

Equal Access

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Law Week Summary

The **San Diego County Law Library's** Law Week events were very successful this year with over 520 participants at our special speaker events, Legal Resources Knowledge Fairs and legal clinics.

In September we will host our "Attorneys As Authors" series. This is a special week long speaker series highlighting local attorney authors and their work. Dates and speakers for this event are to be determined, please check our Calendar of Events page in August for more information: <http://www.sdcll.org/calendar/calendar.html>

What excites people these days? To win something during Library Week, according to **Riverside County Law Library**. Over 1,000 people visited there to play 3 daily legal puzzles, to solve a 100-clue crossword puzzle, and win over 300 prizes donated by CEB, Thomson West, LexisNexis, as well as dozens of local merchants from Marie Callendars to the Cheesecake Factory to golf at the Indian Hills Country Club.

Individual tours and one-to-one training on the library's various databases also highlighted Library Week activities.



The Superior Court of California, County of Alameda celebrated Law Day on May 23rd with a breakfast at the Rene C. Davidson Courthouse, tours of the Office of the County Counsel and the **Alameda County Law Library**. More than one hundred students toured the Law Library. Law Professor Zimring spoke at the luncheon for local high school students, university volunteers, judges, and attorneys. The Allen E. Broussard Scholarship Foundation awarded law school scholarships, and the Liberty Bell Award went to Youth Uprising. A display of historic Law Day posters to commemorate this 49th anniversary of Law Day were built around the 2007 theme of "Empowering Youth - Assuring Democracy" and featuring Youth Uprising.

Way To Go!

Congratulations to the **Riverside County Law Library** for the recent AALL/West Excellence in Marketing Award. This award is for their bi-monthly Public Legal Education Forums which are a joint project of the Superior Court, the Bar and the Law Library in Riverside and are held on the 2nd Tuesday from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. These forums focus on the ABC's of various legal topics of interest to the public.

The **Stanislaus County Law Library** staff and the Criminal Bench collaborated recently to streamline the expungement procedure for SRLs.

Criminal background checks are conducted regularly by employers and prospective employees are eager to expunge their existing criminal records in order to be hired. Law library staff assists the non-lawyers in obtaining information and instructions for filing and serving the proper paperwork in order to achieve their goal. With the cooperation of the Library Board and the Presiding Judge of Criminal Court, the law library staff has prepared a procedural outline that instructs the Petitioner how to successfully complete the CR-180 and accompanying forms. The instruction sheet has proven to clarify the procedure for the SRL and is a time saver for the staff.

On July 17, 2007, Cossette Sun, Director of the **Alameda County Law Library**, will be presented with the Marian Gould Gallagher Distinguished Service Award during the closing banquet of the AALL Annual Meeting in New Orleans. The Alameda County Library Board of Trustees appointed her director in 1978. She has held a number of offices including AALL Executive Board Member from 1999-2002, Chair of the AALL Diversity Committee from 1996-97, and President of the California Council of County Law Libraries from 1982-84.

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Newsletter of the
Council of California
County Law Librarians



Equal Access

County Law
Libraries

Open to the
Public

Established in
1891

Governed by a
Board of
Trustees

Funded by a
Portion of Court
Filing Fees

Way To Go! *Continued*

The **Kern County Law Library** with Judicial Officers of the Kern County Superior Court produced a DVD entitled “Your Day in Court”. During the short 15 minutes, those representing themselves are given tips on how to dress, how to present their case, and how to address the court. The DVD can be viewed at www.kerncountylawlibrary.org. Copies are also available by contacting the Kern County Law Library 661-868-5320.

Orange County Law Library after a lengthy process, which began in April 2004, finally completed a remodel of their existing law library. The process and wait was well worth it. The remodel allowed the law library to add additional public computer stations and to have an accessible entry for patrons from the ground level. The collection was reorganized and is now easier to navigate and access. An open house was held on April 27, 2007 and approximately 125 people attended.

SRL Conference Update

Several County Law Libraries attended the 2007 AOC Self Represented Litigants Conference in San Francisco, CA. Presentations were made on how county law libraries are collaborating with their Courts in a variety of ways. Kelley Brown, Sacramento County Public Law Library, reported on the collaboration of county law libraries to provide live chat reference through the Ask Now program.

In a round table discussion and in a half-day workshop, County Law Librarians discussed their role in Self-Help and different ways to collaborate. Out of these discussions, County Law Libraries submitted a comment to proposed rule of court 10.908 relating to self-help centers.

Upcoming Workshops

Fresno (in conjunction with Central California Legal Services)

Guardianship Workshops (Every 3rd Thursday of each month)

Riverside

July 17th - The ABC's of Family Law II
Sept 11th - The ABC's of Estate Planning
Nov 13th - The ABC's of Criminal Record Expungement

Sacramento

June 5th (6-8 p.m.)
Getting More from Google: Tips for Legal Professionals (\$65-Sac County BAR; \$70-Non-County BAR Member)

San Diego

June 14th (Noon - 1:30 p.m.) California Civil Procedure Before Trial: Why they didn't teach you in Law School
June 20th (4-5 p.m.) How to Make Ethical & Winning Use of Legislative History in Construing the Intent of a California Statute
July 11th (Noon-1 p.m.) Identity Theft: Avoid Being a Victim

Every month the San Diego County Public Law Library offers legal research classes to the public on using print material and legal databases. For specific times and dates, please visit <http://www.sdcll.org/classes.htm>

San Mateo - Brown Bag Lectures

All lectures begin at 12 noon and are FREE!

June 14th - Family Law Limited Scope Legal Services: Divorce; Support; Custody
July 12th - Small Claims: Basic Procedures
August 16th - Estate Planning for Pets
September 13th - Driving Violations: Traffic Tickets, Drunk Driving & Your License
October 11th - Basics of Medi-Cal Eligibility

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