



**GOVERNMENT LAW LIBRARIES  
SPECIAL INTEREST SECTION**



## **REPORT OF THE GLL-SIS STANDARDS COMMITTEE 2024-2025**

Chair:

Victoria Williamson

Members:

Cathryn Bowie

Rob Mead

Victoria Williamson

Christine Morton, Board Liaison

In December 2024, Chairperson Jocelyn Stilwell-Tong stepped down from the position and Victoria Williamson agreed to be Chairperson for the remainder of the fiscal year 2024-2025. The Standards Committee met virtually on January 15<sup>th</sup>, February 10<sup>th</sup>, April 23<sup>rd</sup> and plans to host a happy hour at AALL Conference in July.

The committee reviewed and modified slightly the committee’s timeline or procedures as follows:

<b>Month</b>	<b>Task</b>
August	Committee membership selected by GLL-SIS Chair with input from Committee Chair.
September - October :	Committee charge sent to committee members.
	Comments solicited from GLL-SIS members regarding current standards.
	Committee members study current standards and comments.
	Conference calls to discuss potential changes.
	Draft of proposed changes discussed via email.
January	Final draft of proposed changes sent to GLL-SIS Executive Committee for consideration and submission to GLL-SIS members for comment.
February	Final draft amended (if needed) by GLL-SIS Executive Committee, approved by GLL-SIS Executive Committee or returned to Standards Committee with further direction. If approved, final draft is sent to AALL Executive Board for consideration and adoption.

The committee agreed that if a revision of “County Public Law Library Standards” and “Appellate Court Libraries and State Law Libraries Standards”, is warranted, the committee can realistically do the bulk of its work during the months of September and October and have its final draft of proposed changes to GLL-SIS

Executive Committee before the committee goes dark in November and December. The committee believes that it is best to begin and do most of its work immediately following the AALL Conference in July, when its members are still feeling energized and inspired from the conference. The committee decided to go dark in November and December because of the holidays, when most people are out on vacation and/or harder to get ahold of for meetings.

The committee reviewed, made changes to the standards, and submitted its final proposed changes to the GLL-SIS Executive Committee on February 13, 2025 which was approved at the GLL-SIS Executive Committee meeting on April 16, 2025. The AALL GLL [County Public Law Library Standards \(Rev. April 16, 2025\)](#) and [Appellate Court Libraries and State Law Libraries Standards \(Rev. April 16, 2025\)](#) were approved and ready to be posted on the GLL website.

The committee reviewed the [General Legal and Self-Help Titles for the Public and Self-Represented Litigants: A Supplement to the AALL County Public Law Library Standards](#) and agreed to add the first paragraph which reads as follows:

“Meaningful access to legal information is an essential element of every citizen’s right of access to justice. Each government law library holds its resources in public trust to ensure that legal information is available to all. It is imperative that government law libraries are committed to ensure equitable access to the Titles listed in this “Supplement” for all. Therefore, collection development decisions, taking into account selection of format to geographic constraints and funding limitations, should consider making their collection materials accessible to the widest audience including those in the rural and disadvantaged communities.”

The committee is working to insert to each of the print titles listed in the “Supplement” a link to their bibliographic record in OCLC WorldCat.

The committee is planning a “Happy Hour” at the AALL Conference in July for GLL members, scheduled for Saturday, July 19<sup>th</sup> at 4pm. Location: TBD.

Respectfully submitted,



Victoria Williamson, Chair