

STATE LAWS ABOUT COUNTY LAW LIBRARIES

A Guide to the Legislative Authority for the Creation, Organization, Maintenance, or Funding of County Law Libraries across the United States

This list provides the citation and heading for state laws regarding county law libraries that were able to be found through online searching. Laws are only as current as found on each state legislature's website and may have changed since this list was compiled. References are to statutes or code unless otherwise stated. In addition, several states have local laws, rules or ordinances that address local law library concerns. *I offer thanks to all the law library librarians and staff who offered corrections and additions to the list.* *Note: Some states with laws about county law libraries do not have any such libraries in operation at this time.

Alabama

Title 11, Chapter 25: County Law Libraries

Alaska

None

Arizona

Title 12, 12-284.03 (Distribution of Fees);
12-305 (Law Library Fund)

Arkansas

Title 16, Ch. 23 (16-23 "Law Libraries")

California

Business & Professions Code Division 3,
Chapter 5, section 6300 et seq. "Law
Libraries"

Colorado

None

Connecticut

Title 11, Ch. 189 "Law Libraries"

Delaware

Title 10, part I, Ch. 19, subchapter II,
sections 1941-1942 "Law Libraries"

Florida

939.185(1)(a)3 (Assessment of costs and
fees—funding for libraries);
318.18(13)(a) (Amount of civil penalties,
motor vehicles—funding for libraries)

Georgia

Title 15 Ch. 10 Section 86 : Courts; fees

Hawaii

None

Idaho

Title 31, Ch. 8 (31-825 "Maintenance of
County Law Library")

Illinois

55 ILCS 5/5-39001 (Div 5-39: County Law
Libraries)

Indiana

IC 33-33-18-5; 33-33-53-5 ("Courts and
County Officers": specify the duties of
presiding judges in Delaware and Monroe
counties are to maintain a law library)

Iowa

Title 9 Local Government, Ch. 331:
331.382(7): "Law Library"

Kansas

Ch. 20, Article 31 (20-3126 to 20-3132:
County Law Libraries)

Kentucky

Title 14: Libraries and Archives, Ch. 172
(County Law Libraries); Title 42: Misc.
Practice Provisions, Ch. 453.060 (Costs)

Louisiana

None

Maine

Title 4, Ch. 6 Law Libraries

Maryland

Courts & Judicial Proceedings Article 7-507 (Costs);
2-501 (Employees of Court);
7-204 (Fees)

Massachusetts

MA General Laws Title 12 Education, Ch. 78 Libraries, sections 2-6 Law Libraries

Michigan

MI Constitution Art. 8 sec. 9 (fines to support libraries);
MCL 397.31-397.40 (fees);
397.301-397.305 County Libraries

Minnesota

134A County Law Libraries

Mississippi

Title 19 Counties and County Facilities, section 31 Law Libraries

Missouri

488.429 Civil action fees to fund law library

Montana

None

Nebraska

51-220 Libraries and Museums: Law Library

Nevada

Title 33: Libraries, Museums, Historic Preservations, Ch. 380: Law Libraries

New Hampshire

None

New Jersey

Title 40: 33-14 Law Library; maintenance; purchase of books; annual expenditure limited

New Mexico

None

New York

Judiciary Chapter 30, Article 21, sec. 813-814 (court law libraries)

North Carolina

None

North Dakota

Title 27-01-01.1: General Provisions of the Judicial Branch of Government: counties shall provide district courts with adequate law libraries

Ohio

145.01 – Includes county law libraries in the definition of PERS employer
1702 – Nonprofit Corporation Law
3375-Libraries: 3375.48-.56—Law Libraries
[This is a selected list; there are several other sections also mentioning law libraries]

Oklahoma

Title 20 Courts, Ch. 17 and Appendix, Rules: County Law Library

Oregon

9.820 et seq Attorneys; Law Libraries;
21.350 (fees)

Pennsylvania

Title 42, Part 4, Ch. 37, section 3724
Judicial Code: Facilities and Supplies—
County Law Libraries

Rhode Island

None

South Carolina

None

South Dakota

Title 14 Libraries, Ch. 14-6 County Law Library

Tennessee

Title 10 Public Libraries, Archives, and Records, Ch 4 Law Libraries

Texas

Texas Local Government Code, Title 10, Sections 323.021-.025 County libraries

Utah

None

Vermont

Title 24 Municipal and County Government, Part 1, Ch. 3, sec. 76 County Law Libraries

Virginia

Title 42.1 Libraries, Ch. 4 Law Libraries: 42.1-65, 42.1-66, 42.1-70

Washington

Title 27: Libraries Museums, and Historical Archives (27.24: County Law Libraries)

West Virginia

Ch. 51: Courts and Their Officers, 51-8-8; 51-8-9 (Authority to establish county law libraries)

Wisconsin

Statute §757.40: Law Library
Statute §757.41: Law library; Milwaukee County

Wyoming

Title 5 Courts, Ch. 3 District Courts, 5-3-111 County Law Library