

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 is on the 11th.

On-Line Court Records Request Form

There is now an online form to submit requests for Douglas County Court records. The form is on the County's website at:

http://www.douglas-county.com/online_services/dc/dcl/dcl_courtrecordsrequest.aspx.

Electronic Tickets Coming to FullCourt

As reported in the current issue of *The Docket*, *The employee newsletter of the Douglas County District Court*, the Kansas Highway Patrol is adopting the DigiTicket electronic traffic ticket processing system.

Highway Patrol officers will use a mobile computer and printer when citing a driver. They will scan the driver's license bar code and automatically record the license information (name, address, physical characteristics), use drop-down menus to choose the violation being cited, and print a paper ticket for the driver. Later, officers will upload the information to a Web-based system.

After learning that the patrol is expected to begin using the system starting January 1, 2012, Court Administrator Linda Koester-Vogelsang signed up Douglas County District Court to purchase the import/export software needed to take advantage of the system.

Court staff will download the information into FullCourt using a link created especially

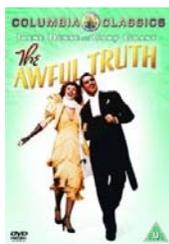
for FullCourt. This will automatically create a case with all the pertinent information.

Information on how officials will handle tickets that must be reviewed by the district attorney's office for the possible filing of misdemeanor charges has yet to be released.

Donating Leftover Halloween Candy

If your little ghosts and goblins were too successful in their candy collecting, or if you bought more candy than you were able to give out and have a surplus just sitting there tempting you, why not bring it into the Law Library for the communal candy bowl? Bring any wrapped candy into the Library and it will be shared by all.

Reels of Justice Film Series - *The Awful Truth*



The Law Library's "Reels of Justice Film Series" continues at 2:00 PM, Sunday, November 20th, with a screening of [The Awful Truth](#). The film stars Cary Grant, Irene Dunne, and Ralph Bellamy.

Unfounded suspicions lead a married couple (Cary Grant and Irene Dunne) to begin divorce proceedings, whereupon they start undermining each other's attempts to find new romance. This screwball comedy was nominated for six Academy Awards in 1938, with Leo McCarey winning the Best Director Oscar.

The program will include an appearance by a local attorney who will give commentary on the film and on how the film portrays the justice system.

The screening will be in the Lawrence Public Library Auditorium. All screenings in the film series are free and open to the public.

The next film in the "Reels of Justice Film Series" will be [Ghosts of Mississippi](#), scheduled for screening in February 2012.

Current Art Gallery Exhibition

The October/November exhibitions in the Douglas County Law Library Art Gallery and the Division IV Art Gallery are watercolors by Shannon Cloud.

The exhibitions will run through the end of November. Most of the pieces are for sale and may be purchased directly from the artist. Contact information for Ms. Cloud is available in the Library.

The December 2011/January 2012 Law Library and Division IV exhibitions are scheduled to be textiles by Linda Frost. More information on these exhibitions will be in the December 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.

New Acquisitions

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

AALL Membership Directory, 2011/2012.

AALL Spectrum, v. 16:1 (Sept./Oct. 2011).

Kansas Code for Care of Children, Revised 2011.

Kansas Code of Civil Procedure Annotated, 4th, 2003, [v. 1-v. 3], 2011-2012 Pocket Parts.

Kansas Reports, v. 287.

Model Witness Examinations, 3rd ed., by Paul Mark Sandler and James K. Archibald.

Search and Seizure Bulletin, v. 48:9 (Sept. 2011).

West's Kansas Legislative Service, 2011:6.

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.

October's entry was:

The Law Library has a separate collection of superseded volumes of the Kansas Statutes Annotated, providing the ability to research statutes that have been repealed or older versions of statutes that have been revised.

This Month In Legal History

November 7, 1856 - Captain John Donaldson frees one of his soldiers from a courtroom in LeCompton, Kansas Territory.

John Donaldson was born in Kentucky in 1830, and came to Kansas Territory after having been appointed Auditor of Public Accounts for the Territory by Congress on August 30, 1854. He was proslavery, and supported Kansas being admitted to the Union as a state that allowed slavery. When he actually became a resident of the Territory is unclear, but he is reported to have been living in Jackson County, Missouri, at

the time of the election for the first Territorial Legislature, held March 30, 1855. Despite not actually being a resident, Donaldson ran for a seat on the Territorial Council (Senate) for Riley County. On election day, thousands of proslavery Missouri residents, possibly including Donaldson, crossed into Kansas, took over polling stations, voted, in many cases refused to let Free-State men vote, and then went back home to Missouri. There were three times as many votes cast that day as there were eligible voters in Kansas. Only two Free-State candidates won seats. They were Martin F. Conway, who defeated Donaldson for a seat on the Council, and Samuel D. Houston, who won a seat in the House. Because of the way the election was carried out, Free-State men cried foul. Territorial Governor Andrew H. Reeder called for a new election, but only in those districts where formal complaints had been filed. Proslavery men boycotted the election that was held on May 22nd, so as a result, eight additional Free-State men were elected to the legislature. A legislative committee was appointed to evaluate the credentials of those elected, and since it was dominated by proslavery men, it refused to accept any of the Free-State men elected in May, and instead accepted all the proslavery men who had won the balloting in the election on March 30th. Martin Conway resigned from the legislature on July 3rd, in protest of this blatant violation of a free election, and the next day, July 4th, John Donaldson was appointed to Conway's seat. Houston resigned from his seat on July 23rd, leaving the Kansas Territorial Legislature entirely proslavery. In addition to his seat on the Council, Donaldson was a captain in the Kansas Militia, which operated as the enforcement arm of the "Bogus Legislature," so called by Free-State men because of the way it had been formed. On May 15, 1856, two Free-State men were brought into Donaldson's camp. One, a Mr. Mitchell, was carrying the

mail from Lawrence, Kansas Territory, the headquarters of the Free-State movement. Donaldson allowed his men to take the mail from Mitchell. The two men were treated badly during their captivity, which ended on the 22nd when orders came down from headquarters to release the prisoners. On November 7, 1856, Donaldson led six armed men under his command into the courtroom of Justice of the Peace R.R. Nelson in Le-compton, Kansas, then the capital of the Territory. The Captain was there to rescue one of his men named Fisher, who was undergoing a hearing in Judge Nelson's court on the charge of larceny. Donaldson took Fisher away, dismissing the court, "in a manner that would have done credit to Oliver Cromwell." An appeal was made to Colonel Philip St. George Cooke, commander of the United States Dragoons stationed near Leocompton, to put Donaldson under arrest, which he did. On November 16th, Lieutenant William Franklin delivered to Donaldson a copy of the charges and specifications against him. Donaldson called on the Governor, and, "upon his making the proper explanation and apology, the charge was dismissed, Captain Donaldson reinstated in his command, and the matter was left to the action of the civil authorities." The civil authorities apparently took no action. Instead of serving out his full four-year term as Auditor of Public Accounts, Donaldson resigned from the office on February 20, 1857, apparently giving up on Kansas, and left the Territory.

[John Donaldson](#), KansasBogusLegislature.org website; [Free State Members](#), KansasBogusLegislature.org website; Geary and Kansas: Governor Geary's Administration in Kansas with a complete history of the Territory until July 1857..., by John H. Gihon, Charles C. Rhodes, Philadelphia, 1857, [Chapter XXXII](#); Transactions of the Kansas State Historical Society, embracing the Fifth and Sixth Biennial Reports, 1886-1888, together with...ending March 10, 1857, Vol. IV, Kansas Publishing House, Topeka, 1890, [p. 638](#); and, [John Donaldson](#), Kansas Auditors, Kansas State Historical Society website.

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 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.

No Ads this Month.

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Editor: Kerry Altenbernd

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The Douglas County Law Library,
Judicial and Law Enforcement Center,
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Lawrence, Kansas 66044

Phone: 785-838-2477

Fax: 785-838-2455

E-mail: info@douglascolawlibrary.org

Website: <http://www.douglascolawlibrary.org>