

Douglas County Law Library

E-Mail Newsletter



Vol. 4, No. 7; July 2007

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Meeting and Event Announcements

Solo Firm Group Lunch. The next Solo Firm Group meeting will be held on Friday, July 20th at noon in the upstairs meeting room at Free State Brewery. If you have any questions, please contact Lauren Reinhold at 842-3222 or Jamie Harwood at 842-1581. The Solo Firm Group meets the third Friday of every month.

Wireless Access Upgraded

WiFi access for the Library and the District Court has recently been upgraded with the installation of new equipment in the JLE Center. In addition to better, more reliable reception on the first floor of the building, the new equipment now provides wireless access for the basement level.

Lexis Training Session Scheduled for August 17th

A free training session on performing legal research using the on-line Lexis legal database has been scheduled for Friday, August 17, 2007, from noon to 1:00 PM in the Law Library. Nanci Anderson of Lexis-Nexis will be the presenter.

More Legal Blogs

Access to [Fourth Amendment.com](http://FourthAmendment.com), a blog dedicated to Forth Amendment issues, has been added to the blog list accessible through the "Legal Blogs" icon on the Library's three patron workstations. The blog is produced by John Wesley Hall, Jr., author of *Search and Seizure, 3d*, published by Lexis Law.

If you have a request or a suggestion for legal blogs that should be added to the blog list that is available through the Library's workstations, please let us know.

Current Art Gallery Exhibitions

The July exhibits in the Douglas County Law Library Art Gallery and the Division IV Art Gallery are oils by Paul Penny.

The exhibits will run through the end of July. All of the pieces are for sale and may be purchased directly from the artist. Contact information for Mr. Penny is available in the Library.

The August 2007 Law Library exhibition will feature photography by Ann Dean. More information on the exhibit will be in the August E-Mail Newsletter.

For more information on past, current, and future Art Gallery exhibitions, or for more information on the Art Gallery, please consult the Art Gallery page on the Law Library's website.

If you would like to exhibit your art in our gallery, or know of local artists who would like to show their original art here, contact Bill Pendleton, the Library's Art Gallery Exhibitions Coordinator at 843-3536 ext. 19 or billpen@pendletonandsutton.com, or the Law Library at 838-2477 or by e-mail at info@douglascolawlibrary.org.

New Acquisitions

Newly acquired material added to the Law Library's holdings:

AALL Spectrum, v. 11:8 (June 2007).

Advance sheets of the Kansas Supreme Court and the Kansas Court of Appeals, v.283:2/37:3 (Apr. 2007).

Child Law Practice: Helping Lawyers Help Kids, v. 26:4 (June 2007).

Kansas Annual Survey, v. 18, 2007.

Kansas Court Rules and Procedure, Federal, 2007 Supplement.

Kansas Court Rules and Procedure, State, 2007 Supplement.

Did You Know?

Every other week, a bit of Law Library trivia is posted in the Law Library and on the Law Library's website. The previous month's "Did You Know" tidbits are then published here in the Newsletter. The hope is for this to improve communication between the Law Library and its users.

June's entries were:

- The Law Library's Board of Trustees meets quarterly at noon on the third Thursday of January, April, July, and October.
- The Douglas County Law Library Board of Trustees meetings are open to the public.

This Month In Legal History

Each month, an event from the history of law and jurisprudence of Douglas County that occurred during that month will be included in the Newsletter. Entries will also be posted on the Law Library's website for the month. Submissions from readers are welcome and encouraged.

This month's entry:

July 4, 1903 - Cornerstone laid for the new Douglas County, Kansas, courthouse.

Douglas County was one of the first counties organized in Kansas, and for many years, it was one of the most populace and wealthy counties in the state, but at the close of the 19th century, it still did not have a courthouse. Steps were taken to remedy this, and in 1899 voters approved levying additional real estate taxes to pay for a courthouse. Local banker J.B. Watkins offered to donate four lots for the construction of the courthouse. The lots were on the southeast corner of Massachusetts and Quincy (now 11th) Streets, diagonally across from the Watkins National Bank building. The County Commissioners accepted the deed to the land on March 29, and subsequently organized a building design competition. The Commissioners were unable to decide on one single architect, so they asked architects J.G. Haskell and Frederick C. Gunn to work together on the project as associates for a fee not to exceed 5% of the gross amount expended on construction. Haskell and Gunn began drafting detailed plans that would permit construction to begin early in 1903. Eight bids for the construction of the Douglas County Courthouse were received, and a contract was awarded to the firm of Cuthbert and Sargent of Topeka for \$62,181. Excavation for the building began on March 13, 1903, with actual construction starting about April 1. The cornerstone of the building was laid on July 4, 1903, during a ceremony conducted by the Masonic orders. Construction progressed, and in March of 1904, vaults were ordered from the Art Metal Construction Company. On August 4, Sol Marks, a local jewelry store owner, was awarded a contract to provide a Seth Thomas clock with four dials for installation in the courthouse tower. Construction was completed sometime in late 1904 and in January of 1905, county officers began to move in without fanfare. No evidence has been found that the Douglas County Courthouse was ever officially dedicated.

From: <http://www.douglas-county.com/aboutdc/courthouse.asp> - Douglas County Courthouse History - Douglas County, Kansas.

Law Library Volunteer Opportunities

The Library is looking for individuals to fill the following volunteer positions:

E-Mail Newsletter Editor.

Film Series Commentators

Patron Education and Training Assistant.

Publicity and Marketing Assistant.

Recycling Assistant

Reference Assistant.

Volunteer Coordinator.

Work Station Maintenance Assistant.

The Library also has opportunities for volunteers to create positions around their own interests and skills.

For more information and/or for position descriptions, contact the Library or visit the "Volunteers" page on the Law Library's website.

The Law Library Volunteer Program provides a capable and dependable voluntary work force to assist with the day-to-day operations of the Law Library and its special projects. This work force supplements the paid Library staff and allows the Library to provide the best possible service to local judges, attorneys, and the public.

The Volunteer Program is 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.

If you or someone you know might be interested in volunteering for one of them, or if you would like more information on our program and/or the positions we have open, please contact the Library or visit the "Volunteers" page on the Law Library's website.

Feedback

This Newsletter is intended to be useful to its readers. As in any 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, please let us know. Thank you.

Submitting Articles for Newsletter

The Editor encourages readers to submit articles for publication and/or make suggestions on material to be included in future issues of the Newsletter.

To Subscribe

Contact the Law Library by mail, e-mail, or telephone and request a free subscription to the Newsletter. It will be sent to you as a PDF attachment to 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.

Classified Ads

Free classified ads may be placed in the Newsletter by contacting the Law Library. The Editor reserves the right to refuse anything deemed inappropriate and to add restrictions as the need arises.

For Lease:

Office for lease (month-to-month or longer), 123 W. 8th Street, Suite 101. All utilities and broadband internet included. Available July 1. \$270 per month. Call Thomas Johnson, 785-760-4008.

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