Chapter 23: Legal Acquisitions Toolbox

Law librarians have at their disposal a wide variety of tools useful in building and developing legal collections. Bibliographies, checklists, directories, manuals, review media, and Web sites provide legal information professionals with the means of sorting through the dozens of publishers' announcements, circulars, and catalogs which land on their desks each day. While many of the publications listed below will not be appropriate acquisitions for the average law firm library, they can be consulted at a local academic or research law library in your area. Others, like the monthly Legal Information Alert (now discontinued) or the annual Legal Information Buyer's Guide and Reference Manual, were specifically designed to assist law firms in choosing from among the vast, and often costly, literature in the field of law.

The thirty-five titles or Web sites listed below represent the most significant resources consulted by legal information professionals in the work of acquisitions and collection development. Included in the list are titles which can be employed in retrospective acquisitions, current acquisitions, locating book reviews (both general and legal), acquiring books (new and used), and in monitoring the practices of legal publishers. The author welcomes suggestions for additions to this list (E-mail: rilawpress@comcast.net).

Retrospective Acquisitions


Cost: $650 (2019). Conceived by the Association for American Law Schools and produced by the AALS Library Studies Project, under the direction of Miles O. Price and Harry Bitner, Law Books Recommended for Libraries made recommendations in 46 subject categories which were published by Fred B. Rothman from 1967-1976, with coverage to about 1970. Each entry is assigned a letter to designate its suitability for various types of libraries (A=Basic Collection; B=Intermediate Collection; C=Indepth Research Collection). Although the product itself was discontinued due to a lack of funding, it was later supplemented by annual volumes of recommended titles edited by Oscar J. Miller and Mortimer D. Schwartz (See entry for Recommended Publications for Legal Research below). Although out of print for a number of years, this set, which is owned by many academic and research law libraries, can provide much useful information for retrospective collection development. Also available on HeinOnline.

Cohen, Morris L. Bibliography of Early American Law (BEAL). Buffalo, NY: William S. Hein & Co., 1998. 7 vols. (5,868 pp. + 2003 supplement (v. 7). Cost: print: $1,750; print and CD-ROM: $1,850; CD-ROM only: $1,650; also available on HeinOnline (2019). This monumental scholarly reference work lists and describes the monographic and trial literature of American law published in the United States from its colonial founding to the end of 1860. It also includes works on foreign, comparative, and international which were published in the United States during that time. The Bibliography of Early American Law (BEAL) is divided into four sections: Monographs, Criminal Trials, Special Proceedings. Special Proceedings embraces selective legislative and administrative proceedings of an adjudicatory nature, and arbitrations. Access to individual entries is provided by means of indexes of authors, titles, specific subjects, names of parties to litigations, jurisdiction, language (if other than English), place of publication and publisher, and year of publication. The work is the product of thirty-five years research in early American bibliography for which the late Morris Cohen received the Joseph L. Andrews Bibliographical Award from the American Association of Law Libraries in 1999. The definitive bibliography for pre-1860 American legal imprints. Also available on HeinOnline.

Index to Legal Periodicals Retrospective: 1908-1981. Ipswich, MA: EBSCO

Cost: Originally $495.00, but out-of-print; used prices extremely volatile; sets last available on amazon.com for $6,000 and $7,504. An invaluable source of retrospective bibliographical information on more than 130,000 law or law-related book titles and 4,000 serial titles. Employing a combination of sources for the period covered, including the American Book Publishing Record, the National Union Catalog, and MARC tapes, the editors have selected entries from a total of more than 500,000 titles examined. Bibliographical entries in volumes 1-3 are organized by main entry within each subject, employing more than 39,000 Library of Congress subject headings. Vol. 4 includes author and titles indices, subject and titles serials indices, a listing of law and law related publishers and distributors, and a listing of law and law related on-line database producers and vendors. Excluded are juvenile literature, handbooks, manuals, looseleafs, or pamphlets that do not indicate a sense of permanency. Ideally consulted in a publicly accessible a law library.

Cost: OUT-OF-PRINT, but available used on amazon.com from $9.95 (2019). An early attempt to provide practicing lawyers with an annotated list of the best and most useful books for legal research in fifty-nine branches of the law, as well as the most useful legal reference works. The initial selections were made in consultation with members of the ABA's Section of Corporation, Banking and Business Law through a survey which appeared in the November, 1967 issue of The Business Lawyer and published in the July, 1968 issue. This is the second edition of a work first edited by
Richard Sloane and published in 1969. The second edition was edited by James A. McDermott, Chairman of the Business Law Libraries Committee of the ABA, with contributions from hundreds of practicing attorneys, law office librarians, and law professors. While now dated, it nevertheless provides a useful tool for retrospective acquisitions and an insight into law books that have stood the test of time. Effectively replaced by the Legal Information Buyer’s Guide & Reference Manual since 1996.

This series of annual volumes was designed to supplement the 10-volume Law Books Recommended for Law Libraries originally published by the Association of American Law Schools and its Library Studies Project. It consequently fills the void left that by the cessation of that project with its coverage to 1970. Oscar J. Miller and Mortimer D. Schwartz compiled 30 annual volumes (1970-2000) before turning the editorship over to Mary Miller, Associate Director and Head of Acquisitions at the University of Buffalo, Charles B. Sears Law Library, State University of New York (2001-2016). Entries are organized into fifty subject areas, arranged alphabetically by main entry. Each entry is assigned a letter to designate its suitability for various types of libraries (A=Basic Collection; B=Intermediate Collection; C=In-depth Research Collection). Over the course of the thirty years, the editors examined over 95,000 items and selected over 26,000 for inclusion and ranking.

Over the years, Fred Shapiro has produced a number of useful studies of the most heavily cited law review articles. In this study, he draws upon the Institute for Scientific Information’s (ISI) Social Sciences Citation Index for the years 1981-1997 and runs these results through SOCSCIWRCH, Westlaw’s version of the Social Sciences Citation Index (which includes over 100 legal periodicals and over 1,000 social science periodicals) through March, 1999. The results are presented in four tables: the most-cited legal books (other than treatises and texts); the most-cited treatises and texts; British legal books most-cited in Social Science Citation Index; and non-legal books most-cited in legal periodicals. All four lists cover the period 1978-March, 1999. These lists can serve as extremely useful and objective tools for law library acquisitions, particularly in an academic law library environment.

Current Acquisition Tools: Books/Online Services
Cost: $130 (hardbound); from $5.98 (paper) and $63.95 (Kindle) on amazon.com (2019).
This collection of articles, published simultaneously as Legal Reference Services Quarterly, Volume 21, Numbers 2/3 and 4 (2002), addresses a number of timely issues related to impact of digital technology on law library collection development. Taking as their springboard a seminal paper by Penny Hazeltan entitled “How Much of Your Print Collection Is Really on Westlaw or LEXIS-NEXIS,” Chiorazzi and Russell and their contributors examine both the philosophical and practical implications of Hazeltan’s thesis for collection development, legal research, and the physical law libraries of the future. Articles also address such topics as strategic planning for distance learning, long term access to digital information, legal scholarship and digital publishing, consolidation of the legal publishing industry, access versus ownership, electronic journals in the academic law library, and the changing role of law library vendors. An essential acquisition for every law library.

Cost: No longer available in print format; 2012 forward only available as part of LawTrio on the web, combining the Directory of Law-Related CD-ROMs, Legal Looseleaves in Print, and Legal Newsletters in Print at a cost of $469/yr (2019).
The most complete and accurate guide available to legal CD-ROM titles on the market, including those on the Internet. The 2016 edition includes detailed information on more than 1,600 CD-ROM products published by over 180 publishers in the United States and abroad in the areas of law, legislation, and regulation. In addition to the product listings, there are indices by publisher/distributor, search software, Macintosh titles, and subject. Includes citations to product reviews published in law-related publications.

Cost: $50 (2019).
This brief survey examines the types of materials collected by law libraries and the processes employed in their acquisition.

Revised as of October 30, 2018, this volume provides libraries with a current state-by-state checklist for verifying the completeness of current statutory holdings, as well as the Code of Federal Regulations.

Cost: $78; from $29 on amazon.com (2019).

IndexMaster. 1057 Jaycox Road, Avon, Ohio 44011. [Available at: www.indexmaster.com]
Cost: Discontinued in 2015; was $45-$595 per year depending on size of firm, or type of library.

Now in its 41st edition, this is a comprehensive guide to over 50,000 titles comprising over 100,000 entries in over 19,000 subject areas, including books, serials, microfiche, videocassettes, software and online databases. Some entries include brief annotations. Generally recommended for purchase only by larger law libraries. Attorneys are encouraged to consult this resource in their local state, court, county, bar association, or academic library. While the information is generally reliable, and thorough, independent verification is recommended given the breadth of coverage. A close examination will reveal numerous omissions, including subsequent editions of earlier published works. For example, the 2002 edition not only omitted the 1999 (5th) edition of Lawrence Taylor’s Drunk Driving Defense but the 1995 (4th) edition as well. A useful, but not exhaustive, bibliographical research tool. Print edition acquired from R.R. Bowker effective January 1, 2010.


Legal Looseleafs in Print. Compiled and edited by Arlene L. Eis. Teaneck, NJ: Infosources Publishing, 1981-date. Updated continuously. Cost: Available as online subscription only: $249 per year individually; or as part of LawTRIO Law Publications Database, combining the Directory of Law-Related CD-ROMs, Legal Looseleafs in Print, and Legal Newsletters in Print at a cost of $466 per year (2019). An exhaustive compilation of bibliographical data for over 3,600 looseleaf publications from 270 different publishers. Includes true looseleaf services, such as those from CCH, BNA, and RIA, and post-binder publication such as those published by Matthew Bender. Basically, coverage includes legal publications contained in ring or post-bound (compression) binders as opposed to permanently bound books. Each entry includes title, author, publisher, date of publication, number of volumes, cost and supplementation cost, frequency of supplementation, recent supplementation cost, Library of Congress control number/ OCLC control number/LC classification, and indicates whether it is available online or on CD-ROM. Entries are indexed by publisher, subject, and electronic format. A publishers’ directory provides addresses and telephone numbers for all publishers represented. A valuable guide to what is generally an expensive form of publication.

Legal Newsletters in Print. Compiled and edited by Arlene L. Eis. Teaneck, NJ: Infosources Publishing, 1981-date. Updated continuously. Cost: Available as online subscription only: $249 per year individually; or as part of LawTRIO Law Publications Database, combining the Directory of Law-Related CD-ROMs, Legal Looseleafs in Print, and Legal Newsletters in Print at a cost of $466 per year (2019). A comprehensive guide to more than 2,200 legal newsletters, including standard-type newsletters, bulletins, newsletter-reporting services, and all reporting services issued periodically and stored in looseleaf binders. Does not include publications that require interfiling (see Legal Looseleafs in Print). Each entry includes full bibliographical detail, including sources of indexing, online availability, and description. In addition to the main Title List, there is a publisher index, list of newsletters online, database list, database index, a list of newsletters registered with the Copyright Clearance Center, newsletters that accept advertising, and a subject index. An excellent resource for the attorney or law firm interested in tracking down newsletters in specific subject areas and evaluating available alternatives. Entries include annual subscription costs.

This legal companion provides essential information regarding the legal basis for the many practices involved in library acquisitions, including basic fair trade and contract law concepts; contract formation; compliance, contract and license negotiation; breach and remedy issues; developments in online and information contracting; the advantages and disadvantages of licensing; the deciphering of the legalese in agreements; and detailed explanations of specific types of licenses (web-link, shrink-wrap, etc.). There is also discussion of jurisdictional issues regarding online and information contracting. The book references real-world cases involving the acquisitions process. An Associate Professor in the School of Information Studies, University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee, Tomas A. Lipinski received Ph.D. from the Graduate School of Library and Information Science, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and JD from Marquette University Law School. He is the author of numerous books on law in the library environment. This book is an updating of the author’s Librarian’s Legal Companion for Buying and Licensing Information Resources.


An annotated bibliography containing descriptions of hundreds of the most useful reference books for the law library. Included are general almanacs, encyclopedias, biographical works, dictionaries, directories, practice and procedure titles, quotation books, research and bibliographical titles, statistical handbooks, style manuals, and bar association publications. Includes an author/title index.


Cost: 1970/71-2003: print-on-demand; 2004-2010: $80 ea.; 2011-2015: $89 ea.; 2016: $93; 2017: $98; $2,488 for complete set (49 vols.) (2019). This series of annual volumes was designed to supplement the 10-volume Law Books Recommended for Law Libraries originally published by the Association of American Law Schools and its Library Studies Project. It consequently fills the void left that by the cessation of that project with its coverage to 1970. Oscar J. Miller and Mortimer D. Schwartz compiled 30 annual volumes before turning the editorship over to Mary Miller, Associate Director and Head of Acquisitions at the University of Buffalo, Charles B. Sears Law Library, State University of New York. Entries are organized into fifty subject areas, arranged alphabetically by main entry. Each entry is assigned a letter to designate its suitability for various types of libraries (A=Basic Collection; B=Intermediate Collection; C=In-depth Research Collection). Over the course of the thirty years, the editors examined over 95,000 items and selected over 26,000 for inclusion and ranking.


A comprehensive guide to the purchase of United States legal information in all its categories and formats, combined with a number of unique reference features. Provides general guidance to those establishing a law office library as well as guidance in the selection of specific categories of information, including statutes, case reporters, digests, citators, reference titles, CD-ROMs, and online services, to name just a few. Contains the most extensive annotated bibliography of legal treatises on the market (over 2,200 titles), organized under eighty-seven subject headings, the supplemented titles of which are also represented in a unique spreadsheet providing basic bibliographic, cost, and 5-year supplementation cost data. Also includes an extensive guide to basic legal publications and information sources for all fifty states and the District of Columbia, with prices. Appendices include a guide to the histories and product lines of dozens of leading legal publishers, a directory of legal publishers with addresses, telephone numbers and Web sites, used and rare law book dealers, representative used law book prices, a selective list of looseleaf services, cost saving tips, spreadsheet of CALR case law coverage for eight vendors, an extensive bibliography, and index. Winner of the 1998 Joseph L. Andrews Bibliographical Award from the American Association of Law Libraries. An essential reference tool for any legal professional who purchases or uses legal information. Previous editions published in 1996, 1997-98, 1998-99, and 2000 through 2015. Earlier editions (1996-2010) are now available on the Spinelli’s Law Librarian’s Reference Shelf on HeinOnline. In 2011, the company name was changed to New England LawPress. The company moved to Guilford, CT in 2014.

Current Acquisitions: General Review Sources

Against the Grain. 209 Richardson Avenue, MSC 98, The Citadel, Charleston, SC 29409. Published in February, April, June, September, November and December/January. Web site: http://www.against-the-grain.com/

Cost: $55 per year (print and online bundle) (2019). If Publishers Weekly is the bible of the publishing industry,” Against the Grain is the bible for the world of library acquisitions, providing news about libraries, publishers, book jobbers and subscription agents, and the issues, literature and people that impact the world of books and journals. Articles are insightful, informative, and well-written. An essential read for the acquisitions librarian who wishes to remain informed about issues important to the profession. Subscription includes online access to an archival collection of articles. Tables of Contents available on the Web at: http://www.against-the-grain.com/


Cost: $513 per year (magazine); Reviews on Cards: $576 per year; Choice Reviews Online rates: $649 (academic libraries). http://www.ala.org/acrl/choice/subscription-rates#crorates (2019).

Subscriptions: 100 Riverview Center, Middletown, CT 06457. (860) 347-6933. Each issue contains approximately 600 brief reviews of recent books and electronic media written by subject matter experts. Reviews are addressed specifically to librarians and faculty members who select materials for academic libraries, especially...
for undergraduate research and teaching. Reviews cover more than 50 sub-disciplines spanning the humanities, science and technology, and the social and behavioral sciences. Choice Reviews Online provides access to more than 145,000 Choice reviews plus all the editorial content from Choice magazine. A publication of the Association of College and Research Libraries, a division of the American Library Association.


**Cost:** $139 (hardcopy); $139 (single user PDF); $168 (print and single-user PDF); multi-site license: $207; multi-site license plus print: $239 (2019).

This study analyzes trends in the acquisition of print materials based on a survey of 66 North American law libraries, including 24 law school libraries, 19 courthouse of other government law libraries, 3 private company law libraries and 20 law firm libraries. It examines current spending on print forms of books, treatises, digests, loose-leaf services, directories, legal encyclopedias, journals, newspapers, magazines and more, as well as the philosophy guiding the reduction of print resources. The report attempts to address the mistakes law libraries have made in making these reductions is print resources, and the role played by patron surveys in arriving at such decisions. Looking at both primary and secondary resources, the study also examines which print collections are most resistant to culling, and the impact of interlibrary loan on such decision-making. It also distinguishes between trends among academic and law firm libraries in the percentage of budget devoted to print materials and the corresponding reductions in expenditures for same. In an age in which acquisition and cancellations are driven heavily by the availability of online offerings, this study provides critical guidance to law libraries attempting to navigate the transition.

**Library Journal.** New York: Cahners Publishing Co., 1876-date. 245 W. 17th St., New York, NY 10011. (800) 677-6694. Published 20 times per year. Also available on the Web at: http://libraryjournal.reviewsnews.com

**Cost:** print or digital subscription with *Book Verdict Library Journal*: $157.99 (with credit card); print/online with *Book Verdict Pro Plus*: $179.99 (2019)

First published in 1876, *Library Journal* is the oldest independent national library publication, with a claimed readership of over 100,000 library directors, administrators, and others in public, academic and business libraries. Each issue includes reviews of 250-350 general adult books, most prior to publication. Reviews are addressed to the educated generalist and usually run from 125-150 words. The *Book Verdict Pro Plus* is available for $143.99. It provides the full text of *LJ* reviews as well as Pro functionality that allows the user to create, manage, and tag lists, save searches and export metadata.


**Cost:** $89.50 (print or PDF); multi-site license: $189 (2019).

This 103-page study is based on data from 68 public, academic, corporate, legal and government libraries, with data broken out by type of library, size of library and other criteria. The study examines how libraries are using eBooks and addresses such issues as spending, budgets, contracts, licensing, number of licenses maintained, and aggregator and publisher preferences and aggregator vs publisher sales as a percentage of total eBook spending. The report also provides detailed data on library spending on particular retail vendors, including Amazon, Barnes & Noble and all other online book vendors. The report also presents data on e-audio books, use of consortium purchasing arrangements for eBooks, the impact of eBooks on interlibrary loan, range of titles typically available for eBook rental at libraries, the impact of tablets and other eBook reading devices, the impact of eBooks on course reserves for higher education libraries, the evolving state of dedicated endowments for eBooks, use of and spending on eDirectories, trends in eBook pricing as experienced by libraries, trends in eBook collection planning, use of eTextbooks and more.


**Cost:** print: $89.95 per year (includes electronic access to five-year archive); Two years: $169 (2019).

The *New York Review of Books* has been described by *Esquire* magazine as “the premier literary intellectual magazine in the English language. First published in 1963, it now has a circulation of over 115,000 readers. It publishes lengthy reviews of both current fiction and non-fiction and features lengthy essays addressing most of the important political, cultural, and intellectual issues of the age written by leading writers, critics, intellectuals. Includes reviews of many law-related titles, including those in politics, history, and economics.


**Cost:** Online access to NY Times: $52 per year; All access plus print: $234 per year; Book Review free online at: http://www.nytimes.com/pages/books/index.html (2019).

One of the leading sources in the United States for critical reviews of the best in current fiction and non-fiction, poetry. Also available in a free online version.


**Cost:** PW Insider rates: $199 per year (includes online access); digital only: $168 (2019).

The leading publication for the publishing industry, *Publishers Weekly* serves as the publication of record for industry news, trends, and data. It is also the source for more than 7,500 succinct reviews of forthcoming books annually. With a subscriber base of 40,000, it reaches a total audience of nearly 100,000 in bookstores, libraries, and the publishing industry. The web site includes exclusive access to an archive of book reviews and articles.


**Cost:** $98 (print or pdf); multi-site license: $195 (2019).

This invaluable survey of library database licensing practices draws upon responses from 90 libraries, including corporate, legal, college, public, state, and non-profit libraries. More than half of the participating libraries are based in the United States; the remainder are from Australia, Canada, the United Kingdom,
and several other countries. The survey data is broken out by type and size of library, as well as by overall level of database expenditure. More than 400 tables provide detailed evidence of library spending on electronic databases, including spending through consortia, the growth rate in the number of licenses, spending on licenses for directories, electronic journals, e-books, and magazine/newspaper databases; and future spending plans on all of the above. The survey also examines price inflation experienced for electronic resources in business, medical, humanities, financial, market research, social sciences and many other information categories, as well as price inflation for e-books, electronic directories, journals, and newspaper/magazine databases. The survey also examines a number of related issues, including the percentage of licenses that require passwords and simultaneous access restrictions; spending on legal services related to licenses, percentage of libraries that have threatened to sue a database vendor; percentage of libraries that have been threatened with suits by database vendors; and the number of hours spent in reviewing license contracts. Of particular interest to law libraries, the survey also reports the percentage of contracts that require that their terms be kept secret; and level of awareness of the terms of other libraries contracts. With the substantial sums spent by libraries for electronic databases, these findings will prove an invaluable resource to library administrators and acquisitions librarians.

Current Acquisitions: Bibliographies and Reviews of Legal Materials


Cost: Annual subscription cost varies based on the size and type of the organization (2019). Call: 1-800-828-7571. Reports of new law and law-related titles in the form of 3” x 5” green slips of paper shipped to subscribers approximately every week. Each Hein green slip contains complete bibliographical information and price, and, in some instances, a brief description of contents. Titles are chosen from a variety of sources, including the ABA Journal, CHOICE, Forthcoming Books, Legal Information Alert, Library Journal, Library of Congress slips, etc. Books can be ordered by returning the Green slips to Hein. See also Current Publications in Legal and Related Fields (below).


Current Law Index is a monthly publication indexing the content of more than 1,200 leading law journals, legal newspapers and specialty publications from the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, Ireland, Australia and New Zealand. Indexed titles include academic law reviews, bar association journals, specialty journals and selected journals treating law-related disciplines such as criminology, accounting, business, criminal, international law, taxation, and estate planning. Current Law Index is divided into four sections – Subject Index, Author/Title Index, Table of Cases, and Table of Statutes. Headings are listed alphabetically within each section, with numeric filings at the end of the alphabet. The entries under a heading, name, or subdivision appear in chronological order, with the most recent publications listed first. Produced in cooperation with the American Association of Law Libraries, Current Law Index provides the most comprehensive indexing of law-related articles available in print. Subscription includes annual cumulative volume. Content also available online on Legal Trac.


Cost: $299 per year; subscription without annual cumulation: $214 (2019).

This current awareness bibliography draws new titles from the following publications: American Book Publishing Record, Bowker’s Legal Publishing Preview, Forthcoming Books, Fred B. Rothman & Co. green slips, Law publishers’ circulars and advance catalogs, Library Journal, Library of Congress proof slips (C.I.P.), newspaper articles, Publishers Weekly, University press catalogs. Reports on more 3,000 titles annually. This current awareness tool for law library acquisitions departments is an economical alternative to the Hein green slips, though lacking the latter’s convenience for ordering purposes.

Index to Legal Periodicals and Books (ILPB). Ipswich, MA: EBSCOhost (H.W. Wilson), 1982-date.

Cost: Inquire; priced based on nature of institution and nature of exact database requirements.

The Index to Legal Periodicals & Books (ILPB) database indexes over 1,025 legal journals, law reviews, yearbooks, institutes, statutes, bar association publications, university publications, and government publications dating back to 1982. First published in 1908, this index was originally titled the Index to Legal Periodicals, and, until 1980, was the only extensive index of legal periodical literature. In 1994, the title was changed to Index to Legal Periodicals and Books and approximately 1,400 monographs were added to the coverage.


ILP indexes approximately 850 legal journals and over 1,400 legal monographs. Access is by subject, author, case name, and statute name. Full bibliographic information is given only under the subject entry. A separate section indexes book reviews under the author of the book reviewed. Originally published by the American Association of Law Libraries, the print edition of ILP has subsequently been published by H.W. Wilson and Grey House. Since 1981, the index has been searchable online in LexisNexis and Westlaw. For Index to Legal Periodicals Retrospective: 1908-1981, see entry above.


The Law and Politics Book Review, sponsored by the Law and Courts Section of the American Political Science Association. Its web site functions as a searchable archive for
all reviews published in this electronic journal since its founding in 1991. Supported by the Section and by the University of Maryland, it is the principal resource for reviews of English language books published in the “Law and Politics” field, broadly construed. Being published on the Internet, its readers receive the reviews automatically in their e-mail box upon publication. The Section has a membership of almost 900 and presently sends the Review to over 1,300 readers in 39 countries. The electronic medium allows the LPBR to review almost every book about the legal process and politics, to do longer reviews than are usually published, and to make the reviews available within six months of receipt. Reviews reflect the full range of scholarly and political opinion and typically run from 2,500 to 5,000 words. The Review presently remains available for an indefinite period on the Review’s World Wide Web home page [currently: http://www.bsos.umd.edu/gvpt/lpbr].

Legal Information Management Index. Chapel Hill, NC: Legal Information Services, 1984-date. Bimonthly with annual cumulation. (919) 408-0267; FAX: (919) 408-0267.
Cost: Ceased publication in December 2013. Was $188 per year ($178 online); Online Historic Access only: $100 (2019). Edited by law librarian and attorney Elyse Fox, this publication indexes 92 periodicals published in the United States, Canada and abroad. Indexed literature includes substantive English-language articles, bibliographies and surveys, and critical reviews of monographs, serials, software and hardware, online databases, microforms, CD-ROMs, looseleaf services, and audio-visual materials. Articles are indexed by key word, and by author. Book reviews are indexed by title. For law librarians, this is the best vehicle for keeping up with the flood of information in the fields of law librarianship and legal information management.

Cost: Inquire for current pricing.
Formerly Index to Legal Periodicals & Books on WilsonWeb, Legal Source represents a merger of the H.W. Wilson and EBSCO databases to provide the full text of more than 1,100 full-text journals, detailed indexing for legal journals, law reviews, yearbooks, institutes, statutes, bar association publications and university publications, more than 300 law reviews, 1,400 monographs, and over 2 million records, including book reviews and case studies. It also links to content available via HeinOnLine and the EBSCO Legal Collection, comprising 1225 full text journals, and over 2.5 million records.

Cost: Inquire; contact Gale Cengage Learning at 1-800-877-4253.
LegalTrac is a Web-based database offering indexing for all major law reviews, legal newspapers, specialty law publications, bar association journals, and law-related articles from general interest publications. LegalTrac indexes over 1,500 major law reviews, legal newspapers, and specialty publications, bar association journals, and international legal journals in the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, Australia, and other major English speaking countries. It also includes the full text of 250 titles, as well as many full-text book reviews. Coverage dates from 1980 for most periodicals indexed. Updated monthly. Corresponds to the print Current Law Index.

Essential Web Sites
AddAll.com
This book search and price comparison site allows users to search and compare among more than 40 sites, 20,000 sellers, and millions of books. Users may search by author, title, key word and ISBN. Beware of sellers selling in-print books, available from their publishers, for many times their list price.

Alibris.com
The world’s leading supplier of new, out-of-print and hard to find books. Its inventory encompasses the holdings of hundreds of independent booksellers around the world and boasts a database of 35 million books, manuscripts, maps, photos, prints, and.autographs. Located in the San Francisco Bay area, Alibris operates additional facilities across the United States for bookseller relations, technology development, and distribution. Visitors to the Web site can search its inventory or browse by subject area.

Amazon.com
A revolutionary way of acquiring books, e-books, audio, video, and other forms of media. Amazon.com stocks thousands of legal, law-related, and general titles. Entries include thousands of user-generated reviews. It also includes many subject matter bibliographies and customer-inspired recommendations. Provides a search service for out-of-print titles (10% of its sales). While amazon.com has accepted credit card orders from its inception, it is now prepared to service institutional accounts which require invoicing (see Against the Grain, Nov., 2001, pp. 60-67). Amazon.com also provides users with the ability to sell new or used books online. Beware of sellers who price books at astronomical levels, even when they are in print and available from the publisher.

Book Depot. Available at: http://www.bookdepot.com
One of North America’s largest wholesalers of discount and remainder books, the Book Depot has been wholesaling for more than 10 years, and selling online since 1997. Has an inventory of over 5 million books which can be located and purchased online.

CRIV Vendor Relation Page. American Association of Law Libraries, Committee on Relations with Information Vendors (CRIV). Available at: www.aallnet.org/advocacy/vendor-relations/
The Committee on Relations with Information Vendors is charged with facilitating communications between information vendors and the members of the American Association of Law Libraries and the Executive Board in matters relating to provision of information in any format. The committee monitors complaints and provides constructive suggestions to vendors. The CRIV Vendor Relation Page is an extremely useful site for anyone who acquires legal information, providing valuable insight into the issues, responses, and tools employed by professional law librarians in dealing with information vendors. The CRIV Vendor Relation Page’s CRIV Tools, includes a number of useful features, including tips for dealing with telemarketers and customer service departments, lists of divested titles, a glossary of publishing terms, a guide to negotiating Internet subscriptions, sample letters, a sample publisher log, and vendor contact

Legal Acquisitions Toolbox
information. The site should be bookmarked by anyone who regularly deals with legal information vendors.

**The Lawbook Exchange, Ltd.** 33 Terminal Ave., Clark, NJ 07066-1321 Available at: [http://www.lawbookexc.com/](http://www.lawbookexc.com/)

This New Jersey-based dealer specializes in new, used and rare law books for law libraries, practitioners and scholars. Its monthly online catalogs provide the most extensive current price lists for new, used, antiquarian, and reprinted law books, as well as detailed descriptions of rare and antiquarian titles.

**Law-lib list-serv.**

More than 3,000 law librarians associated with academic, governmental, law firm, and corporate law libraries are signed on to this list-serv, as well as representatives of legal publishers who use law-lib to monitor the opinions of their largest identifiable block of consumers. If you don’t mind sifting through dozens of irrelevant postings, monitoring law-lib is probably the best way of keeping attuned to the practices of the legal publishing industry. To subscribe, send the following message to: listproc@ucdavis.edu: “Subscribe [insert your first and last name]”

**Law Librarian Blog:** Available at: [http://lib2.com/](http://lib2.com/)

Maintained by law librarian Joseph Hodnicki, Director of the Butler County (OH) Law Library, with contributions by Mark Giangrande, Caren Biberman, Sarah Glassmeyer, Victoria Szymczak, and David C. Walker, this blog tracks developments in law libraries, the law librarian job market, and the world of legal publishing. Its archive is a valuable resource for a variety of topics related to the profession and publishing realms.


This site represents a collective effort by law librarians in many countries to create a virtual collection of collection development policy documents for law libraries, and a bibliography of models, standards, and guides for creating law library collection development policies. The site will eventually include policies from a broad range of law libraries: private, court, agency, public, prison, academic, and other. The site also provides access to collection development policy documents for special types of legal materials, such as government documents. Further, the site provides access to related materials of interest, including relevant collection development policies for other types of libraries and special formats, and to bibliographical information on collection policy documents in print, collection development standards, and guides to creating collection development policies. Law libraries are encouraged to contribute their collection development policy to the list. The site is edited by Alan Keely, Wake Forest University Professional Center Library.

**Law Library Catalogs.** Washburn School of Law. Available at: [http://www.washlaw.edu/lawcat/](http://www.washlaw.edu/lawcat/)

This site provides direct links to several hundred academic and public law library catalogs. Some feature RSS Feeds. “RSS” stands for Really Simple Syndication or Rich Site Summary, a standard for publishing regular updates to web-based content, in this case, recent acquisitions.


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