



SCHOOL OF LAW



# The Word Rittenberg

Newsletter of the St. John's School of Law Rittenberg Law Library



January 2012

Vol. 8 No. 2

Co-Editors: Astrid Emel and Dianna Kelly



## Spotlight on: LAW.COM

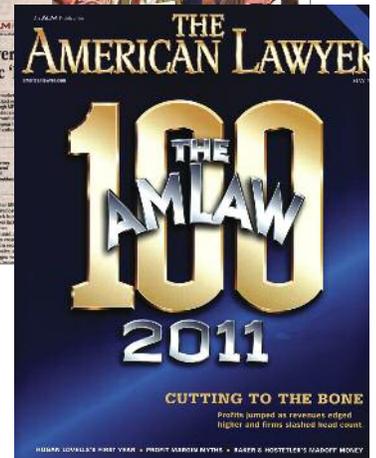
Law.com is the site for national and regional legal publications online, including *The American Lawyer*, *The National Law Journal*, and *New York Law Journal*.

Established more than thirty years ago, *The National Law Journal* is a weekly newspaper with the latest news and analysis. Features include recent court decisions, jury verdicts, expert practitioner columns, as well as reports focusing on emerging trends.

*The American Lawyer* covers the business of the most successful and intriguing firms across the U.S. and around the world. Other features in *The American Lawyer* are reports on cases and deals, management columns, technology reviews, law firm profiles and lifestyle coverage, surveys and rankings that provide law firm data.

The *New York Law Journal* with New York State court opinions not published anywhere else, also is a repository of scholarly articles and a forum for the exchange of ideas and opinions along with professional advice, book, restaurant, and travel reviews, humorous essays and technology expertise.

- [www.law.com/jsp/law/AboutLaw.jsp](http://www.law.com/jsp/law/AboutLaw.jsp), to research developments by subject
- [www.VerdictSearch.com](http://www.VerdictSearch.com), a verdict and settlement database
- [www.LawJobs.com](http://www.LawJobs.com), for job searches
- [www.ALMEXperts.com](http://www.ALMEXperts.com), for expert witnesses
- [www.LawCatalog.com](http://www.LawCatalog.com), to purchase books, newsletters and other publications



## Did You Know?

**The Rittenberg Law Library** is pleased to announce a new subscription to HeinOnline's History of International Law Collection. Released in June of 2011, this collection contains classic books from famous authors such as Hans Kelsen, Samuel Pufendorf and James Brown Scott. It also includes significant serials such as the International Law Studies Series [U.S. Naval War College], International Conciliation, Studies in Transnational Legal Policy, and many others. Furthermore, researchers will find links to scholarly articles discussing the history of international law and a bibliography of other works.

**The History of International Law Collection** features prominent browse options located at the top of the collection homepage. These options allow you to browse by the featured subjects of this collection in an easy-to use format. These subjects include International Arbitration, War & Peace, Serials, Law of the Sea, Bibliography of Other Works, Hague Conference & Conventions, and Scholarly Articles. This collection allows you to search these individual subjects as well.

## Check it Out!

### *AAA Digest of Motor Laws*

The *AAA Digest of Motor Laws* is an online compendium of laws and rules related to driving and owning a motor vehicle in the United States and Canada. It was transitioned online in 2011 with the last paper version of the book in 2010. The *Digest of Motor Laws* is a compilation of motor vehicle and traffic safety laws of the 50 states, territories, and soon the provinces of Canada.

The content on this website is prepared from information compiled from state statutes and regulations as well as submissions from local and state jurisdictions to AAA. For each state, territory, or province, the digest covers general interest subjects on private passenger vehicles. Some limited coverage of laws governing commercial vehicles is included, as are some special laws relating to motorcycles, mopeds, and trailers.

[www.drivinglaws.aaa.com](http://www.drivinglaws.aaa.com)

## Department of Justice Digitized Legislative Histories

The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) Library Staff compiled legislative histories throughout the years. They are now available for general use online. These legislative histories were researched, collected and bound as paper volumes by the librarians and previously made available only to DOJ employees via the Department's Main Library collection. U.S. Public Law; House and Senate Documents; House, Senate, and Conference Reports; House and Senate Committee Hearings; Congressional Debates (Congressional Record); related Bills; and Presidential Signing Statements are included in the legislative histories.

[www.justice.gov/jmd/lis/legislative\\_histories/legislative-histories.html](http://www.justice.gov/jmd/lis/legislative_histories/legislative-histories.html)

## Info on the Go!

GPO released its first mobile app, which is based on the information in the Congressional Pictorial Directory and the Guide to the House and Senate Members for the 112th Congress. It allows users to look up their Members of Congress by last name, state, chamber, or party. The app is also searchable by first or last name.

Go to <http://m.gpo.gov/membersguide> to download the app.

The BNA Directory of State and Federal Court, Judges, and Clerks mobile application was updated to a 2012 Edition. The app lets you find directions and maps to courthouses, link to court websites, retrieve contact information for judges, clerks, and administrators. Specific officials can be set to "favorite" as well. There is a personal name index with the ability to initiate a call or send an email from within the app.

Go to <http://www.itunes.apple.com/us/app/court-directory/id441970786> to download the app.



*"Books and ideas are the most effective weapons against intolerance and ignorance."*

– Lyndon Baines Johnson

## Browseable Blogs

New York Criminal Law and Procedure - As the name suggests, this blog provides analysis and commentary about issues in New York criminal practice. It is a resource for attorneys and judges, as well as those interested in the subject from an academic perspective. There are postings about case law, news, and analysis of recent decisions.

[www.nycrimblog.com](http://www.nycrimblog.com)

*“In quo omnes thesauri sapientiae et scientiae” which means “In which are stored all treasures of knowledge and science.”*

– inscription on  
Wiblingen Monastery Library,  
Ulm, Germany

PDL's Public Displays of Law Library Books chronicles the Rittenberg Law Library's displays since its inception. Entries include photos, booklists and web resources on all the topics displayed on the library's display table and in the bulletin board.

[www.Publicdisplaysoflawlibrarybooks.blogspot.com](http://www.Publicdisplaysoflawlibrarybooks.blogspot.com)

Opinio Juris is a forum for informed discussion and lively debate about international law and international relations. The team of authors holds a wide range of views from across the political spectrum and brings a range of experience from their pre-academic careers in government, private legal practice and the NGO community. Our goal is to be both informative and thought-provoking by fostering vigorous intellectual engagement without vitriol. Opinio Juris co-sponsors on-line symposia, book discussions, and features guest-bloggers from government, private practice, international organizations, and academia.

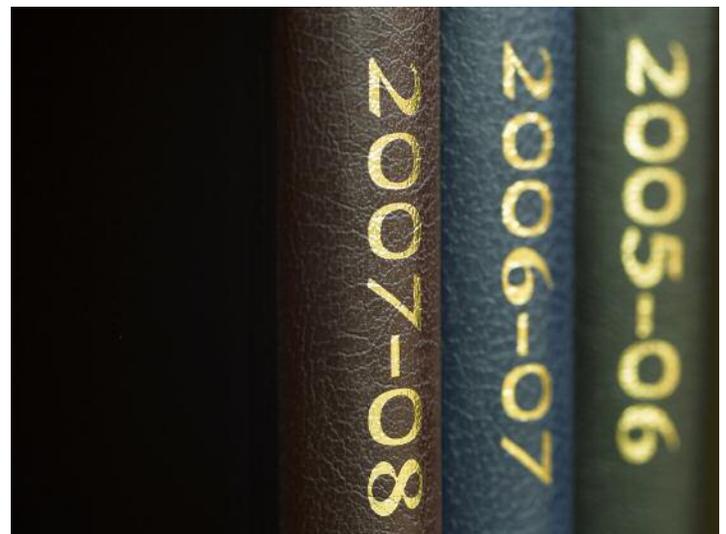
[www.opiniojuris.org](http://www.opiniojuris.org)

The CLR Forum is the online resource of the Center for Law and Religion (CLR) at St. John's University School of Law. The center engages in the study of law and religion from domestic, international and comparative perspectives. It hosts academic programs in the United States and abroad. The blog has posts about American law review scholarship as well as foreign and comparative pieces and new books in law and religion. Read commentary by CLR faculty and student fellows on law and religion issues in the news and around the web and a useful list of links to law and religion research centers, blogs, and news sites.

[www.clrforum.org](http://www.clrforum.org)

On Firmer Ground is a newly released blog to discuss the value and challenges of law firm librarians. It is a joint effort of the Legal Division of the Special Libraries Association, the Private Law Libraries Special Interest Section of the American Association of Law Libraries, the Canadian Association of Law Libraries and the British and Irish Association of Law Librarians.

[www.firmerground.com](http://www.firmerground.com)



## SJU Law School Memorabilia

SJU Rittenberg Law Library is looking for your old law school memorabilia to fill in the gaps in its archives. If you have anything (yearbooks, newspapers, magazines, newsletters, report cards, directories, photos, etc.) that you are willing to donate, please contact Astrid Emel at (718) 990-6826. We thank you in advance for your donation so we can keep your memories alive for future generations.

## Calendar of Hours and Events

### Regular Spring Semester Hours

Monday, January 9 through Thursday, April 26:

Monday – Thursday	8 a.m. – Midnight
Friday	8 a.m. – 10 p.m.
Saturday	10 a.m. – 9 p.m.
Sunday	Noon – 11 p.m.

### Holiday Hours

Martin Luther King, Jr.

Monday, January 16\* 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Presidents' Day

Monday, February 20\* 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.

### Spring Break February 27 – March 2

#### Easter Recess

Wednesday, April 4 8 a.m. – 10 p.m.

Thursday, April 5\* 8 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Good Friday, April 6 CLOSED

Saturday, April 7\* 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Easter Sunday, April 8 CLOSED

Easter Monday, April 9 10 a.m. – 10 p.m.

### Final Examination Period

Friday, April 27 through Friday, May 11

*Access limited to St. John's Law students and staff.*

Monday – Friday 8 a.m. – 1 a.m.\*\*

Saturday & Sunday 10 a.m. – 1 a.m.\*\*

*\*\* No Library services will be available after midnight. The Library will be open for studying only from midnight to 1 a.m.*

### Last Day of Exams

Friday, May 11 8 a.m. – 10 p.m.

Saturday, May 12 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Sunday, May 13 Noon – 8 p.m.

### Make-Up Day for Exams/Spring Semester Ends

Monday, May 14 8 a.m. – 8 p.m.

*\* Library operates with a reduced staff. Service areas such as Reference, Government Documents, and Access Services will be closed.*

*Note this schedule was prepared for early publication and may be subject to change.*

## Upcoming Library Exhibits and Displays

<b>January/February</b>	Civil Rights	<b>May</b>	Thomas More
<b>March</b>	Federal Documents	<b>June</b>	Commencement Display
<b>April</b>	National Library Week		

## Information Technology

### Information Technology:

IT Hotline (718) 990-1430  
lawhelpdesk@stjohns.edu  
Room 1-11

### Fall and Spring Hours of Operation:

Monday – Thursday: 8 a.m. – 8:45 p.m.

Fridays: 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

### Summer Hours of Operation:

Monday – Thursday: 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

### Contact Information:

Kasra Hafezi  
IT Director  
(718) 990-5868

hafezik@stjohns.edu

## Fun Corner

**Defendant:** Judge, I want you to appoint me another lawyer.

**Court:** And why is that?

**Defendant:** Because the Public Defender isn't interested in my case.

**The Court (addressing the public defender):** Do you have any comments on the defendant's motion?

**Public Defender:** I'm sorry, Your Honor. I wasn't listening.

## Contact Information

### Library Address:

St. John's University School of Law  
Rittenberg Law Library  
8000 Utopia Parkway  
Queens, NY 11439

www.lawlibrary.stjohns.edu

Tel (718) 990-6659

Use this number to connect to Library Departments; and hear a recording of library hours and information on emergency closings.

Fax (718) 990-6649

## Submissions

to **The Word @ Rittenberg** can be submitted by e-mail to:

Astrid Emel  
emela@stjohns.edu

Dianna Kelly  
kellyd1@stjohns.edu