

# Douglas County Law Library E-Mail Newsletter



Vol. 7, No. 10; October 2010

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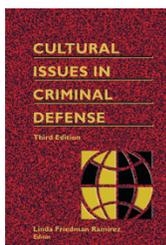
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### Meeting and Event Announcements

The Defense Bar meets the second Friday of the month. This month the meeting will be on the 8th.

### Spotlight on Library Resources



The resource in the spotlight this month is *Cultural Issues in Criminal Defense, Third Edition*, edited by Linda Friedman Ramirez and published by Juris Publishing,

Inc., which has recently been acquired by the Law Library.

As noted in the volume, "This edition is dedicated to those conscientious lawyers who, often with insufficient resources and confronting negative stereotypes, fight to uphold the rights of their clients who are foreign born or from diverse cultures--the most complex of all criminal cases."

Lori Seppi of the Utah Bar Journal says it "provides ideas, angles, and insights that will greatly assist any criminal attorney...who faces the daunting task of guiding a person from another culture, nationality, or ethnic background through the American legal system."

Ms. Ramirez currently practices international, federal, and state criminal defense in St. Petersburg, Florida. Her practice has emphasized the representation of foreign nationals in civil, criminal, and administrative matters since 1981. She has compiled articles from thirty authors into this resource, with chapters ranging from "Consular Resources and Litigation Strategies," by Mark Warren, to "Using Mitigation Videos to Bridge the Cultural Gap at Sentencing," by Doug Passon.

The volume is shelved in the "General Legal" section in the bookcase along the south wall of the Library under the windows.

Spotlight on Library Resources is an occasional feature intended to make readers aware of a resource available in the Library with which they may not be familiar.

### **Reels of Justice Film Series**

The next screening in the Library's free Reels of Justice Film Series will be *The Life and Times of Judge Roy Bean*, starring Paul Newman. It will be shown at 2:00 PM, Sunday, November 21st in the Lawrence Public Library Auditorium. Mark your calendars.

### **Current Art Gallery Exhibition**

The October and November exhibits in the Douglas County Law Library Art Gallery and the Division IV Art Gallery are paintings by Jack Collins.

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

The December 2010 Law Library and Division IV exhibitions are open for scheduling. More information on the exhibits 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](mailto:info@douglascolawlibrary.org).

### **New Acquisitions**

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

Child Law Practice: Helping Lawyers Help Kids, v. 29:7 (Sept. 2010).

Cultural Issues in Criminal Defense, Third edition, Linda Friedman Ramirez, editor.

Search and Seizure Bulletin, v. 47:9 (Sept. 2010).

### **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.

September's entry was:

- In addition to being available in hard copy, the title catalog of the Law Library's holdings can be found on the Library's website and is accessible through an icon on the desktop of the Library's workstations.

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

October 16, 1909 - Bank robber Earl Ross Bullock becomes a murderer.

On the night of October 8, 1909, someone broke out the front window of Albert Noller's second-hand store and pawnshop on



Massachusetts Street in Lawrence, Kansas, and stole two revolvers. Several days later, police received information that Earl Ross Bullock, known as Ross to his intimates, had been seen showing off two revolvers that he said had been given to him. His age was variously reported as 17 or 18 years old, and he was described as "a rather good looking young man." Police became suspicious that Bullock was the culprit in the Noller theft and began looking for him. T. Wilson Pringle, a 41 year-old Lawrence police officer, visited the home of Ed Dockson at 1201 Haskell Avenue, where Bullock was known to have been rooming at the time, to see if he was there. Pringle was unsuccessful. Douglas County, Kansas, Deputy Sheriff E.F. Woods got word that Bullock might be going to Eudora, Kansas, a small town approximately seven miles southeast of Lawrence, and took a train there on the afternoon of October 11, 1909. Deputy Woods walked around town trying to pick up information on Bullock. About 4:00 pm, he stepped into the State Bank of Eudora to see a friend of his, the bank's Cashier, Edward A. Wilson. To Woods' surprise, Bullock was sitting in a chair in the bank. He told the young man that he was there to arrest him for robbing the store in Lawrence. Bullock said that there must have been some mistake, and that his boss, who was expected to be in the bank that afternoon, would be able to clear things up. Woods said that he would wait a while, and the three men, Woods, Wilson, and Bullock sat around and chatted. As the time for the train back to Lawrence approached, Woods decided not to wait any longer and moved to take Bullock into custody. He stood up, and when he looked at Bullock,

the young man was pointing two revolvers at him. Bullock forced the Deputy and the Cashier into the bank vault at gunpoint and locked them in. He picked up all the loose cash he could find, at least \$800 worth, and left, closing the front door behind him. He went to the station and took the train back to Lawrence. Woods and Wilson yelled for help for about two hours before they were heard and someone was summoned to open the vault door. Upon leaving the confines of the vault, the Deputy realized that Bullock had taken money, and telephoned to the Sheriff's Office in Lawrence with a report on the bank robbery. The news from Eudora was quickly followed by more serious news from Haskell Avenue. When Bullock had arrived back in Lawrence, he called a taxi, and had the driver take him to a local store to buy some clothes. He then had the driver take him to Ed Dockson's house. Officer Pringle, who had earlier come to the house at 1201 Haskell Avenue looking for Bullock, was visiting next door, accompanied by his wife and three grown children. Pringle, who was off duty at the time, saw the taxi pull up and Bullock get out. Bullock went inside the house and Pringle went up to the taxi driver and asked him if he knew who the boy was that had just gotten out of the cab. When the driver said, "No," Pringle was quoted as saying "He is the fellow I have been looking for." Pringle, who had not heard of the bank robbery in Eudora and was intending to question Bullock about the store robbery, headed for the back door. Someone was heard to yell, "Run! Run!" Bullock started for the back door, saw Pringle, and ran back through the house towards the front. Pringle saw this and ran around to the front of the house. When Pringle rounded the corner, Bullock was on the front porch. He immediately fired a revolver at Pringle, hitting him in the neck, the bullet lodging near the spinal cord. He collapsed, being seriously wounded. Horrified neighbors ran over to the fallen officer. The

taxi driver reported that Bullock stood and looked at the fallen man for nearly half a minute, and then walked over to the cab. He tossed the driver a dollar, saying, "Here's your pay cabby," and made his unhurried get-away through a nearby pasture. Officer Pringle was conscious and able to talk. He said, "I thought he was just a kid. He took a drop on me and fired before I knew what he was about. He was just a kid." Officer Pringle was eventually taken by ambulance in grave condition to the hospital that Dr. Charles J. Simmons ran at 805 Ohio Street in Lawrence. Police officers notified farmers in the area to be on the lookout for Bullock, to watch every road, and to shoot him on sight. The next day, October 12th, a man who said he knew Bullock from having worked with him, told police that he saw the fugitive come out of a cornfield and walk in the direction of the Santa Fe Railroad line that went to Ottawa, Kansas. On the morning of the 13th, a report came in that Willie McKay, a 15 year-old friend of Bullock's, had been seen carrying food into a cornfield. When questioned, McKay denied having done so. Numerous other possible sightings were reported. City Marshall Sidney E. Herd, Deputy Woods, and other officers were kept busy checking leads that went nowhere. There was speculation that Bullock saw himself as a desperado, and had been influenced to commit these crimes by reading too many "Diamond Dick" stories in dime novels, the popular genre that many at the time believed to be destroying the morals of the county's youth. It was discovered that Bullock had previously been arrested in Kansas City for a petty crime, and had walked away from his parole. People began talking about the possibility that Bullock had been responsible for the burglary of Weavers Dry Goods Store in Lawrence a month earlier. The October 14, 1909, issue of the *Lawrence Daily World* reported that a young man fitting the description of Earl Bullock had been arrested in Guthrie, Oklahoma, and

that officers there believed they had the man being sought in Douglas County. Douglas County Sheriff William H. Banning was reported as awaiting more word with great interest, but did not think that they had the right man. News reported in the newspaper the following day confirmed the Sheriff's doubts, as the man arrested in Oklahoma was determined not to be Bullock. More reports of local sightings had come in, including one that morning. Bullocks' father visited Lawrence, and was "completely broken up over his son's deeds and said he could give no explanation whatever as to what sent him to the bad." After learning the details of the crimes, he left town brokenhearted and returned to Sedalia, Missouri, where he had work picking apples. Bullock's mother was reported to have trouble thinking that her boy was a murderer. She blamed his actions on a local girl named Amie Blankenship, who when questioned, admitted that she and Bullock had been sweethearts, and that she had turned down a marriage proposal from him in mid July, but that there was nothing in their relationship that would excite him to life as a bandit. Young men who had known him when he was a boy reported that Bullock would take an air rifle and shoot neighborhood children with it. Lawrence Mayor Sam Bishop visited Officer Pringle in the hospital, and found him worried about the future of his family. The Mayor promised that the City would see to it that his wife and children were "properly taken care of." On October 16th, Bullock became a murderer when Officer Pringle died of his wounds. The City Council voted to give the officer's family his full salary for the month, and to pay all the hospital and funeral expenses. A collection was being taken up in the community for the Pringle family. The newspaper reported that rewards were being set up for the capture of the fugitive. Officer Pringle was buried on Sunday the 17th. On the 18th, a corn knife was found in a field east of town bearing the

inscription, "I am the desperado--Ross Bullock." By the 19th, a reward of \$650 was being offered for the capture of the fugitive. The month of October ended with Bullock still at large and authorities having no solid information on his whereabouts.

*Be sure to check out next month's This Month In Legal History column for the exciting conclusion to this story.*

From: Lawrence Daily World, v. 18, issue 200 (October 12, 1909), issue 201 (October 13, 1909), issue 202 (October 14, 1909), issue 203 (October 15, 1909), issue 204 (October 16, 1909), issue 205 (October 18, 1909), and issue 206 (October 19, 1909), Lawrence, Kansas; [Lawrence Historic Resources Commission, Item No. 3: L-08-01-07, Staff Report](#); and the United States Census, 1910, Douglas County, Kansas.

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.

## For Rent.

Available December 1st; ADA accessible office space in a professional office building located at 1031 Vermont (one block from Massachusetts Street and two blocks from the Court House). All utilities, general maintenance, and taxes are included in the rent. Includes use of fully equipped "Break Room" (refrigerator, icemaker, microwave, coffee machine, sink, etc.). Building locked at night, non-public bathrooms, security cameras and a pleasant professional ambience.

Suite Option 1: Office (12.5' x 15.25') with reception area (8.25' x 12') approximately 290 square feet. Rent \$394.00 per month with lease.

Suite Option 2: Large single room office (20'x20') with independent climate controls. Rent \$530.00 per month with 1-year lease.

For more information or a showing, please call 843-3536, ext 214, or by e-mail at [info@pendletonandsutton.com](mailto:info@pendletonandsutton.com).

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

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