

Douglas County Law Library E-Mail Newsletter

Vol. 1, No. 1; January 2004

Inaugural Issue

Welcome to the inaugural issue of the Douglas County Law Library E-Mail Newsletter. It will be published monthly and be sent free to all who request a subscription. The Newsletter is intended to facilitate communication between the Law Library and its patrons. It will contain important announcements and information on new holdings and services of the Library. From time to time, the Newsletter will also include requests for feedback on proposed additions to the Library's collection and on new services that could be added if there is sufficient interest. It is intended to be short, concise, and to the point, and to be a valuable asset to our subscribers.

To Subscribe

Contact the Law Library by mail, e-mail, or telephone and request a free subscription to the Newsletter. Please indicate whether you want it sent as an attachment to an e-mail or as text in the body of an e-mail. The Library's mailing address is: Douglas County Law Library, Judicial and Law Enforcement Center, 111 East 11th Street, Lawrence, Kansas, 66044. The Library's e-mail address is: info@douglascolawlibrary.org. The Law Library's telephone number is: 785-838-2477.

Attorney Education Program

The Law Library is in the process of developing a program to provide educational opportunities to local attorneys who wish to improve their legal research skills. As envisioned, the program will offer short courses and training sessions designed to facilitate our patron's utilization of electronic and other resources available in the Law Library.

In order to better understand what our attorney patrons need in the way of legal research instruction, we are requesting feedback on this from our readers. We need to know what deficiencies you see in your own skills that hinder you from efficiently and effectively performing electronic research in general and electronic legal research in specific. We also need to know what days and times these education/training sessions should be scheduled to allow for you to be able to take advantage of them.

The first of these education sessions will be held this month and will cover basic internet research. The second will involve Lexis training and is tentatively scheduled for February. See the following two articles for details.

Internet Instruction Session, 1/16/04

The first offering in the Law Library's attorney education program is a session titled "Basic Internet Searching" and is scheduled for Friday, January 16th, 2004, at 12:00 noon in the Law Library. Please contact the Library to pre-register for this free session.

Lexis Training Session, 2/18/04

The second attorney education program will involve a representative from Lexis-Nexis who will provide some basic training on how to perform research using the Lexis legal database that is available on the Law Library's three public work stations. The free session is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, February 18th, 2004, at 12:00 noon in the Law Library. Updated information on the schedule will be in the February 2004 issue of this Newsletter.

Library Volunteer Program

The Law Library is in the process of organizing a Volunteer Program with the intent to provide a capable and dependable voluntary work force to assist with the day-to-day operations of the Law Library and its special projects. We hope that this work force will supplement the paid Library staff and allow the Library to provide the best possible service to local judges, attorneys, and the public.

We envision the Volunteer Program as being instrumental in linking a valuable community resource - the citizens - with a valuable community institution - the Douglas County Law Library - for the benefit, growth and enrichment of both.

As such, we are seeking individuals who are interested in participating in this program. If you or someone you know might be interested, please contact the Library for details.

Feedback

This Newsletter is intended to be useful to its readers. As in any new enterprise, feedback on how the Newsletter is fulfilling this goal is crucial to our achieving it. If our articles are helpful, let us know. If they are not, let us know. If you have suggestions on how to improve the Newsletter or suggestions on material to include, please let us know. Thank you.

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