



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE LAW LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF ST. LOUIS

184th ANNUAL REPORT

DECEMBER 8, 2022



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MISSION STATEMENT OF THE LAW LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF ST. LOUIS

It is the mission of the Law Library Association of St. Louis to operate a Law Library in the Civil Courts Building to provide legal research materials, education, support services and facilities to the bench, bar, its members and the public. The Law Library provides support to other law libraries in the region by acting as a repository of legal materials not otherwise available or accessible. The Law Library strives to acquire, develop and maintain a collection of legal research materials and to offer educational services to meet the needs of our diverse patron community.

VISION AND VALUES STATEMENT FOR THE LAW LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF ST. LOUIS

LAW LIBRARY ASSOCIATION VISION STATEMENT:

The Law Library Association of St. Louis—where members of the bench, bar and public come to be educated in the law and law-related topics.

LAW LIBRARY ASSOCIATION VALUES STATEMENT:

Excellence: Maintain the highest level of legal resources, print and digital

Expertise: Provide the highest level of service to all users

Innovation: We continue to explore new ways of doing things better

Community: Provide opportunities for people to meet, learn and network to exchange ideas

Collaboration: Work with community partners to accomplish goals based on common missions

2022 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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REMARKS FROM THE LIBRARY DIRECTOR

As we close out the year 2022, the Law Library had some major accomplishments and some challenges as well. We continue to offer very popular programming, both for attorneys and the general public. Our outreach to the general community continues.

Some accomplishments of 2022 include:

- Our Legally Reading book discussion group continues to be popular and attract new members. Holding these discussions remotely had led to participation by those from all corners of the St. Louis region. The year 2022-23 marks the fifth year of this collaboration with Saint Louis Public Library.
- The Library Director gave a virtual presentation on legal research for the non-lawyer, in collaboration with Saint Louis County Library. Well over 100 people viewed the program, either in real time or through a recording. This initiative was highlighted in an article by American Association of Law Libraries President Diane Rodriguez that appeared in the January 2022 edition of the ABA Human Rights magazine.
- There are now 12 interview highlights of retired judges and jurists up on the Judicial Legacy Page of the library website. Additional donors have been secured for this important project.
- Our first ever online library catalog went live in March of 2022. This has streamlined the process for our patrons of seeing what items are in our collection.
- Virtual CLEs continue to be popular. The library now has CLE attendees and members who reside outside the St. Louis area who appreciate the opportunity to attend educational programs from all parts of and outside the state of Missouri.
- The library has put a programming focus on the Dred Scott case and other Freedom Suit cases in collaboration with the Freedom Suits Memorial Project and the June 2022 unveiling of the Freedom Suits Memorial Sculpture outside our courthouse.

Nonetheless, the library also is dealing with some funding challenges at this time. With filing fee donations and room rentals down due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the library is focused on diversifying its funding streams. The library appreciates the opportunity to work with the fundraising organization Let's Build Hope to help us identify additional donors, grant opportunities and other sources of fundraising.

I look forward to continuing to serve the Law Library Association. We successfully are meeting the challenges and opportunities of this time and providing high level services and resources to members of the Bench, Bar and general public.

Gail Wechsler, JD, MLS Library Director

SOME 2022 TESTIMONIALS ABOUT THE LIBRARY—

General Testimonials from CLE Attendees:

“As usual the (February) program was very informative and useful. I appreciate you and the staff for the work you do.”

“I love these CLEs and benefit from them each month.”

“The CLE's you've hosted this past year were fantastic. Thank you for the time and effort to put them together.”

“Your CLE program is outstanding.”

Testimonials from our book discussion group:

“I so enjoy the books that are selected and the robust discussions.”

“Congratulations to you (Gail) and Lisa for guiding us. Such great discussions. Thank you and Lisa for all your support and guidance.”

NEW MEMBERS IN FY 2021-22 (total new members) 15

NAME	DATE	NEW or REINSTATEMENT
Scott Schatzman	11/04/21	New
Niemeyer Grebel Kruse (firm)	12/14/21	Reinstatement
Alexandra Johnson	02/17/22	New
Joan Swartz	03/03/22	New
David Hares	03/21/22	New
Paul Denk	04/04/22	New
Brian Stachowski	05/12/22	New
James Marks	06/07/22	New
Esther Volkan	09/07/22	New
Bettye Battle-Turner	09/22/22	New
Christopher Dentman	09/27/22	New
Kathleen Powers	09/28/22	New

TOTAL NUMBER OF CURRENT MEMBERS for 2021-22 FY: 215

OVERVIEW OF NUMBER OF NEW VOLUMES AT THE LAW LIBRARY:

The volumes added to the Law Library's collection during the FY21-22 included:

Encyclopedias: 12

Reporters: 131

Treatises: 182

Statutes: 77

Directories and Digests: 57

In addition, the Library subscribed to the following databases: Westlaw Next, HeinOnline, LLMC Digital and DocketBird.

FINANCIAL REPORT/TREASURERS REPORT (ATTACHED)

RECAP OF CLE PROGRAMS: All programs virtual in 21-22

The following continuing legal education programs were offered during the FY 21-22:

October 2021: Fundamentals of Motion Practice

November 2021: Discrimination, Degradation, Defiance: Jewish Lawyers in Nazi Germany

December 2021: Legal Research Tips and Tricks

January 2022: COVID and Employment Discrimination Law: What you Need to Know

February 2022: New Developments in Estate Planning Law

March 2022: Mediating in Courts, in Communities and During Crisis

May 2022: Taking Slavery to Court: Black Freedom Suits in Antebellum St. Louis

June 2022: New Developments in in Legal Ethics

September 2022: Preview of the 2022-23 U.S. Supreme Court Term

Annual Report Approved by Board Members at the December 2022 Annual Meeting of the Association.