

Equal Access

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Westlaw Training In Madera County

The Madera County Law Library is offering a free training class on WestLaw on May 6th. The Madera Law Library began offering WestLaw to their patrons in January, and is excited to be having this one-hour training presented by Abigail Stock from West. The Madera county District Attorney's office is partnering with the Law Library to offer MCLE credit in research for attorneys. The training is open to all local attorneys, paralegals, clerks, and patrons.

"We've found WestLaw to be an excellent research tool," said Vaness Spady, Madera's Law Librarian. "Not only are local attorneys using it, but our patrons are really enthusiastic about it, especially once they use the free research attorneys WestLaw offers. It's made such a tremendous difference for our pro per patrons in finding and utilizing the information they need." The Madera County Law Library provides a patron terminal for research use, and patrons are invited to use their personal phones to contact the WestLaw research number.

Spady reports the WestLaw site is their most-used online research tool, even truming google searches. "Many of our pro per patrons have a good idea of what they're looking for when they come in, and WestLaw often delivers the information they need more quickly than general searches, or combing through our books. This training will benefit not only legal professionals, but all our patrons, which I just love. Our goal is to provide our patrons excellent tools, and the understanding to really utilize those tools to their greatest benefit."

Law Day at the Modesto Mall

*by Janice K. Milliken, Stanislaus County Law
Librarian*

2009 marks the bicentennial of the birth of Abraham Lincoln, who devoted much of his adult life to the practice of law. He is regarded by many as the quintessential American lawyer-president. In celebration of this event, the theme for Law Day this year is: "A Legacy of Liberty: Celebrating Lincoln's Bicentennial".

The Stanislaus County Law Library is participating in "Law Day at the Mall" to be held Saturday, May 16th at Vintage Faire Mall in Modesto. This community legal forum is a successful joint effort between the Stanislaus County Superior Court and the Stanislaus County Bar Association. Participants are encouraged to distribute brochures and other handouts outlining the benefits and resources available through their organization.

2000 people are expected to visit the Mall while the Law Day exhibits are there and the Stanislaus County Law Library will be a part of this ongoing successful community event.

Orange County Self-Help Center Opens

The Orange County Superior Court opened its Central Courthouse Self-Help Center in the Fall of 2008. The first partnership effort between the Orange county Public Law Library and the Central Courthouse Self-Help Center is "How to Answer an Unlawful Detainer (Eviction) Case", a document preparation and educational workshop for self-represented parties. The first of these weekly workshops was held April 23 in the Law Library's Conference Room. Customers are requested to bring a copy of their summons and complaint, their own interpreter (if needed), and envelopes and postage stamps. The Law Library and the Self-Help Center plan to develop additional partnerships in the future.

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County Law
Libraries

Open to the
Public

Established in
1891

Governed by a
Board of
Trustees

Funded by a
Portion of Court
Filing Fees

Upcoming Workshops

Fresno (in conjunction with Central California Legal Services) Guardianship Workshops (Every 3rd Thursday of each month)

Kern

Pleading and File Preparation (Family Law: Order to Show Cause, Child Custody, and Child Visitation), *Mondays (9:30-11:30 a.m.)*

Small Claims -Basic Procedure: *Mondays (11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.)*

Guardianship Of A Minor Person: *Mondays & Tuesdays (1:30 -4:00 p.m.)*

How To Prepare Your Answer to An Unlawful Detainer (Tenants): *Tuesdays (9:00 a.m.) & Thursdays (10 a.m.)*

Presenting Your Case in Court (Family Law), *Tuesdays (10:30 a.m. - 12:00 Noon) & Thursdays (2:30 - 4:00 p.m.)*

How To Probate A Small Estate: *Every 3rd Tuesday of each month (12:15 -1:15 p.m.)*

How To Begin The Eviction Process (Landlords): *Wednesdays & Fridays (10:30 -11:30 a.m.)*

Orange County

How To Answer An Unlawful Detainer (Eviction) Case: *Thursdays (9:00 a.m. - 12:00 Noon)*

Riverside

Filing Petition/Response (Family Law), *Every 2nd Monday of each month (5:30 -8:30 p.m.)*

Filing Default Judgment (Family Law), *Every 2nd Wednesday of each month (5:30-8:30 p.m.)*

San Diego-Main Workshops are free for SDCPLL Members, \$5.00 Non-Members (Call 619.531.3900 or sign up at the circulation desk)

Practice Legal Research: *Saturday, May 16, 2009 (2:00-4:00 p.m.)*

Using OnLaw*: *Monday, May 18, 2009 (12:00-1:00 p.m.)*

Medi-Cal Planning Now and Under the Deficit reduction Act* : *Wednesday, May 20, 2009 (12:00-1:00 p.m.)*

Job Hunting In The Legal Arena : *Wednesday, June 3, 2009 (12:00-1:00 p.m.)*

Ask-A-Lawyer(La Jolla Village Center): *Saturday, June 20, 2009 (10:00 a.m. 4 p.m.)*

San Diego-South Bay

Social Security: Overview of All Types of Benefits*: *Thursday, May 14, 2009 (12:00 - 1:00 p.m.)*

**MCLE Credit is available for these classes.*

San Mateo - Noontime Lectures

Animal Law: *Thursday, June 11, 2009*

Gender Bias in the Legal Profession: *Thursday, July 9, 2009*

For more information on any event, visit the individual library website.