



NEWSLETTER

Wilbur C. Hall Law Library • Washington and Lee University School of Law
Lexington, Virginia

Volume 1 • Issue 1 • February 2022

Welcome to the inaugural issue of the W&L Law Library Newsletter! We seek to keep you informed of what the Library is up to and highlight just some of what we can offer you as a student, faculty or staff member, alumnus/a, or another member of our community.

We plan to publish two issues per semester, available both in print at the Library and as a link-enhanced PDF in the [W&L Law Scholarly Commons](#) online repository. We'll feature new and useful resources, provide quick research tips, spotlight items from the Powell Archives, advertise upcoming trainings, events, opportunities, and more.

Thanks for picking us up (or clicking through) to find out the latest news and interesting info from the W&L Law Library.

Please reach out anytime to Andrew Christensen, Newsletter Editor, at christensena@wlu.edu with suggestions, questions, or feedback. Enjoy!



RESEARCH TIP: Stand on the Shoulders of Giants with Smart Secondary Sources

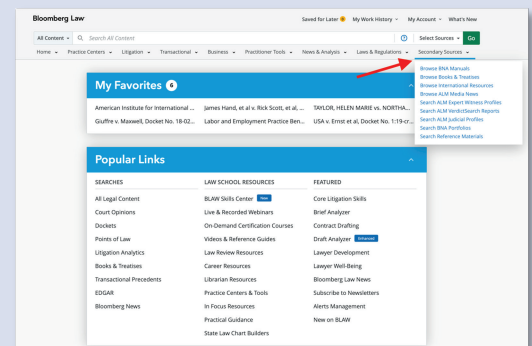
The first rule of legal research is to always start in secondary sources. Before you generate amazing ideas about a legal topic, why not see what an expert has already written? This is a focus of the 1L Legal Research experience, and it should continue to be a focus as you transition from law school to practice.

One of the hardest lessons for inexperienced attorneys is knowing what secondary source is the “best” for a particular problem. When it comes to this skill, the best teacher in your life will be experience. Compare the different options. Draw your own conclusions. Ask practitioners who are experienced in the field what secondary sources they use. Ask a law librarian. While we might not be experts in all areas of the law, we do seem to know an awful lot about the books coming into our building—both print and electronic books.

Most students know that Westlaw Edge and Lexis+ have the same primary law but differ greatly when it comes to secondary sources. Be sure not to sleep on Bloomberg Law. In the past few years, Bloomberg has done an excellent job of bolstering their secondary sources.

From the [Bloomberg Law](#) homepage, look for the tab labeled *Secondary Sources*. Some good options are listed, but if you are looking for a fuller overview of books by subject, click *Browse Books & Treatises*. This will open a webpage organized alphabetically by topic and by publisher. For example, you will see that Bloomberg Law has an agreement with the American Bar Association (ABA) to carry several of that organization’s publications.

The W&L Law librarians are proud of the superb research that our students perform at internships and post-graduation. Keep it up! Keep starting your research with secondary sources! If you have questions, do not hesitate to ask: Franklin Runge, frunge@wlu.edu.



Secondary sources menu on Bloomberg Law

Read this issue online for linked access to resources:

Web: law.wlu.edu/library

Email: lawref@wlu.edu



Twitter: [@wllawlib](https://twitter.com/wllawlib)

Instagram: [@wllawlib](https://www.instagram.com/wllawlib)



NEW TITLES See display in 3rd Floor Entrance

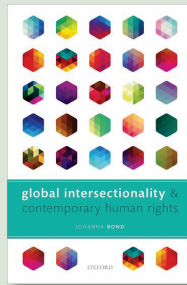
[Only the Rich Can Play: How Washington Works in the New Gilded Age](#), by David Wessel



[Presumed Guilty: How the Supreme Court Empowered the Police and Subverted Civil Rights](#), by Erwin Chemerinsky

[Global Intersectionality and Contemporary Human Rights](#), by Johanna Bond

[Just Algorithms: Using Science to Reduce Incarceration and Inform a Jurisprudence of Risk](#), by C. Slobogin



NEW ONLINE RESOURCES

- [COVID-19: Pandemics Past and Present](#) (HeinOnline)
- [Digital Library Study Aids](#) (LexisNexis)
- [Supreme Court Insight Cert Denied](#) (ProQuest)

UPCOMING TRAININGS

Bloomberg Law (via Zoom; passcode BLAW22!)

- Tue. 3/1, 1:00–1:30pm – [BLaw Basics Refresher](#)
- Wed. 3/2, 12:00–12:30pm – [BLaw Basics Refresher](#)
- Tue. 3/15, 1:00–1:30pm – [Advanced Resources](#)
- Wed. 3/16, 12:00–12:30pm – [Advanced Resources](#)
- Tue. 3/22, 12:30–1:00pm – [Advanced Resources](#)
- Wed. 3/23, 12:00–12:30pm – [Advanced Resources](#)

LexisNexis (in Classroom F; sign-up: bit.ly/lexiswlu)

- Fri. 2/4, 12:00–12:30pm, Judicial Analytics
- Fri. 2/11, 12:00–12:30pm, Admin. & Legislative
- Fri. 2/18, 12:00–12:30pm, Shepard's & Ravel
- Fri. 3/11, 12:00–12:30pm, Brief Analysis

Westlaw (webinar full list/sign-up: tmsnrt.rs/3gxxgRrT)

- Thu. 2/10, 12:00 & 3:00pm – KeyCite for Cases
- Wed. 2/16, 1:00 & 5:00pm – KeyCite for Statutes
- Wed. 2/23, 11:00am & 2:00pm – Key Numbers
- Wed. 3/2, 1:00 & 4:00pm – Briefs
- Thu. 3/10, 12:00 & 3:00pm – Quick Check

FROM THE POWELL ARCHIVES: W&L Law School Fire!

This inaugural Archives highlight comes from the records of the institution itself, specifically the minutes of the faculty meeting held on March 12, 1935. The faculty meeting minutes were acquired by the Archives in November 2020, and while most faculty meeting minutes would prove more effective than counting sheep, this particular edition provides significant insight into a major event in the history of the Law School which had significant repercussions for the institution, the Law Library, and this very archive (which did not yet exist). That event was the fire which destroyed Tucker Memorial Hall in 1934.



W&L's original Tucker Hall, post-fire

The fire took place in the early morning hours of the December 16, 1934. All records of the Law School were lost as well as the books held in the law library. Only Professor Charles McDowell was able to save the contents of his office with the assistance of some students who entered through a window. The law students were sent on their winter holiday a few days early. The faculty and university administration worked together to put together a law library and reading room in the Engineering Building on campus. Books were donated by alumni and members of the community to form a makeshift library while members of the local bar allowed for use of their office libraries to fill in the gaps. The University added an additional \$3,500 in funding for the purchase of new books.

There can be no doubt that this fire had a profound impact on the Law School community. One can only imagine the stress placed on faculty and students mid-way through an academic year. The minutes record the events in the very straightforward and detached way of most meeting minutes, but still provide a glimpse into a devastating loss for the Law School and how it pulled together to rebuild and move forward. Find more in [W&L Law Scholarly Commons](#). Contact: Jenny Mitchell, Archivist, jmitchell@wlu.edu.

Read this issue online for linked access to resources:

Web: law.wlu.edu/library

Email: lawref@wlu.edu



Twitter: [@wllawlib](https://twitter.com/wllawlib)

Instagram: [@wllawlib](https://www.instagram.com/wllawlib)