

# Douglas County Law Library

## E-Mail Newsletter



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#### Meeting and Event Announcements

The Defense Bar meets the second Friday of the month. This month the meeting will be on the 14th.

#### Feedback Needed on Potential New Subscriptions

Several periodicals published by Quinlan, a division of Thomson West, are being evaluated with the possibility of their being subscribed to by the Law Library. Your assis-

tance is being requested to decide whether any of these publications should be added to the Library's collection.

The six titles under consideration are:

- [Arrest Law Bulletin](#)
- [Narcotics Law Bulletin](#)
- [National Bulletin on Domestic Violence Prevention](#)
- [School Law Bulletin](#)
- [Special Education Law Bulletin](#)
- [Student Discipline Law Bulletin](#)

By clicking on one of the above title links, you will gain access to a PDF of a sample issue of that title.

Please check out the sample issues and provide the Library with your feedback at [info@douglascolawlibrary.org](mailto:info@douglascolawlibrary.org) or 838-2477 on whether the Library should subscribe to one or more of them. Thank you.

#### Silent Auction Scheduled for June 7-15

The Law Library will be holding a silent auction in June to dispose of surplus legal and other material unneeded in the Library's collection. A list of material being offered

as of publication of this Newsletter appears at the end of this article.

The auction will run from noon on Monday, June 7, to noon on Tuesday, June 15. Items will go to the person placing the highest bid received in the Library by noon on the 15th. Those wishing to bid on items in the auction will need to fill out a bidding slip in the Library or submit their bid by telephone or e-mail. Bidding slips should be deposited in the Suggestions/Ballot box on the table next to the Library's copier/printer.

All bids must include the material being bid on, the bid amount, the date and time of the bid, the bidder's name, and the bidder's telephone number or e-mail address.

In the case of tie bids, the bid with the earliest date and time will be the successful one. Because of this, it is essential that all bids include the date and time the bid is placed.

The material being auctioned will be available for inspection in the Library during the auction. A supply of bidding slips will be provided. Winning bidders will be notified after the close of the auction and will need to pick up and pay for their material in the Library as soon as possible after the auction ends.

Law Library staff may add additional material to this list or may remove listed material from it prior to the beginning of the auction. A full list of available material will be posted in the Library and on the Library's website.

Material up for auction:

*Criminal Law, 2d ed.* Hornbook Series.

*Criminal Law, 3d ed.* Hornbook Series. (2 copies)

*Criminal Procedure, Student Edition.* Hornbook Series.

*Criminal Procedure, 3d ed.* Hornbook Series. (2 copies)

*Criminal Procedure, 4th ed.* Hornbook Series. (3 copies)

*Drunk Driving Defense, Sixth Edition, 2009 Cumulative Supplement*, including Forms CD.

Golf balls, Nike NDX Heat, 1 dozen.

*Kansas Court Rules and Procedure, Federal.*  
2006, including 2006 Supplement  
2009

*Kansas Court Rules and Procedure, State.*  
2009 (2 copies)  
2006

*Kansas Judicial Council probate forms, 2d.*

*Kansas Legal Directory.*  
2008/2009  
2006/2007

*Kansas Real Estate Practice & Procedure, 4th ed., v. I and v. II.*

*Lawyer's Guide to Kansas Evidence, 5th ed.*

*McCormick on Evidence, Vol. 1, 5th ed.*

*McCormick on Evidence, Vol. 2, 5th ed.*

*Modern Criminal Law: Cases, Comments, and Questions, 4th ed.* American Casebook Series.

[Motorola SB4200 SURFboard Cable Modem](#) - This modem was working fine when it was disconnected on April 16, 2010, to be replaced by a new modem compatible

with an upgraded Internet connection for the Law Library.

*Search and Seizure Checklists, 2008 ed.*

*West's Kansas Digest 2d, v. 35, including 2010 Cumulative Annual Pocket Part.*

*West's Kansas Digest 2d, v. 35A, including 2010 Cumulative Annual Pocket Part.*

*West's Kansas Digest 2d, v. 35B, including 2010 Cumulative Annual Pocket Part.*

### **Current Art Gallery Exhibition**

The June exhibits in the Douglas County Law Library Art Gallery and the Division IV Art Gallery are art glass by Daniel Kettle.

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

The July 2010 Law Library and Division IV exhibitions will be portraits by David Gant. More information on the exhibits will be in the July 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 the Law Library at 838-2477 or by e-mail at [info@douglascolawlibrary.org](mailto:info@douglascolawlibrary.org).

### **New Acquisitions**

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

AALL Spectrum, v.14:7 (May 2010).

Child Law Practice: Helping Lawyers Help Kids, v. 29:3 (May 2010).

Dial M for Murder, DVD.

Internet guide for the legal researcher newsletter, v. 5:3 (May/June 2010).

Kansas Family Law, v. 1, 2010 Supplement.

Kansas Family Law, v. 2, 2010 Supplement.

Kansas Judicial Council probate forms, 3d.

Law Library Journal, v. 102:2 (Spring 2010).

Search and Seizure Bulletin, v. 47:5 (May 2010).

West's Kansas Legislative Service, 2010:1.

West's Kansas Statutes Annotated: Interim Annotation Service, 2010, Directly Supplementing 2009 Pocket Parts.

### **Did You Know?**

Every month, 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" tidbit is then published here in the Newsletter. The hope is for this to improve communication between the Law Library and its users.

May's entry was:

- The Kansas Child Support and Bradley Parenting Time Calculators are available in the Library on Workstation 2.

### **This Month In Legal History**

June 10, 1882 - Three black men are lynched in Lawrence, Kansas.

David Bausman was born in Brookville, Ohio, in 1840. He had served in the Union Army during the Civil War, having been wounded in the Battle of Stones River in 1862. His wife had died in 1881, and her death had so affected him that he sold his property and moved to Globe, Kansas, to live with his cousin and start a new life. Globe was a small settlement in the southwest corner of Douglas County, approximately fifteen miles southwest of Lawrence. On May 31, 1882, the 42 year-old Bausman was in a saloon in Lawrence when he looked out and saw Margaret "Sis" Vinegar walking by. Sis Vinegar was 14 years old, and was the daughter of Pete Vinegar. Mr. Vinegar was head of a family that included seven children ranging in age from 11 to 25. He had been born into slavery in Kentucky in 1830. In 1852, his owner moved him to Arkansas, where Vinegar met and married his wife Eliza. After they were freed from slavery at the end of the Civil War, Vinegar and his wife moved to Lawrence. Eliza Vinegar died of smallpox in 1873. The Vinegars never had much money, and were seen as outcasts by the majority of the citizens in town. That was the situation with the Vinegar family on that day in June when Bausman signaled Sis Vinegar outside the saloon. She stopped when she heard the signal and waited for him to come out. They began to discuss meeting later that day, where Bausman would exchange money for sexual favors. This was not the first time such an arrangement had taken place, and the two agreed to meet under the bridge down by the river after dark. The Kansas River, also

known as the Kaw, formed the northern boundary of Lawrence, and was spanned by a bridge linking the town with the northern bank of the river. After leaving Bausman, Sis met with her boyfriend, a black man named George Robinson, and told him of her planned meeting. Robinson then met with his friend Isaac "Ike" King, also a black man. They devised a plan to rob Bausman while he was occupied with Sis Vinegar. They shared their plans with several friends including four neighborhood children. After dark that evening, Bausman and Sis Vinegar met under the bridge. He took his wallet out and laid it on the ground, and then proceeded with their liaison. Robinson and King snuck up on the couple. They were armed with a crowbar, a hickory stick, and a hammer they had taken from the Vinegar home. They intended to knock Bausman out, grab his wallet, and run off. One of the men hit Bausman, but instead of losing consciousness, he began to put up a struggle. The attackers began to beat him and he continued to fight back. Sis pleaded for them just to take the money and run, but the two did not listen. They continued to beat Bausman until he was dead. They took the money and threw the body into the river. The four children whom the killers had bragged to earlier were down by the riverbank and had seen everything. Five days later, on June 5th, three boys were going down to the river to fish. The boys were about to cast in their lines when one of them saw something in the water near the shore. It was a human hand sticking out of the water. The three ran to some nearby fishermen, one of whom stayed with the boys while the other went to the office of the *Lawrence Journal*, a local newspaper, to report the incident. The coroner was out of town, so Dr. Albert Fuller was called in his place. He supervised the removal of the body from the river, which was then taken to a local mortuary. The body was that of a white male, and it had numerous bruises and contusions

and one finger nearly severed. He had suffered a severe blow to the back of the head and there were many gashes and cuts on his face and hands. It was assumed that he was the victim of murder. The body's clothing was searched for identification but none was found. Eventually, Amos Bausman, David Bausman's cousin, came to town, viewed the body, and identified it as his cousin, David Bausman. The town was soon in an uproar. An inquest was held the day after the body was recovered. A number of people testified, including several of the children who had witnessed the murder. Robinson and King were identified as the men who had committed the act, and Sis Vinegar was implicated in luring Bausman down to the river and trying to bribe some of the witnesses into silence. During the inquest, it was brought out that after the murder, the whole group including Sis, Robinson, King, and many of the witnesses had gone to Pete Vinegar's house, where Robinson and King had spent the night. The verdict of the inquest was that Sis had enticed David Bausman down to the river and that Robinson and King had murdered him there. Sis was put into jail. There was information that Robinson had fled to Independence, Missouri, so Sheriff Henry B. Asher and his two brothers left the next day to find him. They were able to locate and arrest him, bringing him back to town. When they arrived, they found a large crowd gathered around the jail. With Robinson locked up, the posse went in search of King. There was word that he was hiding in the Kaw Bottoms near Eudora, Kansas, a few miles east of Lawrence. An article appeared in the *Lawrence Journal* reporting that there was loud talk in the town of lynching all the people responsible for Bausman's death. Later that day, the posse found King, and he was arrested and brought back to the jail. He was hurried through a large angry crowd and put in a cell, joining Robinson, Sis Vinegar, and Pete Vinegar, who, although the coroner's jury had not in-

dicted him, had also been arrested. A hearing was held on June 8th, presided over by the Honorable Justice Neill. The crammed courtroom heard testimony from all those involved, including the accused. Justice Neill ordered that Sis Vinegar, Robinson, and King be held in custody without bail on charges of robbery and first-degree murder. Pete Vinegar was not charged with the robbery and murder, but nevertheless remained in jail. By late in the evening of Friday, June 9th, trouble was brewing. Although there was a death penalty in Kansas, the Governor had recently been commuting all death sentences to life in prison. There was growing sentiment in town that because of this, a trial would not produce justice. Several reporters from the *Lawrence Journal* were on the street and heard talk of lynching. They met with the Sheriff and informed him of what they were hearing. They later reported that he did not think their concerns were valid. As time went on, the crowd in the street was becoming an angry mob. Many in the mob made efforts to hide their identity, wrapping scarves around their heads or smearing mud or ashes on their faces. The armed mob descended on the jail between 1:00 and 1:30 the morning of the 10th, bringing along four stout ropes. The Sheriff, his Undersheriff, and the jailer tried to defend the jail but were quickly overcome by the mob that broke into the jail. The mob decided not to take Sis Vinegar, leaving her crying in the cell, but took out Robinson, King, and Pete Vinegar. The three were dragged down to the Kaw River Bridge. As they went, each had a noose put around his neck. They were dragged to the center span of the bridge and the free ends of the ropes were tied to the bridge. Robinson was the first to be put over the railing, dropped to the end of the rope, and died instantly. Pete Vinegar protested that he was innocent, but was put over the railing anyway, also dropping to the end of his rope. When they came for King, he said, "Boys, let me down easy."

In response, the mob slowly lowered him over the railing. Because he did not drop hard to the end of the rope as the other two men had, he did not die immediately, but instead strangled to death while hanging from the rope. The mob soon dispersed, leaving the men hanging there until the next day, when they were cut down and laid out in the jail yard. The morning after the lynchings, Richard Morris, the Douglas County coroner, convened an inquest. Twenty-six men testified at the inquest. Many of them identified men by name as having been in the lynch mob, but the inquest ended without anyone being indicted for the crimes. Time passed, and no one was ever brought to trial for the lynchings. The black citizens of Douglas County petitioned the legislature not to reappoint Sheriff Asher because he failed to protect Pete Vinegar, an innocent man, but Asher was reappointed anyway. Sis Vinegar was tried and convicted of the murder of Bausman. Her sentence was commuted to life in prison by the governor and she was sent to Lansing State Prison, where she contracted tuberculosis. John Waller, a black lawyer in Lawrence, worked to get her pardoned, arguing that she had begged Robinson and King not to kill Bausman. The prison warden responded to a letter from Waller that Sis was very bad off, and was being well cared for where she was. He wrote that unless she had friends on the outside that could and would care for her, she would be better off staying in prison. Waller reluctantly agreed, and so Sis Vinegar died in prison soon after at the age of 21. The irony of this whole incident is that Lawrence was founded in 1854 as a Free-State town, in opposition to Kansas being admitted to the Union as a slave state. It went through many trials in its early years because of its adherence to the anti-slavery cause. Because of this, to many during and after the war it was seen as a haven for black people seeking freedom and a

better life. As the lynchings of 1882 show, that was not necessarily the truth.

From: Boys, Let Me Down Easy, by Cindy Schott and Kathy Schott Gates, 2005.

Each month, an event from "This Month In Legal History," the history of law and jurisprudence of Douglas County that occurred during that month, is included in the Newsletter. The current entry is also posted for the month on the Law Library's website. Entries from past months are archived on the website. Submissions from readers are welcome and encouraged.

### **Law Library Volunteer Opportunities**

The Law Library Volunteer Program provides a capable and dependable volunteer work force to assist with the day-to-day operations of the Law Library and with its special projects. This work force supplements the paid Library staff and allows the Library to provide the best possible service to attorneys, local judges, 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 11<sup>th</sup> Street, Lawrence, Kansas, 66044. The Library's e-mail address is: [info@douglascolawlibrary.org](mailto: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.

No Ads this Month.

#### **Douglas County Law Library E-Mail Newsletter**

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