Public Libraries Toolkit
New Hampshire

By Mary S. Searles, Law Librarian
The John W. King New Hampshire Law Library

State constitution

The New Hampshire Constitution is published in the Constitutions volume of the *New Hampshire Revised Statutes Annotated* (see below). The online version, without annotations, is available at http://www.nh.gov/constitution/constitution.html. Also helpful: *The New Hampshire State Constitution : a Reference Guide* by Susan E. Marshall.

State code

New Hampshire has two versions of the Revised Statutes Annotated. The official version is published by Thomson/West. The unofficial version is published by LexisNexis. The New Hampshire Law Library keeps current and outdated versions of both sets. The online version, which does not contain annotations or research aids, is available at http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/rsa/html/indexes/default.html.

State session laws

Laws of the State of New Hampshire is published by the State of New Hampshire and may be found at the New Hampshire Law Library, the New Hampshire State Library and many public libraries. Online session laws (called the Chaptered Final Version) may be found at http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/ie/.

State bills

Print versions of bills as introduced are collected and bound by the New Hampshire State Library and the New Hampshire Law Library. Bills are online at http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/ie/ (1989 to current).

State administrative code

The *Code of New Hampshire Rules* is published by LexisNexis. The New Hampshire Law Library and the New Hampshire State Library collect individual administrative rules in print and/or on microfiche. The current online version of the rules is found at http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/rules/index.html.

State cases

The official version of New Hampshire Supreme Court opinions is published by LexisNexis in the *New Hampshire Reports*. The unofficial version is published by Thomson/West in the *Atlantic Reporter* and *Atlantic Reporter 2nd*. Slip opinions may be found online at http://www.courts.state.nh.us/supreme/opinions/index.htm. 3JX (three-judge panel, unreported) opinions may be found online at http://www.courts.state.nh.us/supreme/3jx/index.htm.

State digest

West's New Hampshire Digest, published by Thomson/West covers all state and federal New Hampshire cases since 1760. *West's Atlantic Digest* also includes New Hampshire cases.

State court rules

Court rules may be found in the *New Hampshire Court Rules Annotated* published by LexisNexis, and the *New Hampshire Rules of Court : State and Federal* published by West. Current and retrospective versions of court rules are kept by the New Hampshire Law Library. Current online court rules without annotations may be found at http://www.courts.state.nh.us/rules/index.htm.

City and town codes

Ordinances may be obtained in print from the city or town clerk. Online, check http://www.nh.gov/municipal/index.html. Click on the town's name to be linked to the town's website. Not all towns have their codes online.

State jury instructions

New Hampshire Civil Jury Instructions published by LexisNexis is available at the New Hampshire Law Library. Draft criminal jury instructions by the New Hampshire Bar Association are available online at http://www.nhbar.org/legal-links/criminaljuryinstructions.asp and in print at the New Hampshire Law Library.

State form books

There are no New Hampshire form books. Forms may be found in the *New Hampshire Practice Series* (see below); in Continuing Legal Education materials (search the Law Library catalog for a listing); in the *New Hampshire Practice and Procedure Manual* published by the New Hampshire Bar Association; in the *Revised Statutes Annotated* (above); in court rules (above) and online at the Judicial Branch website http://www.courts.state.nh.us/index.htm. Click on each court to find that court's forms.

State legal encyclopedia:

There is no state legal encyclopedia. The *New Hampshire Practice Series* published by LexisNexis is a 17 volume treatise on New Hampshire law covering family law, civil and criminal procedure, wills, trusts and probate, real estate law, local government and municipal law, land use, planning and zoning, and personal injury.

Regional AALL chapter

Law Librarians of New England (LLNE)
http://www.courts.state.nh.us/supreme/3jx/index.htm

Referral policies of local law libraries

The John W. King New Hampshire Law Library is the only public law library in New Hampshire. The library collects state and federal primary and secondary

sources and provides free online access to LexisNexis and Westlaw. The New Hampshire State Library collects New Hampshire primary law and legislative and agency materials. Many public libraries throughout the state have law collections as well, check with your local public library. The Pierce Law Library is not open to the public except to allow access to federal depository materials.

Depository Libraries

For a list: http://catalog.gpo.gov/fdlpdir/FDLPdir.jsp?flag=searchp&st_12=NH

Bar Associations

The New Hampshire Bar Association: http://www.nhbar.org/.
County and local bar associations: http://www.nhbar.org/legal-links/CountyLocalBars.asp.

New Hampshire State Government

The homepage of the State of New Hampshire may be accessed at www.nh.gov.

Links to pathfinders/research guides

The New Hampshire Law Library provides some research guides online at http://nhlawlibrary.blogspot.com/. The Pierce Law Library provides research guides and study aids at http://www.library.piercelaw.edu/LWP-New/Research/aids.cfm. The New Hampshire State Library provides “Best of the Internet” guides at http://pierce.state.nh.us/internet/law.asp. The Law Librarians of New England provide New England Legal Research Links at http://www.aallnet.org/chapter/llne/resources/index.htm#genlinks. The Guide to Law Online : New Hampshire from the Library of Congress is available at http://www.loc.gov/law/help/guide/states/us-nh.html.