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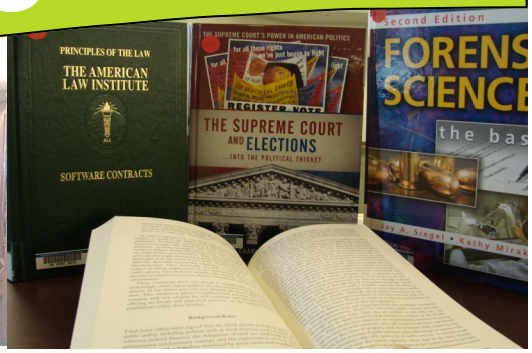
NYS Appellate Division Law Library

E-Legal News



Welcome

Welcome

The Appellate Division Law Library welcomes the15th Director in its 165 year history. Betsy A. Vipperman holds a Master of Library and Information Science degree from the University of Texas at Austin. She brings more than 20 years of experience in court libraries to the position, including stints at the state law libraries of Texas and Wisconsin. Her wide range of library experience includes U.S. government documents, acquisitions, collection development, outreach services, teaching and reference. Betsy has been with the Appellate Division Library since 1997, serving as head of the Public Services department prior to becoming director.

Part III: Cloud Computing Disadvantages

The disadvantages of cloud computing essentially fall into four main categories: privacy, security, accessibility, and loss of control. Interestingly, one of these disadvantages, accessibility, was also listed before as one of the major *advantages* of cloud computing. This double-edged sword results from cloud computing's reliance on a high-speed Internet connection. As mentioned before, a main advantage of a web-based or "cloud-based" system is the ease of accessibility. You connect via the Internet through your web browser from any Internet-connected device. Thus, users are no longer tied to a particular office or workstation. But what happens if the Internet goes down, or becomes temporarily unavailable? Unfortunately, that means all work would come to a halt. Even simple word processing would not be possible, because you wouldn't be able to connect to the software. This accessibility disadvantage is worth noting before making the move to a cloud-based software system.

Loss of control is another important disadvantage of any cloud-based system. Keeping with our *Microsoft Word* example, it is easy to understand how this loss of control can have a negative effect. Using a traditional application of *Microsoft Word,* you (or your IT department) decide when you upgrade to a more recent version; say from *Microsoft Word 2007* to *Microsoft Word 2010.*

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Since there is always a certain amount of training that comes with an upgrade, you or your organization may prefer to put off an upgrade until that training can be completed. There are also many instances when a user or an organization simply prefers their existing version of the software. Under the cloud-based model, updates and upgrades are made at the provider's discretion.

Since the software isn't installed locally on your PC, but instead on the provider's server, the provider (in this case Microsoft) decides when to upgrade to a newer version. You could literally leave your office at the end of the day using one version of software, and arrive the next day to find a different version in its place!

Privacy and security concerns are also inherent in any cloud computing system. As far as security is concerned, cloud systems pose potential problems for several reasons. Since all forms of cloud computing rely on sending data over the Internet, that data must be sufficiently encrypted in order to prevent a third party from intercepting it. There is also the question of liability in the event of a data breach. If your organization's data is stolen from Microsoft's (or another cloud provider's) network, who is liable for any harm done to your clients or patrons?

Privacy (or lack thereof) is perhaps the most poignant disadvantage related to cloud computing. Where security-related issues concern a third party stealing your data, privacy-related issues have to with how the *provider itself* uses your data. If your organization decides to utilize a cloud-based word processing application like *Microsoft Office 365,* what is to stop the provider (Microsoft) from peering into the content of the files you've created with that application? The provider could easily scour the contents of your files to develop targeted advertising in the form of emails, web ads, and even sales calls. This strategy of delivering targeted advertising based on users' habits has been a primary profit-motive for many online services (like email and search engines) since the emergence of the worldwide web in the early 1990s. This targeted advertising potential simply does not exist in the traditional software model, because your data is stored locally instead of on the provider's servers. Thus, cloud-based software systems present a huge opportunity for providers to bring in additional revenue in the form of targeted advertising, while at the same time potentially compromising users' privacy.

. . .

When considering the move to a cloud-based system, organizations should consider the advantages and disadvantages inherent in such systems. Cloud computing may indeed reduce IT costs and provide for increased accessibility, but it may also present serious concerns regarding security, loss of control and (perhaps most importantly) privacy. Given the tension between these advantages and disadvantages, it will be interesting to see if cloud computing truly does become "the next big thing," or yet another passing fad in the electronic world. At this point, the jury is still out.

*Click to read Part I and Part II of Cloud Computing

Reference Librarians Recommend

Bioinformatics law : legal issues for computational biology in the post-genome era / Jorge L. Contreras and A. James Cuticchia,(Eds.). **KF 3133 B56 B57 2013**

Synopsis: *A map of the human genome sequence has existed for a decade now. The resulting explosion of data and research has brought with it fascinating legal questions. In this volume experts in the fields of bioethics and law address topics such as the privacy, ownership, and patentability of genes. Software, including open source, is discussed in terms of development, patents, and licensing. In the arena of medical research there are questions of informed consent, DNA databanks, and governmental public health surveillance. It's a legal and biological brave new world.*

The Cybersleuth's Guide to the Internet: Conducting Effective Free Investigative & Legal Research on the Web / Carole Levitt and Mark Rosch **KF 242 .A1 L48 2012**

The Fine Print: How Big Companies Use "Plain English" to Rob You Blind / David C. Johnston **KF 9351 J64 2012**

Justice Curtis in the Civil War Era: at the Crossroads of American Constitutionalism / Stuart Streichler **KF 4541 S77 2005**

Synopsis: *Little is known about Justice Curtis although he is said to be the first U.S. Supreme Court Justice with a formal legal education, having graduated from Harvard Law School in 1831. In 1857 the Supreme Court ruled in Dred Scott v. Stanford (60 US 393) that the framers of the Constitution did not consider African Americans to be citizens and thus not protected by it. Justice Curtis strongly disagreed with the majority, writing his own dissenting opinion. Six months later, he resigned on a matter of principle.*

Click here for March-May 2014 New Book List

Did You Know?

Legal Apps for Smartphones

Apps are merely shortcuts which aid the user to retrieve information quickly via smartphones and tablets. Many users have tons of apps on their devices they deem important. Since apps are the wave of the future, the legal community has seen a need for them as well. Now there are apps for attorneys on the go. Need Black' s Law Dictionary or a quick reference to a case or law? There are apps for them and more. *UCLA School of Law Hugh & Hazel Darling Law Library* maintains a list of these apps for law students and attorneys. These apps do not replace the hard copy or physical research, but save time and allow the user to research the information at a later date.

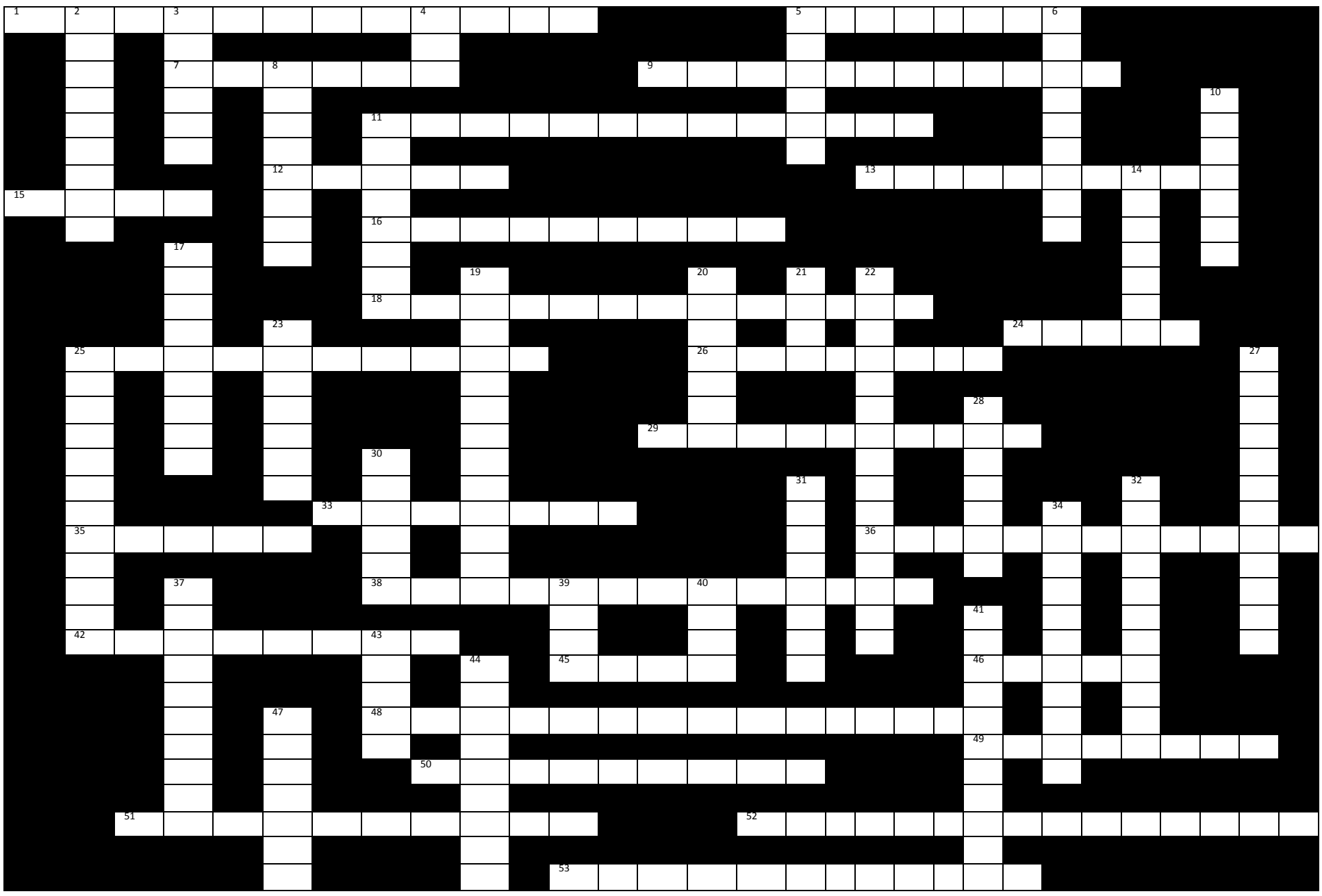
Check out these cool law apps:

http://libguides.law.ucla.edu/Mobilelegalapps

National Wear Red Day!

On February 7th, the Appellate Division Law Library and some court staff wore red for the American Heart Association National Wear Red Day.

E-Legal News Crossword



Across
1) During the Civil War Lincoln suspended _____.
5) Not Chinese Wall but _____.
7) Legal Dictionary
9) Where did the injury occur?
11) Publisher
12) to bar or prevent in law
13) Opposite of 29 across
15) a vital or decisive stage, point, etc.
16) Compensate for loss
18) “If you throw a skunk in a jury box, you can’t instruct the jury not to smell it.”
24) “Against or about a thing”
25) One of a kind
26) Repossession of personal property
29) Preceding death
33) Little value
35) Not criminal
36) BTW
38) 1st Law Librarian to move from County Office Building to Hall of Justice
42) tool of legal research
45) Person who inherits
46) Never go off the _____.
48) decision upholding right against self incrimination
49) ownership right given under the Fifth Amendment
50) “among other things”
51) Repeat offender
52) “the thing itself speaks”
53) New trial in the legal system

Down
2) “with even stronger reason”
3) “on the bench”
4) Latin term for “subject matter”
5) Legal term for “John Doe”
6) Prolongs legal action
8) Way of argument
10) Support
11) Court order to escort a convict to prison
14) kind of life insurance
17) Relating to outside sources
19) Science of law
20) Attorney’s retainer
21) Dismissal without prejudice
22) written questions in discovery
23) Legal Database
25) “Let the decision stand”
27) “friend of the court”
28) “actual”
30) one of the basis used in affidavits
31) Quoting or writing an authoritative source or reference
32) language used in legal documents
34) Impartial hearing
37) method of verifying cases
39) Town in Steuben County
40) Latin term for “wife”
41) Speculate about results
43) Doctrine of faith
44) act of informing a suspect of constitutional rights
47) Penalty for taking away cattle

FREE MS Word in 30 minutes or less FREE

In September the library will be offering mini classes on Microsoft Word 2010. If you have 30 minutes to spare you can get all you need from these quick informational classes. For beginners and anyone needing a refresher. All classes are held at the Law Library. Registration form is below. Class size is limited to 10 people.

Please check our website and blog each month for new classes.

- -

MS Word in 30 minutes or less

Please select a time for each class you are interested in attending:

Functions of the Ribbon, 9/3/14

____10:00-10:30 ____11:00-11:30

____12:00-12:30 ____ 1:00-1:30

Saving Documents , 9/4/14

____10:00-10:30 ____11:00-11:30

____12:00-12:30 ____ 1:00-1:30

Snipping Made Easy, 9/5/14

____10:00-10:30 ____11:00-11:30

____12:00-12:30 ____ 1:00-1:30

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Name

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Firm

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Address

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E-mail address

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Phone

Mail registration form to:

Yolanda Johnson
Appellate Division Law Library
M. Dolores Denman Courthouse
50 East Avenue, Ste. 100
Rochester, NY 14604

Fax registration form to: (585)530-3270
E-mail registration info to: yjjohnso@nycourts.gov

Contact Yolanda Johnson for more information:
(585)530-3260 or yjjohnso@nycourts.gov
Your registration will be confirmed via e-mail.

Information

Visit Our Website:

www.nycourts.gov/library/ad4

&

Blog

http://ad4lawlibrary.blogspot.com

REMINDER

All circulating material can be checked out for 21 days with a 7 day renewal except for Records & Briefs!

Library Hours:

Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm.

Holiday/Observance Closings:

Friday, July 4th (Independence Day)

Monday, September 1st (Labor Day)

Library Directory

Circulation Desk (585)530-3250
Reference Desk (585)530-3251
Interlibrary Services (585)530-3254
Administrative Office (585)530-3252

FYI: Meeting Rooms are available and free to use during regular Library hours.

Copy Cards

Copy Cards cost $1.00 and copies with the card are $.15. each and $.25 each without the card. The same copy card can be used at 7th JD Library at the Hall of Justice.

Please be considerate of others and place your cellular phones/electronic devices on silent or vibrate.

Thank you, Law Library!

If you have questions, comments or to remove your name from our mailing list email Yolanda Johnson at yjjohnso@nycourts.gov