avoid incurring library fines by returning books on time. The current circulation period is two weeks with no renewals. Materials can be left at the Reference Desk at the Main and Branch locations. Secure book drops located outside both library buildings allow patrons to return books after-hours.



## **New Title: California Criminal Sentencing Enhancements**



Written by prosecutors, defenders, and judges, this new title from Continuing Education of the Bar provides concise, straightforward discussion of California sentencing law, with an emphasis on sentencing enhancements. Alameda County Public Defender Charles Denton is a contributor.

### ***Enhancements?***

Offering coverage of “every known criminal sentencing enhancement,” the book is divided into conduct and status enhancements, with chapters devoted to specific types of enhancements. The authors explain the court’s authority to impose, strike, or stay enhancements, pleading and proving enhancements, applying enhancements to multiple counts or victims, and applicable due process issues. Charts are included to help readers understand the elements of each enhancement and possible prison terms.

### **Conduct enhancements include:**

- Gangs
- Drugs
- DUI
- Sex Crimes

### **Status enhancements include:**

- Prior Similar Offenses
- Felony while released on bail or own recognizance

An essential reference for criminal law practitioners, *California Criminal Sentencing Enhancements* is available at the Reference Desk at the Main Library. The title can also be accessed in electronic format through the library’s OnLaw subscription.

## **New Title: Matthew Bender Practice Guide: California Unfair Competition & Business Torts**

This single volume loose-leaf practice guide provides concise, but in-depth, coverage for the most common actionable torts facing California businesses. The authors offer general strategies and considerations for pursuing or defending such actions. The remaining chapters are devoted to individual topics including unfair competition, false or misleading advertising, fraud, antitrust, intentional interference with economic relationships, misappropriation or conversion, trade secrets, commercial defamation, trademarks and cybersquatting, RICO, and breach of fiduciary duties. Each chapter includes checklists and strategies, discussion of elements and remedies, analysis of authorities, and sample forms.

While this guide might not be as comprehensive as other dedicated volumes such as the Rutter Group’s *Bus. & Prof. C. § 17200 Practice* or CEB’s *Trade Secrets Practice in California*, it’s an excellent resource for finding succinct answers and a starting point for one’s research.

The *Matthew Bender Practice Guide: California Unfair Competition & Business Torts* is available at the Main Library in Oakland.



## Zimmerman's Research Guides: An Online Encyclopedia for Legal Researchers

Supported by LexisNexis, Zimmerman's Research Guide is an online encyclopedia for legal researchers. Zimmerman's contains articles about researching hundreds of law-related topics, directing readers to relevant websites, databases, and print resources. If you're in over your head or just want to research an unfamiliar area of law, Zimmerman's can help you locate appropriate resources.

I remember just starting to work as a librarian in a law firm. With virtually no legal research training, I pretty much had to sink or swim. I wish Zimmerman had been around then before I embarrassed myself by thinking "blue sky law" had something to do with aviation and expressed my astonishment that inter-office "conference calls" were transcribed and could be researched. When I learned a bit about securities law, I realized that conference calls were where public companies report their earnings.

Besides defining and providing links to legal subject areas, Zimmerman's also includes those tangential sources that can be crucial to the practice of law. There are sources for things like calendars (including perpetual calendars), historical weather information, calculating distances, weights and measures, and historical stock quotes and interest rates. And, if you ever have time to take a vacation or must negotiate contracts involving foreign currencies, you can find sources for foreign currency exchange rates. You can even learn how to research someone's military service history by reviewing Zimmerman's entry on "Military Records."

Chances are, once you try Zimmerman's you will use it often when presented with a research question on an unfamiliar topic.

Zimmerman's Research Guide can be accessed at:  
<http://law.lexisnexis.com/infopro/zimmermans/>



## New Title!: Bankruptcy Appeals Manual: Winning Your Bankruptcy Appeal, 2d ed.

Despite a growing number of filings, the topic of bankruptcy appeals is given little discussion in most bankruptcy practice guides. Recognizing the need for a comprehensive reference work on bankruptcy appeals, the American Bankruptcy Institute published *Bankruptcy Appeals Manual: Winning Your Bankruptcy Appeal*, now in its second edition. This title guides readers through the process of bringing a bankruptcy appeal, covering critical issues related to standing, forum selection, standards of review, deadlines, required documents, brief writing, and oral argument. Helpful appendices contain applicable sections of the *Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure*, the *Federal Rules of Appellate Procedure*, form templates, notable decisions, and a complete appellate brief.

ABI's *Bankruptcy Appeals Manual*, Second Edition is available for check-out at the Main Library, and is currently being displayed on the "New Books" cart.



## **Overwhelmed By Information?**

Emails, text messages, telephone calls, wireless phone calls, wireless internet access, computer desktop access to the Internet, personal digital assistants, Twitter, Facebook, and every other information source. Are you drowning in a sea of information? That was one of the questions asked by the LexisNexis 2010 International Workplace Productivity Survey, 2010.



LexisNexis engaged WorldOne, an international market research agency, to explore the effects of information overload on white collar professionals. This study follows up on a similar effort in 2008 that showed an increasing problem with employees spending an inordinate amount of time wrestling with too much information. The 2010 study included 600 legal professionals and 1100 non-legal professionals from five countries.

Some of the results may be a bit surprising, or even alarming. For instance, a majority of legal professionals in three of the five markets surveyed believe the amount of information they must handle day to day has increased significantly since the economic downturn. Also, most legal professionals reported spending over half of each day receiving and managing information, as opposed to time spent analyzing and acting upon information. Many professionals reported nearing the breaking point where they will be unable to handle the flow of information.

Companies are already noticing the drag on performance, productivity and morale. Most legal professionals admitted deterioration in the quality of their work because of time pressures associated with information overload. Almost half of the legal professionals admitted some difficulty re-creating how they spent their time, ostensibly because of the effect of interruptions to deal with incoming information. Almost half of the respondents feel demoralized by the crush of information, and their efforts to manage that information intelligently.



Not surprisingly, legal professionals asked their employers for assistance with information overload. Mostly employers have acted in one way or another to help with the problem; for instance investing in faster computers and up to date technology, providing tools that work well together to help boost productivity, and ironically, by providing additional information for employees to manage. Respondents asked for computer software that matches their work style and processes, but it is uncertain at this point, whether software vendors can make the proper changes for that effort.

The full report is available free at:

<http://tinyurl.com/LexisInfo>

*Cont'd on back page....*

## Linking to the Alameda County Law Library

- Library Catalog: <http://202.sydneyplus.com/netopac/Alameda/Portal.aspx>
- Recently-Acquired Titles: <http://www.acgov.org/law/refservices/publications.htm>
- Circulation Policies: <http://www.acgov.org/law/refservices/circulation.htm>
- List of Library MCLE Materials: <http://www.acgov.org/law/documents/mcle.pdf>
- Legal Databases: <http://www.acgov.org/law/refservices/legaldata.htm>
- Research Guides/Bibliographies:  
<http://www.acgov.org/law/refservices/researchguide.htm>

### Library Hours

**Main Library (Oakland)**  
MWF 8:30 am - 6:00 pm  
TuTh 8:30 am - 9:00 pm  
Closed Weekends

**Branch Library (Hayward)**  
M-F 8:30 am - 5:00 pm  
Closed Weekends

### Upcoming Library Holidays

Thursday, March 31, 2011 Cesar Chavez Day  
Monday, May 30, 2011, Memorial Day



*Cont'd from page 11....*

Productivity experts have begun to weigh in on the subject, offering suggestions for how professionals can harness technology to manage information overload.

In *Take Back Your Life!: Using Microsoft Office Outlook 2007 to Get Organized and Stay Organized*, published by Microsoft Press, productivity consultants Sally McGhee and John Wittry show readers how they can use Microsoft Outlook 2007 to create a personalized information management system that integrates emails, daily tasks, and calendars. The platform's advanced organizational and search capabilities are examined in depth.

With an emphasis on controlling information, determining priorities, and managing interruptions, *Take Back Your Life!: Using Microsoft Office Outlook 2007 to Get Organized and Stay Organized* is a must-read for busy legal professionals. .

*Take Back Your Life!: Using Microsoft Office Outlook 2007 to Get Organized and Stay Organized* is available at the Main Library and can be checked out by registered borrowers.

