



ABOUT US!

United States Courts Library
700 Stewart Street- Room 19105
Seattle, WA 98101
(206) 370-8975

Library Mission:

The mission of the United States Courts Library in Seattle is to serve the library and information needs of the federal judges and judicial staff stationed in the Western District of Washington who serve the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, Federal District Court and Bankruptcy Court.

Library Quick Facts:

Staff: 4 FTE: 3 Librarians and 1 Library Technician

Established: 1939: first librarian John Gayton

Locations: 3: 700 Stewart Street in Seattle, Park Place Building, Tacoma Union Station

Hours: open 24 hours a day for court staff; public hours 12:30 p.m.- 4:30 p.m. M-F

Affiliation: The library is part of the Ninth Circuit Library system which is headquartered in San Francisco and has 20 branches located throughout the Western United States and Pacific Islands.

Collection size: hardcopy: 898 monographs, 808 serial titles, 19,383 volumes. microfiche: 111 titles, 259013 fiche.

Building Architects: NBBJ, Seattle, Washington

19th Floor Art: "Winding Ribbon" by local Seattle artist Deborah Mersky (daughter of law librarian Roy Mersky)

Furnishings: Steelcase (offices), Library Bureau (shelving), Demco (miscellaneous), Nessen (lights), Russ Basset (microfiche cabinets), Keilhauer (soft seating), Krug (library chairs).

Library Location:

The library is located in the penthouse of the United States Courthouse. During the design phase, building planners recognized the symbolic significance of the courthouse. One theme that emerged during that process was that the courthouse represents the law and the law reigns supreme above all. The library with its books as a symbol of the law was chosen to reign above the entire building.

Library Features:

Panoramic view of Puget Sound, Space Needle and Lake Union and downtown Seattle; fresh air terrace; historic photographic display of all judges who have served in the Western District of Washington; Supreme Court bobblehead exhibit; private court staff study space; Federal Judicial Television Network hookup; networked printing and photocopy facilities; shared training facilities; soft seating; and an excellent treatise collection selected to meet the needs of the Federal Judiciary.

Library Services for Court Staff:

Full-service reference and research for court staff; interlibrary loans; support of chambers collections; Westlaw, Lexis, WestCheck, CheckCite, Internet and other electronic resource training; produce local newsletter and support the Ninth Circuit Library Intranet site; Electronic Current Awareness Services including New & Noteworthy (an in-house judicial news service), Ninth Circuit Supreme Court Docket, Supreme Court Syllabi, Current Index to Legal Periodicals, Congressional Record Summary, Useful Websites, and Library Services Update.