

THE CRIV SHEET

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE COMMITTEE ON RELATIONS
WITH INFORMATION VENDORS

VOLUME 45, NO. 2 / MARCH 2023





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Vendors (CRIV) Members**

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The CRIV Sheet

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Dear Readers,

Welcome to a new issue of [The CRIV Sheet](#). It's a good one—and not only because of Ashley Arrington's first appearance as co-editor. (Welcome, Ashley!)

First up, Alex Clay Hutchings of the University of Richmond makes a compelling case for academic law librarians to use their rapport with students to increase awareness of the many helpful, if not necessary, products for bar exam preparation. Supplementing bar prep vendors' marketing efforts with an expert yet neutral point of view is a natural extension of the law librarian's role, and Alex gives plenty of pointers on how the library can ultimately contribute to boosting passage rates that are so central to the law school mission.

CRIV member Carol Ottolenghi of the Ohio Attorney General's Office shows us often overlooked ways that information and services from government agencies can be leveraged to benefit law libraries and their users. Such taxpayer funded "vendors" often provide useful programs themselves or in conjunction with libraries, and Carol highlights the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs for some of its unique opportunities and initiatives to inform and serve the public.

As usual, we end with notes from CRIV's semiannual calls with vendors, including Bloomberg Law, LexisNexis, Thomson Reuters, and Wolters Kluwer. Our CRIV liaisons speak with representatives of the companies about recent changes, enhancements, and initiatives. The overview of Westlaw Precision is likely of interest to many readers, as are the enhancements to VitalLaw and many additions to Lexis, such as Fact and Issue Finder.

Please continue to reach out with your suggestions for *The CRIV Sheet*. We aim to provide a range of content that informs and involves law librarians of every type, and your inspired contributions are always needed. Contact [Ashley](#) or [Andrew](#) anytime about *The CRIV Sheet*.

Happy spring and happy reading!

FROM THE CHAIR

CYNTHIA CONDIT

HEAD OF FACULTY AND ACCESS SERVICES & PROFESSOR OF PRACTICE
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Greetings Readers!

Thank you for taking time to read the first issue of *The CRIV Sheet* for 2023. As always, the editors have a stellar issue for you. Don't forget, *The CRIV Sheet* welcomes contributions from our community. If you would like to contribute an article or shorter written piece, please contact co-editors [Andrew Christensen](#) or [Ashley Arrington](#).

As the year kicks off, the CRIV subcommittees are busy. The Vendor Roundtable Committee is working to select a topic for this year's virtual event. If you have a topic that piques your interest that you would like the Committee to consider, please reach out to [Jeanne Price](#), committee chair. The CRIV Page and Tools Committee is reviewing CRIV content and will provide suggestions to the Committee after their review. The Education and Marketing Committees are providing guidance and materials for the Vendor Roundtable and Member Advocacy Committees. We cannot say thank you enough to these amazing committee members who volunteer their time.

The first round of semiannual vendor liaison calls are completed. Catch up on what's new with Bloomberg Law, LexisNexis, Thomson Reuters, and Wolters Kluwer in this issue and in the [CRIV Blog](#). A huge thank you to our CRIV vendor liaisons (Jane Bahnson, Monique Gonzalez, Elizabeth Outler, and Jeanne Price) for coordinating these events and providing the reports.

It's been quiet the past few months on the Request for Assistance front. If you have an issue with a vendor that you would like assistance with, please contact CRIV through our [Request for Assistance form](#). We are happy to act as a conduit between vendors and AALL members.

Don't forget to keep an eye on the [CRIV Blog](#) as well. With each new post you can learn about the interesting and varied information resources across the web and in our libraries. Most recently, in honor of Black History Month, the *CRIV Blog* highlighted some of the [collections related to the history of Civil Rights](#). Many blog posts are contributed by CRIV Committee members, but the *CRIV Blog* also invites you to author a guest post. If you would like to contribute a post to the *CRIV Blog*, please contact [Christy Smith](#).

Programs for the [2023 AALL Annual Meeting](#) are being finalized, and there seem to be a lot of great options on tap. Keep an eye out for the June issue of *The CRIV Sheet*, where CRIV will preview some of the AALL Annual Meeting programs that we think will be of great interest to our readers.

As always, please feel free to [contact me](#) with any concerns or suggestions related to CRIV. Enjoy the issue!

[CRIV Blog](#) [crivblog.com](#)

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WE NEED TO TALK ABOUT BAR PREP

ALEX CLAY HUTCHINGS

STUDENT SERVICES AND RESEARCH LIBRARIAN
UNIVERSITY OF RICHMOND SCHOOL OF LAW

I recently had a conversation with a law student in her last semester. She has already lined up a nice government job and is rearing and ready to go. There is, of course, one last mountain to climb before reaching the promised land of practice: the bar exam.

I asked this student if she had started prepping for the bar. “No,” she shrugged, “but I probably should.” I asked if she was planning on purchasing a prep course like Barbri or Themis, and although she had serious concerns about the cost of these programs, she reluctantly admitted that a bar prep course was likely in her near future.

I was a bit taken aback by this student’s nonchalant attitude toward the bar. She gave the impression that she didn’t realize how important bar prep is for passage. This conversation coincidentally came hard on the heels of a faculty meeting to brainstorm how to raise our bar passage rates (which, admittedly, were not great for July 2022).

This got me thinking: As academic law librarians, it is our duty to connect students with resources during their three years of law school. But what about the bar?

Librarians are law students’ legal-resource first responders. We often provide their first exposure to legal research during 1L year and continue to guide them with reference services and other resource instruction opportunities all the way to graduation.

But why stop there? We can get them as prepared as possible, even though the bar exam lies in the penumbra of our educational responsibilities.

Even after three years of law school, practically no student is prepared to take the bar without some kind of supplemental bar prep. For better or for worse, law school may teach students to “think like a lawyer,” but it is not designed to teach them how to pass the gatekeeping test to enter the profession of law.


From my impression, besides offering study space and a few general resources, libraries outsource the bulk of the bar conversation either to academic deans or to folks from the companies tabling in our lobbies. But we can change this by: 1) being frank with our students about the necessity of bar prep, and 2) rethinking our role as bar prep resource providers. Law librarians, *we need to talk about bar prep.*

To be certain, librarians do not in any way need to shill for a bar prep company. For promotion, libraries may offer tabling space to these vendors, which are usually represented by student employees working for a discount on their own bar prep course. It is a highly competitive for-profit industry, and librarians are rightfully hesitant to discuss the pros and cons of a particular bar prep program. But even without going into specifics or recommending one service provider over another, librarians can be forthright with students about the utility—if not necessity—of purchasing these types of resources.

Librarians operate in a unique space within the law school, in that we are active participants in our students’ process of studying. Our conversations with students are often in the library during their study sessions and about study resources. We should use our proximity to their studies to highlight not only the importance of studying for their next class, but the importance of thinking ahead to studying for the bar.

Even when students are inclined to let tomorrow’s worries take care of themselves, we should continue to emphasize the critical need to plan ahead. We might be the first ones to tell them that bar prep courses are practically required to pass the bar, or that paying for these courses may be a major concern but they are usually well worth the price at the end of the day.

Don’t be afraid to bring up an anecdote about “that one student you knew” who thought (mis-



takenly) that she could get by without a bar prep course. Or, how “that one student” thought it was too expensive, but realized too late it wasn’t nearly as expensive as taking the bar twice. Frankness is especially valuable if you know the student is struggling with motivation or time management in their 3L year. Your candid conversation may be just the eye-opener they need.

On a basic level, the library should expand its mission to include preparing students for the bar exam. Take a look at what the library is already doing in this area. Make a list of bar study aids in your collection, along with subscription resources and databases useful to exam takers. Ask yourself how much you know about these materials, and what you might need to do to become familiar with these offerings.

By offering formal or informal training to librarians on these resources, supervisors can ensure the entire library team is ready to talk bar prep when the moment arises. Librarians can also support bar study by broadening our collection development focus to include more and increasingly diverse resources for the bar. Library directors and deans laying out the library’s annual budget can justify funding for bar prep materials as a proactive step toward increasing institutional bar passage rates.

With dedication and organization, the library can become the de facto hub for bar exam information and resources—a logical extension, since students already view the library as the hub for information resources. We can create LibGuides and blog posts about registering for and studying for the bar, highlighting our materials and pointing students to pertinent information.

My institution, the University of Richmond law library, is currently developing a new program unofficially titled the “Bar Exam Fair,” dedicated to educating our students on the resources we offer as they approach their bar exams—programs like

Quimbee and Spaced Repetition, both excellent resources for general study and bar study alike.

Although we are still working to iron out the details, the program will consist of several days of lunchtime drop-in tabling sessions, during which librarians will discuss the importance of starting to prep early and answer any resource-related questions students may have. We will also provide flyers featuring useful information about the bar, including when and how to register.

If the library is to become a bar exam information hub, we must work in partnership with other law school departments, including faculty members responsible for teaching bar prep courses, the career development office, and the dean’s office. Bar prep must be an interdepartmental conversation.

Likewise, librarians should be connecting with bar prep vendors to discuss their latest offerings. Take the time to understand what the bar prep field looks like, so that you can speak to your students with knowledge and confidence. Undoubtedly, they are anxious and overwhelmed as they prepare to undertake the most important test of their lives. Guidance from a trusted librarian can encourage a student to start conscientiously researching their bar prep options with a little less apprehension. The more librarians talk about bar prep, the more we will help our students pass the bar.

USE VENDORS HIDING IN PLAIN SIGHT TO GET GREAT RESOURCES AND SELL LIBRARY SERVICES

CAROL OTTOLENGHI

DIRECTOR OF LIBRARY SERVICES
OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE

It's easy to forget that we provide government agencies with money to produce and distribute resources. We don't usually think of these agencies as "vendors" because we aren't paying a specific amount, for a specific product, to be received at a specific time. But our tax money pays for a plethora of well-researched, topic-specific resources that are available to all of us at no additional cost.

In short, government agencies are really useful vendors hiding in plain site. Each provides resources that can be applied by our law libraries—be they academic, firm, or government—to increase our offerings, contribute to our communities, and demonstrate a solid return on our organization's investment in the library.

For example, this article discusses a few of the many resources available from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). Some are tightly focused and succinct, while others are far-reaching. After briefly describing each resource, I suggest a few ways to apply it. (Possible applications are limited only by our creativity, and I would love to hear your ideas on how to use these products.)

The CHALENG Fact Sheet

The annual survey by the Community Homelessness Assessment, Local Education and Networking Groups (CHALENG) is part of the VA's larger focus on homeless veterans. The survey asks homeless veterans and those who provide services to them to identify and rate their unmet needs.

Housing, food, and medical care rank unsurprisingly as the most common unmet needs. However, legal needs are also frequently mentioned. We can use these results to:

- Guide legal clinic development.
- Provide fodder for articles and blog posts. Highlight under-used resources that come as

part of commercial packages—online veterans' benefits forms and treatises like the *Military Discharge Upgrade: Legal Practice Manual*, for example—to improve product cost-effectiveness and increase library outreach.

- Remind library stakeholders—employees, library users, the people-who-make-funding-decisions—that our libraries are a reliable source of statistical information they can use to address real and perceived needs effectively.


Libraries and Veterans National Forum Toolkit

Sponsored by an Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) grant, this national convention and online platform sprang from a collaboration between the VA Librarians Committee and Texas A&M University Libraries.

The project kicked off in 2021 with an eight-day Forum of live programming and exhibits. The recorded programs are available online and include, among many others:

- Helping Veteran Students Thrive on Campus: Ideas, Strategies, and Best Practices
- Stronger Together: Successful Collaborations Between an Academic Library and the University Veterans Center
- Celebrating Veteran's Day: Building Exhibits About Veterans
- Successfully Serving Those Who Served
- Succulents, Therapy Dogs, and Lanterns Oh My!; Resilience Programming
- We Salute You: Creating Welcoming Spaces for Service Connected Students

The second half of the project—the Toolkit—continues to grow as libraries from around the country upload new applications and programs. Janice Young, chair of the VA Librarians Commit-



tee and director of the VA Central Office Library, explains that “the ultimate goal for these toolkits is to support libraries in meeting the complex and varied needs of their Veteran and military member communities.”

The smaller toolkits are cataloged by Library Type, Resource Type, Programming Audience, and Topic. Their introductory pages provide a short description and identify the intended audience, cost, timing, duration, potential partners, tips for success, assessment ideas, and more.

Not every category has been filled with resources, but the several hundred entries already include:

- Cultural Competencies: Best Practice for Librarians Serving Veterans, Active Military and Military Families
- Military Saves Month (financial literacy, and part of America Saves)
- Side by Side: Intergenerational Mentoring Opportunities for Veterans
- Health Literacy for All
- Veterans’ Resource Corner
- Connecting Visually Impaired Veterans with Assistive Technology
- Entrepreneurship for Veterans

We can borrow from the Forum and this creative collection of work by other librarians to:

- Encourage colleagues and students to consider the legal aspects behind Veterans’ business, healthcare, civil rights, employment, and housing issues
- Make VA services available to veterans in our larger organizations in an unobtrusive way

- Model inclusiveness within our Libraries and larger organizations
- Remind Library stakeholders that we can link them to thousands of quality resources.

Stand Downs

Stand Downs, as promoted by the [Libraries and Veterans National Forum](#) and the [U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs](#), are one- to three-day events organized by VA staff and volunteers. Veterans receive food, clothing, physical and mental health screenings, and referrals for essential services, including legal services. Courts, county law libraries, bar associations, and law schools often participate.

We can use this type of programming to:

- Promote collaboration between our larger organizations and other community businesses, agencies, medical facilities, and schools.
- Provide students with meaningful law-related experiences.
- Make VA services available to veterans in our larger organizations in an unobtrusive way.
- Remind library stakeholders that we can organize pro bono opportunities that help them look good within the greater community.

You may have noticed that I often repeat the phrase “remind library stakeholders...” This is because it is no longer enough for libraries to simply do good work. If libraries are to thrive within our larger organizations, we must be seen doing good work. Government agencies make good allies in this endeavor by creating free, authoritative resources that make us—and our employers—look good. And our employers like that!

CRIV LIAISONS TO VENDORS

CRIV holds semiannual calls with four legal vendors: Bloomberg Law, LexisNexis, Thomson Reuters, and Wolters Kluwer. CRIV publishes notes from the calls as they become available, both in *The CRIV Sheet* and on the *CRIV Blog*. In this issue, we have notes from the most recent calls with each of the vendors.

CRIV / BLOOMBERG LAW SEMIANNUAL CALL

JEANNE FRAZIER PRICE

ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS & DIRECTOR OF THE WIENER-ROGERS LAW LIBRARY, UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, LAS VEGAS

Date: Wednesday, February 15, 2023

Participants: Jeanne Frazier Price (CRIV Liaison to Bloomberg Law), Lauren Kaplan (Head of Strategy, Bloomberg Law), Michelle Hook Dewey (AALL Executive Board Liaison to CRIV) & Ross Pendley (Customer Experience Manager, Bloomberg Law)

Updates from Bloomberg Law

Mike Bernier, former director of library relations at Bloomberg Law, had long served as Bloomberg's liaison to CRIV. Mike retired at the end of November 2022. While we very much miss Mike's helpfulness, good nature, and kindness, we look forward to working with Lauren and Ross.

The update on Bloomberg Law products centered on (1) improvements in findability and accessibility of materials on Bloomberg; (2) enhancements to docket information and the discoverability of information about dockets and the documents in them; (3) additions to practical guidance resources; and (4) an increased presence on the part of Bloomberg Law in trending issues important to the legal community. Highlights include:

Improvements in Findability/Accessibility

- Users can now search by phrase within a document, rather than having to sift through appearances of the individual words that make up the phrase
- Sorting options have improved
- Recommendations based on past use are suggested

Docket and Litigation Enhancements

- New courts added (additional state and local courts; Puerto Rico Court of First Instance) and some progress on lifting access restrictions in other courts
- New filtering options for search results (e.g., resolution, settlement noted, class action, county court)

- Patent Trial and Appeal Board cases can now be filtered by inter partes review, covered business method, and post-grant review
- Improved docket search functionality from the initial search option
- New fields for filtering within docket search results: case outcome, case settlement, potential class action, case status, and case length in days
- Causes of Action field and complaint summaries added to Docket Alerts for federal district court cases

Practical Guidance Improvements

- Labor & Employment New customized chart-builder functionality for local paid leave and local minimum wage information
 - Enhanced practical guidance on pay equity
 - Updated 8th edition of ABA-jointly published *The Developing Labor Law: The Board, the Courts, and the National Labor Relations Act*
 - Additions to resources on employee immigration issues, including docket tracking and updated practical guidance on employee hiring
- Transactional Drafting Tools
 - Additions of different types of agreements to the Draft Analyzer
 - Additions to sample contract clauses to cover trending issues related to, among other things, supply-chain challenges
- Environmental, Social, and Governance Issues

- New toolkit for the health industry, including specific information focused on drug retailers, healthcare delivery, and manager care
- New toolkit for the manufacturing industry, including specialized guidance for companies engaging in mining, oil, and gas activities, electronics-related activities, and technology
- Privacy and Data Security
 - Updated homepage and enhanced alert features
 - Enhancements to functionality for building state bill proposal searches for biometric and consumer privacy initiatives
 - Enhanced access to information on Edgar filings and transactional precedents, dockets, and court opinions, state privacy resources, international materials, and federal statutes, regulations, and agency materials
 - Enhanced client alerts related to the General Data Protection Regulation, the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act, and the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act
- Banking and Finance
 - New practice pages on fintech compliance and the UCC
 - Updated practice center features including new state banking and finance regulation and federal banking and finance regulation trackers, each with alerting and filtering functionality
 - Improvements to state and federal securities coverage and enhancements to the functionality of the Rule 506 Form D Filings Chart Builder
- Emerging Issues
 - Three new In Focus features
 - One that enables discovery of AI-related information and documents across practice areas, including an interactive state map linking to a comparison table of AI-related legislation and regulations

- A second focusing on federal and state developments in abortion law arising out of the Dobbs decision
- Another on pay transparency at state and local levels

Engagement in Current Issues

Bloomberg continues its support of both:

- The Law School Innovation Program which identifies and honors law schools and faculty that implement programming designed to advance new methodologies in teaching
- The DEI Framework which recognizes law firms that meet standardized and transparent criteria in measuring diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Requests for Assistance

Since the last liaison call, CRIV had received only one request for assistance involving Bloomberg products. That request related to the sometimes unavailability of downloads from particular dockets; users would receive an error message to the effect that the particular document required courier retrieval (which was inaccurate—the document was available for download on PACER). Bloomberg had acknowledged the problem but had shared no timetable for resolution. Similar concerns had been voiced on the law library director’s listserv. Mike Bernier was contacted, investigated the problem, and quickly got back in touch with both the CRIV liaison and the librarian who had submitted the request. The problem, which had to do with multi-part pleadings in particular courts, was identified and largely fixed. The requestor described Mike’s responsiveness and help as “fantastic.”

Questions from CRIV

The call concluded with questions raised by the CRIV liaison. First, with respect to print materials, Bloomberg continues to publish only tax materials in print. There are no current plans to change that approach. As to the availability of stand-alone access to the *ABA/Bloomberg Law Lawyers’ Manual on Professional Conduct*, Bloomberg representatives believed that such access is available and

intend to follow up with additional information. Some concerns were raised about the difficulty of accessing Bloomberg News/Bloomberg Terminal articles in the Bloomberg Law platform. Lauren and Ross acknowledged that this was a known issue, that improvements were underway, and that, in the meantime, there were work-arounds. Finally, the Bloomberg representatives were asked about the reception to the changes in access and pricing for PACER materials for academic

customers that were instituted some time ago in order to curb some unexpectedly high use. Lauren and Ross suggested that those changes seem to now be fairly well-accepted among the academic user community.

CRIV / LEXISNEXIS SEMIANNUAL CALL

MONIQUE GONZALEZ

SENIOR RESEARCH LIBRARIAN
NORTON ROSE FULBRIGHT

Date: Friday, December 16, 2022

Participants: Monique Gonzalez (CRIV Liaison to LexisNexis), Carolyn Bach (Manager, Knowledge & Research and Faculty Programs, LexisNexis), Michelle Hook Dewey (AALL Executive Board Liaison to CRIV), Vani Ungapen (Executive Director, AALL) & Simon Weierman (Senior Director, Segment Management, LexisNexis)

The semiannual vendor calls provide an opportunity for the CRIV vendor liaison to discuss and follow-up on any requests for assistance that have come in from AALL members, related to that particular vendor, as well as an opportunity for the vendor representatives to apprise CRIV, and, by extension, the AALL membership, of any recent product updates since the last call. CRIV has not received any requests for assistance pertaining to LexisNexis® in the last six months, so the call consisted of news and product enhancements released between July and December 2022.

New Developments

- **Commercial launch of Lexis+® Canada**
- **Lexis® Create**, a new solution designed to surface insights for attorneys while drafting in Microsoft® Word is now in Beta testing and targeted for commercial rollout in 2023
- **Launched the LexisNexis® U.S. Voting Laws & Legislation Center** – a new voting law resource

to provide a transparent overview of the U.S. election landscape. Developed with the LexisNexis® Rule of Law Foundation, this free, first-of-its-kind analytics tool enables public search, analysis and visualization of all U.S. state election laws, bills and rulings. Visit the [Voting Laws & Legislation Center](#).

Lexis+®

Released **Fact and Issue Finder**, a powerful, practice-specific feature empowering litigation researchers to rapidly find resources pertinent to issues, topics, and facts. Winner of the **LegalTech Breakthrough Award For “Legal Search Solution of the Year”**

- **Search experience:**
 - Query building tools (connectors and segments) for **Search Within**
 - **Run Search As**, a toggle for transparency and control over your query
 - Improved relevance and presentation of **Lexis+ Answers**

- Enhanced **segment searching** of National Labor Relations Board decisions
- **Multiple Shepard's®** enhancements were rolled out, including:
 - Ability to narrow citing decisions by publication status in *Shepard's®* Statutes Reports.
 - Extended coverage to over 14,000 TTAB decisions for complete agency coverage.
 - 85+ agencies were extracted for citations to cases and statutes—and incorporated as citing decisions in *Shepard's* reports.
 - 52 state and territorial administrative code citing sources were added to the *Shepard's* report.
 - Tennessee Workers Comp Claims and Illinois Labor Relations Board history connections were completed for the entire collection.
 - Enhanced for *Shepardizing™* administrative decisions—citing references will display preview text and links to the cited reference in the full documents that use a parallel citation of the Shepardized™ citation.
- Expanded tools to improve **Document review**, including:
 - **Court Rule Compare** tool enabling customers to compare current and archived versions of federal and state court rules.
 - **Federal & State Legislation Compare** feature single-click comparison of bill versions.
 - **Filings tab in Cases** added for easy access to all related court materials corresponding to the case being viewed.
 - Enhanced **Copy with Citation** to include Texas Petition and Writ History as defined by the Greenbook. *Shepard's®* histories were added to over 100K Texas Court of Appeals documents in support.
- Extended **Legal News Hub** coverage through integration of 40 Mealey's® Litigation News focused publications, Law360® Real Estate Authority, and FTC Watch™
- Improved tools for monitoring and leveraging content through Lexis+®:
 - **Refined Search Alert** form for easier alert setup
 - Ability to sort **Work Folders** documents by jurisdiction
 - **Annotations and Highlights** options added to Download dialog for documents saved in folders
 - Improved **Alert delivery** with the option for full-text document grouping
- Law School Student Preference Update: **Lexis-Nexis® Widens Lead as Top Research Platform Among Next-Generation Lawyers**
- Coming Soon: **More Like This Passage**, enabling researchers to identify an important passage in a case law document and with one click find other cases with highly similar language using a highly targeted approach.

Lexis+® & Lexis® – Content Additions

- Released 32 exclusive Matthew Bender® treatises and guides including *Artificial Intelligence, Blockchain & Smart Contract Law, Corbin on Contract Drafting, Corbin on New York Contracts, and Dorsaneo & Chandler's Texas Claims and Defenses*.
- Released 49 licensed treatises from the American Bar Association, American Lawyer Media, state bar associations, and Wolters Kluwer, including *Antitrust Law: An Analysis of Antitrust Principles and Their Application* (Areeda & Hovenkamp), *Fundamentals of Municipal Finance*, and *Employment Law Answer* books.
- Released Jury Instructions in seven states, extending market-leading coverage to 47 states compared to Westlaw® coverage of 37 states and Fastcase® coverage of 26 states.
- Added over 127K federal cases, 82K state cases, 539K trial court orders, and 830K brief, pleadings, and motions documents in H2 2022 to our leading primary law collection.

Practical Guidance

- **Market Standards, Antitrust module** released with 1,400+ deals, 40+ specialized deal points with precedent language and market trends data visualizations
- Improved searching and sorting within **Automated Templates**
- A new **Construction practice area** was launched
- Expansion of practical guidance in video format with over **375 short, practical videos** now available
- Explore the latest practice insights in our **Practical Guidance Journal**
- See more of what's recently been updated within Practical Guidance in our **Issue 2** (August) and **Issue 3** (November) Newsletters
- Coming Soon: Commercial preview of **Agreement Analysis**, a new document analysis tool that supports transactional attorneys in analyzing, negotiating, and finalizing transactional agreements.

CourtLink®

- Rollout of CourtLink update Search page designed to be faster and more responsive when entering your search criteria
- Expanded criminal docket collecting in the U.S. District courts, to automatically collect new proceedings in every docket throughout the day
- Released coverage for 10 new courts not previously available
- System updates to improve overall performance and reliability, including restored connections with select courts (offline for their own maintenance) impacting access to documents and document delivery through CourtLink
- Updated the "Last Retrieved" date field for tracking dockets to reflect the most recent successful docket update
- Added Document Type filter for more precise search capability and expanded range of

searchable federal docket number formats to include judges' initials

Lexis® Verdict & Settlement Analyzer (VSA)

- Added new filters to narrow your search results including plaintiff age and sex
- Updated work folder and delivery capabilities consistent with Lexis+®
- Integration of cases by resolution analytics into Lexis+ when searching Jury Verdicts & Settlements as a preview allowing for deeper insights; available through Verdict & Settlement Analyzer
- Improvements to the presentation of graphical analytics on VSA
- Updated user experience for presentation of results to be consistent with Lexis+
- Improved search relevance, consistent with searching on Lexis+
- Improvements targeted to improve accessibility to VSA

Lex Machina®

- Launched **State Motion Metrics**, taking the next step forward in providing the most accurate, comprehensive, and complete litigation analytics on the market by incorporating Legal Analytics for state motion practice ("State Motion Metrics") into the platform. **State Motion Metrics** allows users to quickly assess their state motion strategy and easily identify winning arguments.
- Rollout of legal analytics coverage for a new practice area, **Internet Law**, adding over 10,000 cases to the Lex Machina® dataset.
- Legal analytics coverage added for **Chapter 11 Proceedings in Bankruptcy Court**, providing unparalleled insights into an entirely new U.S. Court system, adding over 115,000 proceedings filed since 2009 under Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code.
- Launched multiple industry trend reports (available to non-subscribers)

- **2022 Employment Litigation Report** – While employment case filings declined throughout the pandemic to the lowest number in a decade, COVID-19 cases and damages awards have remained robust
- **2022 Torts Litigation Report** – While torts case filings (excluding mass torts) have remained fairly steady over the past 10 years, motor vehicle and premises liability cases have increased over the same period
- **2022 Contracts: Commercial Litigation Report** – Commercial litigation case filings have declined steadily throughout the last 10 years to the lowest number in a decade, while the total amount of damages awarded each year has remained steady
- **2022 Bankruptcy Report** – Chapter 11 bankruptcy proceedings in 2021 dropped to the lowest number in a decade; case filing trends revealed the disparate effects of the pandemic on different Chapter 11 bankruptcies
- **2022 Surety Bond Litigation Report** – Surety bond litigation cases, including Miller Act cases, dropped to the lowest number in a decade in 2021, while total amount of damages awarded remained generally steady over the past 10 years.
- Ability to delete previously added RSS/User Added feeds
- “Favorites” and “Group Content” sections added to Saved Content panel
- Three additional editorially created National Source Lists: U.S. Major Newspapers, UK National Newspapers, and Netherlands National Newspapers
- Newsletter Edit and Send Changes – rearrange or remove articles prior to sending

Resources for Legal Information Professionals:

- **12 Favorite Things for Legal Professionals:** Free Resources from LexisNexis®
- **Top 10 Media Sources for Legal Information Professionals to Monitor Industry and Product News**
- **Subscribe to InfoPro Weekly** and stay on top of recent product and practice area updates, webinars, etc. that matter to law librarians.
- **Librarian Webinar Series Recordings**
- Lexis+® Certification Program for Information Professionals: speak to your Knowledge & Research Consultant or LexisNexis® Representative to learn more.

Law360®

- **Launch of Law360® Pulse Small Law**, delivering industry-leading business of law news directly to small law legal professionals to keep them informed.
- **Named the #1 Legal News Source by the ABA** – Law360 is named the “Leading Fee-Based Online Services Most Preferred for Legal News” and “Leading Fee-Based Online Services Used for Legal News” by the ABA® Legal Technology Survey Report 2022.

Nexis Newsdesk™

- Expansion of Usage Stats – Download Newsletter Usage Data



CRIV / THOMSON REUTERS SEMIANNUAL CALL

ELIZABETH OUTLER


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LAC GROUP

Date: Wednesday, December 7, 2022

Participants: Elizabeth Outler (CRIV Liaison to Thomson Reuters), Mark Baker (Director of Product Management, Thomson Reuters), Blythe McCoy (Thomson Reuters Information Management Consultant) & Michelle Hook Dewey (AALL Executive Board Liaison to CRIV)

Thomson Reuters provided an overview of their new platform, [Westlaw Precision](#).

- Thomson Reuters developed Westlaw Precision because legal research still takes a lot of time and lawyers are often worried they have missed something important.
 - Searches inevitably miss relevant documents due to language variation because courts use different terms than your search to refer to the same concept.
 - How do we improve research outcomes and time spent for researchers?
 - Addition of new Precision Attributes to improve case law research in Westlaw Precision: legal issues and outcomes, facts, motions and outcomes, causes of action, party types
 - New and intuitive classification systems to use these attributes for searching, browsing results, and filtering
- Added 250 attorneys to editorial staff and trained them to capture the Precision Attributes from cases (in selected topics for the first phase rollout of Westlaw Precision).
 - Machines still can't do it at the level of quality and reliability needed
 - Attorney-editor tagging followed by extensive quality control process
- New Browse Boxes in search result displays help so researchers can quickly and confidently determine whether to read each case—Browse Box includes legal issue and outcome, material facts from the decision, causes of action, and motion types (with outcome) from the decision.
- Build a Precision Search by selecting issues and facts in the Precision Search template (on the homepage) or run a search in the main search box and then use the new Precision filters to limit your result to cases with your issue, facts, and outcome.
 - Can also use Precision filters to assist with issue-spotting (helpful for law students or more junior attorneys)
- Launched with eight topics (Antitrust, Commercial Law, Employment Law, Federal Civil Procedure, Federal Class Actions, Federal Discovery and Evidence, Federal Remedies, and Securities Law); post-launch released three more: Insurance, Arbitration, and Real Estate. State Civil Procedure is coming soon.
- Back to 2010 for all published cases in each topic, plus older leading cases (frequently cited).
- Results from a large test involving over 100 attorneys showed that Westlaw Precision users were twice as fast at finding relevant cases compared to Westlaw Edge.
- Significant quality improvements – 90 percent of participants said Westlaw Precision helped them find cases they might not have found otherwise.
- Rollout to law schools in January.
- Developers are very interested in feedback from users.



Additional features available in Westlaw Precision rollout:

- KeyCite Cited With – what other cases are cited alongside my case?
 - Adjust how closely together the cases are cited
 - Citing relationship filter allows you to filter out cases that don't cite your case or are cited by your case
- KeyCite Overruled in Part – attempts to solve the “red flag problem,” where a red flag makes a case look like bad law just because one point was overruled.
 - Helps navigate directly to that point of law and highlights the operative language so you don't have to hunt for it
- Graphical view of research history
 - Helps navigate research history so you can reconstruct your steps
- Highlights documents where you spent a lot of time or returned multiple times
- Keep list
 - Each item in search result you can bookmark to add to your list (up to 50)
 - Remains across research sessions, move to folders if you want to organize or retain
- Hide details
 - Click and it will minimize the info displayed in search results so that you can tell you already looked at the case
- Outline builder
 - Create a research outline in Westlaw and drag language from a case or other document into it
 - Can submit it to Quick Check and find related case law
 - Can export to Word

CRIV / WOLTERS KLUWER SEMIANNUAL CALL

JANE BAHNSON

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, RESEARCH AND INSTRUCTION
DUKE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW

Date: Friday, December 2, 2022

Participants: Jane Bahnson (CRIV Liaison to Wolters Kluwer), Jenna Ellis (Legal Training Consultant, Wolters Kluwer), Michelle Hook Dewey (AALL Executive Board Liaison to CRIV) & Vani Ungapen (Executive Director, AALL)

The meeting commenced at 3:00 p.m. Jane has taken over as the new AALL CRIV Wolters Kluwer Board Liaison; all others are continuing on, and we are looking forward to a productive year.


Updates from Wolters Kluwer

Jenna Ellis told us of new enhancements to Vital-Law.

One enhancement is the addition of *Abortion Restrictions Jurisdictional Compare Smart Chart* to the “Smart Chart” tool, which is a multi-jurisdictional comparison survey that includes laws, regulations, executive orders, and seminal cas-

es. This new topic compares abortion rights and restrictions by topic, such as time and insurance coverage restrictions, across multiple jurisdictions. Links provide full access to the underlying documents and the chart format can be customized. This new smart chart is available to most subscriptions that include the related underlying publications.

Another enhancement involves the expansion of research features available to everyone for the statutes and regulations database, which includes primary, statutory, and regulatory law at both the state and federal level. The search template



now offers search by “document type” in addition to the jurisdiction, citation, and keyword options. There is also a “curated topic” option that will retrieve cross-jurisdictional results on a specific topic through a pre-designed Boolean search. For example, for the curated topic “cannabis,” there are six pre-designed searches that retrieve relevant laws and regulations on discrete subtopics. One such subtopic, “Medical Marijuana Cultivator Requirements” runs the search “cannabis w/5 medical AND cultivat*” and retrieves 1,021 cross-jurisdictional results.

Another feature, *Next Generation Laws and Regulations*, alerts users to updates or pending updates in laws and regulations. Researchers can use pre-search filters, curated topics, “show all future versions,” and other functions. An orange flag identifies those laws under revision, and a redlining toggle in the upper right of the screen allows the reader to see what the changes are. New language is indicated in green, while deleted language is shown in red. These changes will remain for a few weeks after the changes take effect. There is no retained archive of older versions of the laws after this period has run.

Wolters Kluwer representatives can also provide training on the use of its products, including training for law schools in conjunction with upper level courses on topics such as tax and arbitration. Contact links are available on the VitalLaw homepage.

Requests for Assistance

No formal requests for assistance were submitted, but one issue of concern was raised to a CRIV member regarding the receipt by individuals of Wolters Kluwer communications they no longer wish to receive. Wolters Kluwer acknowledges some who have opted out of communications may be on different lists and is taking steps to make sure the lists are updated.

Updates from AALL

The 2023 AALL Annual Meeting will take place from July 15-18 at the Hynes Convention Center in Boston. The topic for the Vendor Round Table has not yet been determined, but all expressed a

preference for an in-person meeting if possible. The format will be decided when the date gets closer and will be influenced by health and environmental concerns as they exist at the time of the conference.

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.



www.aallnet.org

