



The Starting Place

*Washington State Law Library's
quarterly e-newsletter*

Serving the legal information needs of the citizens of Washington State

Fall 2010

Big Changes are Coming!

Big changes are coming to the law library. First, we now have a computer center with seven computers in the Periodical Reading Room (downstairs).

To make way for the computer center, we moved the microfiche cabinets against the wall, consolidated law journals, and shifted our pro se

collection. The end result is a more open feel with a clear line of sight from the PRR doors.

Second, over the next few months you will see changes to our website, including descriptions of expanded services, an easier to use documents request page, and added photos.

We think you will like it!



Computer center (left) and view of the Periodical Reading Room from the doorway (above).

Furloughs and Budget Cuts

Our agency was particularly hard hit in the recent round of budget cuts. Our budget has been reduced over 30 percent for the 2009-2011 biennium. This has resulted in strategic cuts to the collection, a reduction in staff, and furloughs.

But all is not lost. While many agencies are closing for “state furlough days”, our library will remain open Mon. – Fri., 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. We are moving ahead with our computer center

and finding ways to “do more with less.”

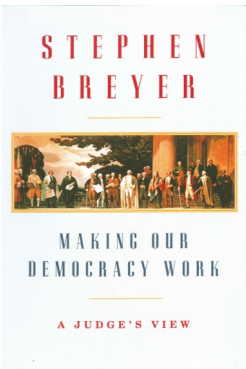
If you are looking for a book no longer updated, let us know. Chances are, we have it on a database or we can get it for you through Interlibrary Loan.

Don't hesitate to come on in, give us a call at (360) 357-2136 or contact us through our [website](#).

On Display

For well over 200 years the United States Supreme Court has been called upon to interpret the meaning of the Constitution. This has often resulted in divergent views by the justices.

In that light, we have put on display in the Main Reading Room a number of titles from our collection. Some are written by the justices themselves, featuring Justice Stephen Breyer's new book [Making our](#)



[Democracy Work: a Judge's View](#) (2010) and including his other book, [Active Liberty: Interpreting our Democratic Constitution](#) (2005).

We also have [A Matter of Interpretation: Federal Courts and The Law](#), by Justice Antonin Scalia (1997) and [The Writings of Chief Justice Marshall on The Federal Constitution](#) (1987).

Did You Know?

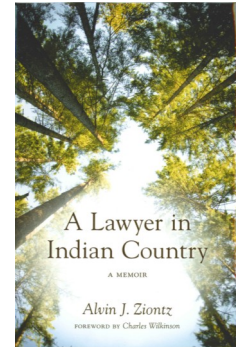
October is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Information on how you can help others end the cycle of abuse can be found at the [Washington State Coalition Against Domestic Violence](#) and [ABA's National Domestic Violence Pro Bono Directory](#).

Time Magazine recently published its [50 Best Websites 2010](#). The list is split into ten categories, and ranges from well-known favorites, such as [National Geographic](#) (News & Info.) and [Sesame Street](#) (Family & Kids) to the infamous ([Wikileaks](#)) to the obscure, such as [Foodspotting](#) (Social Media).

Featured Books

[A Lawyer in Indian Country](#), written by Alvin J. Ziontz

This easy-to-read, engaging book gives a unique insight into a number of Indian rights cases which Ziontz worked on during his 50+ year career as a tribal attorney in the Pacific Northwest. Included are *U.S. v. Washington*, the landmark Indian fishing rights case (a.k.a. [Boldt decision](#)) and *Tonasket v. Washington*, a case involving state sales tax on tobacco purchased on reservation lands. In both cases, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in favor of the tribes.



More information on this book can be found at the [University of Washington Press](#) website.

You are Invited!

Please join us for an open house on November 4th from 2 to 3:30 p.m., to celebrate our new [computer center](#)! We will provide goodies, demonstrate our databases (CCH, Hein Online, Loislaw, LexisNexis' Shepards, Nolo and Westlaw) and give tours of the library.

Volunteers Needed

We are seeking volunteers to assist with a number of projects. This is a great opportunity for someone to gain work experience, job shadow or give back to the community. Please contact [Dawn Kendrick](#), our Reference Librarian, at (360) 357-2138 with questions.

Washington State Law Library

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Visit us at: <http://www.courts.wa.gov/library>

Email us at: library.requests@courts.wa.gov

Chat with us at: <http://www.courts.wa.gov/library/?fa=library.ask>

Chat hours: 10 am - 4 pm, M-F (staffed by King County Law Library 1-4)

Hours: 8 am-5 pm, M-F

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Comments Welcome!