Law Library Services to Prisoners:  
A Bibliography

Standing Committee on Law Library Service to Institution Residents  
Social Responsibilities Special Interest Section  
American Association of Law Libraries  
http://www.aallnet.org/sis/srisis/

Prepared by Stacy Etheredge, July 2008

Note: Discussions of prison law libraries have been driven by two major Supreme Court cases. In *Bounds v. Smith*, 430 U.S. 817, 97 S.Ct. 1491 (1977), the Court held that the fundamental constitutional right of access to courts requires prison authorities to provide adequate law libraries or adequate assistance from persons trained in the law. In *Lewis v. Casey*, 518 U.S. 343, 116 S.Ct. 2174 (1996), the Court held that prisoners do not have an abstract freestanding right to a law library and must demonstrate actual injury in order to sustain a challenge to the adequacy of the law library.

Before Bounds and Lewis


After Bounds


After Lewis


Sandra Marz, A Jail Becomes a Modern Law Library, 6 AALL SPECTRUM 8 (May 2002).


SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES SPECIAL INTEREST SECTION, AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF LAW LIBRARIES, RECOMMENDED COLLECTIONS FOR PRISON AND OTHER INSTITUTION LAW LIBRARIES (Rebecca S. Trammel ed., 1996).


REBECCA S. TRAMMELL, WERNER’S MANUAL FOR PRISON LAW LIBRARIES (3rd ed. 2004).
