

## Legal Reference Books Review

Compiled by Amy Atchison,\* Lee Neugebauer,\*\* and Diana C. Jaque\*\*\*

¶1 The purpose of the annual *Law Library Journal* series of reference book reviews<sup>1</sup> has always been twofold: first, to apprise law librarians of the quality and content of new legal reference book titles; and second, to assist librarians in acquiring titles that were useful, unique, or both. In an effort to make the latter goal a reality and offer a more useful acquisitions tool, beginning with this issue the formerly annual series of reference book reviews will appear as a regular column in every issue of the *Law Library Journal*. This will avoid the inevitable difficulty caused by an annual article—by the time it appears, most libraries have already made their selection decisions.

¶2 This first column represents the work of an enthusiastic and geographically diverse group of librarians. All of them volunteered to submit reviews for last year's article, but we had such an overwhelming number of volunteers that not everyone could be accommodated. Those who were not selected kindly agreed to write for a subsequent article. The reviewers here represent some of these volunteers. Others will be writing in the Summer and Fall 2000 issues of *Law Library Journal*. In addition, this column is the first compiled by Lee Neugebauer and Diana Jaque.

¶3 The method for selecting titles remains the same as in recent articles. We submitted a list of titles to our reviewers, and they selected those that most interested them. Reviewers were also encouraged to suggest titles that were not on the list. Our only condition for this article was that they select titles published in late 1998 or anytime in 1999, as we only wanted to present new titles.

¶4 One final note: Because this article now will appear in every issue, it will be considerably shorter. Nonetheless, we expect to offer a diverse group of impor-

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1. See Carl A. Yirka, *Best Legal Reference Books*, 81 L. LIBR. J. 305 (1989); Carl A. Yirka, *Best Legal Reference Books of 1989*, 82 L. LIBR. J. 543 (1990); Molly McCluer, *Legal Reference Books Review*, 85 L. LIBR. J. 113 (1993); Linda Karr O'Connor, *Best Legal Reference Books of 1993*, 86 L. LIBR. J. 219 (1994); Linda Karr O'Connor, *Best Legal Reference Books of 1994*, 87 L. LIBR. J. 310 (1995); Linda Karr O'Connor, *Best Legal Reference Books of 1995*, 88 L. LIBR. J. 178 (1996); Linda Karr O'Connor, *Best Legal Reference Books of 1996*, 89 L. LIBR. J. 265 (1997); Amy Atchison & Denise K. Russell, *Legal Reference Books of 1997*, 90 L. LIBR. J. 357 (1998); Amy Atchison & Denise K. Russell, *Legal Reference Books of 1998, Part One*, 91 L. LIBR. J. 442 (1999); Amy Atchison & Denise K. Russell, *Legal Reference Books of 1998, Part Two*, 91 L. LIBR. J. 693 (1999).

tant titles in each article. In this issue, nine titles are reviewed, covering topics ranging from document authentication to baseball and the law.

¶15 Now on to the first issue of the new column, “Legal Reference Books Review.”

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Abrams, Roger I. *Legal Bases: Baseball and the Law*. Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 1998. 240p. \$27.95.

*Reviewed by Lee Neugebauer*

¶16 Before I started *Legal Bases: Baseball and the Law*, I was expecting a book that was essentially an annotated list of famous baseball-related cases, but Roger Abrams' book actually offers quite a bit more. Abrams, the dean of Northeastern University School of Law, states in the preface that he believes that

lawyers have a responsibility to teach the public about the legal process, and this book is one way he is trying to fulfill that responsibility. As Abrams sees it, “[t]he baseball business presents a splendid opportunity to discuss the role of law, legal institutions, and private ordering in the development of a significant American business enterprise.” (p.3)

¶17 The setup of the book is simple. Abrams has selected what he calls the “All-Star Baseball Law Team,” ten people who played a pivotal role in the legal history of baseball. In writing about these ten people (two team owners share one spot on the team), Abrams tells their individual stories and discusses how their legal struggles impacted the business of baseball. He also, and perhaps more interestingly, uses these stories to illustrate certain aspects of the United States legal system. For example, chapter 3 focuses on Curt Flood, a St. Louis player who brought an antitrust suit against Commissioner Bowie Kuhn and major league baseball after being traded against his will. Before discussing the *Flood* case itself, Abrams sets out the historical background of the case and writes about the relevant legal precedents. In doing so, he discusses the monopolistic features of the baseball cartel, basic antitrust law, the principle of stare decisis, and the interaction between Congress and the United States Supreme Court. Other chapters discuss such topics as the interaction between the public and private legal systems, the union movement, injunctive relief, and the federal and state court systems.

¶18 In addition to the substantive part of the book, Abrams includes a short “Notes” section in which he provides references and citations to earlier material and a bibliography of additional resources. The index is fairly good, though it could have been a little bit more detailed. For example, the Los Angeles Dodgers are mentioned five times in the book, and each of those five times is referenced in the index entry for the Los Angeles Dodgers, but no further information or subtopics are given.

¶19 Although I’m not a huge baseball fan, I thought *Legal Bases* was an interesting book. The author clearly loves the game of baseball and the people who play it, but he is not blinded by the myth of baseball, as some of the people he writes about seem to be. (In one of the watershed baseball decisions, United States Supreme Court Justice Harry Blackmun, a devoted baseball fan, began his opinion “with an anthem of praise for baseball mythology.” (p.66)) Abrams takes a balanced look at both sides of the legal battles he describes, and usually doesn’t pull any punches. For example, in the chapter about the crimes of baseball, Abrams describes Pete Rose as “the modern game’s greatest hitter,” but also writes that “we acknowledge the bilious underbelly of the business of baseball by the selection of our next Baseball Law All-Star, the indomitable Peter Edward Rose.” (p.153)

¶10 *Legal Bases* is not intended for practical use by lawyers. Abrams’ goal is to provide nonlawyers with information about the legal system and about how that system impacts the business of baseball. Because the book’s focus is on describing

the interaction between law and baseball, rather than on analyzing or describing the law of baseball, it probably would not be a good choice for law firm or court libraries. It would be a better selection for academic law libraries with patrons who are interested in both law and baseball, and it could serve as a good starting point for people researching sports law.

Hall, Kermit L., ed. *The Oxford Guide to United States Supreme Court Decisions*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1999. 448p. \$60.

Lively, Donald E. *Landmark Supreme Court Cases: A Reference Guide*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 1999. 384p. \$59.95.

*Reviewed by Linda G. Brakeall*

¶11 The stated purpose of both of these books is to present decisions of the United States Supreme Court within their historical context, thus illuminating the development of constitutional law in the United States and marking its impact on American society. Here, however, the similarity between the two books ends. In uniquely differing presentations, each title admirably fulfills its goal, and each richly deserves shelf space in a variety of library settings.

¶12 Kermit L. Hall, editor of *The Oxford Guide to United States Supreme Court Decisions*, is also the editor-in-chief of the prestigious reference work, *The Oxford Companion to the Supreme Court of the United States*.<sup>2</sup> Indeed, the *Guide* is a younger cousin to the much more comprehensive *Companion*, limiting itself to analyzing cases and decisions of the Supreme Court—what the editor refers to in the introduction as “the fodder of constitutional history.” (p.vii) The *Guide* essentially supplements and brings up to date the 400 cases that appear as but a single category in the *Companion*, revising them as appropriate and adding entries for forty-seven new cases. All cases were selected on the basis of their historical importance in reflecting the evolution of constitutional law and informing “the nation’s underlying social, cultural, and political dynamics.” (p.vii)

¶13 Organized alphabetically by case name with cross-referencing, each entry includes standard information: the official *United States Reports* citation, the year the case was decided, the dates of argument and decision, the justices’ vote, who wrote for the Court, and who concurred in or dissented to the majority opinion. Following this basic information is an analysis of the decision written by an eminent legal scholar. This analysis outlines the facts of the case, its legal and social context, the reasoning of the Court and its decision, and the impact of the decision on both American jurisprudence and American life. Each entry is signed by its author; a directory of contributors lists each author’s legal or scholarly affiliation. Entries vary in length from about half a column to more than three pages of small, dense text.

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2. OXFORD COMPANION TO THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES (Kermit L. Hall et al. eds., 1992).

¶14 Access to the *Guide* is through a case name index and a topical index. The former covers not only cases listed as entries but also all cases mentioned anywhere in the text of the entries. The thorough topical index contains listings for concepts, persons, places, and institutions; each main index entry includes a general list of page numbers, a list of related references, and a list of case names. Additional information in the *Guide* includes a useful ten-page glossary and two appendixes: the Constitution of the United States, and Nomination and Succession of the Justices (a fascinating look at this aspect of the Court's history).

¶15 The breadth and scholarly authority of its contents and its extensive indexing make this volume invaluable either as a quick reference to reliable information about a single Supreme Court case or as a guide to a more comprehensive quest for patterns and developments in constitutional law. As a supplement to *The Oxford Companion to the Supreme Court of the United States* or as a stand-alone resource, the *Guide* certainly belongs in academic and law libraries and perhaps in larger public libraries as well.

¶16 In marked contrast to the *Guide* is the less formal *Landmark Supreme Court Cases: A Reference Guide*. In the very first sentence of the preface, author Donald E. Lively, dean of the Florida Coastal School of Law, clearly indicates that his book is aimed at providing readable and easily comprehensible discussions of important Supreme Court cases and constitutional issues for students and lay readers. The seventy-four landmark decisions that make up the book's main text are identified as ones that have transcended the immediate parties and have had a profound impact on society at large. Consequently these cases are those most relevant to an understanding of how the law has shaped American history. (p.vii, p.ix) The author admits that some constitutional scholars may quibble with his selection of cases, particularly the omission of certain important cases, but he stands his editorial ground in defending the cases chosen as ones he feels truly define major constitutional concepts.

¶17 The book, written in narrative format, is organized and presented much like a textbook and has a distinctly pedagogical emphasis. Like a textbook, four topical parts define basic areas of constitutional law, and various individual chapters contain discussions of illustrative cases arranged chronologically within each part. Great care is taken to provide basic explanatory text at the beginning of each part, and each chapter serves as an aid to the reader in understanding the particular case material that follows. Each case entry is three or four pages of clear, easy-to-read prose, examining the case's historical background, constitutional issues, reasoning and decision of the Court, and significance and impact. On the first page of each entry is a prominent fact box, a nice feature which provides quick access to the case's citation and year of decision and states the issue, the outcome, the author of the opinion, and the vote. At the end of each case discussion is a short bibliography to guide further reading.

¶18 Part one focuses on separation and distribution of powers among the three branches of federal government. Part two addresses issues of federalism and the

power to regulate the nation's economy. Part three deals with equality concepts—racial issues, gender issues, and fundamental rights. Part four, by far the most extensive section, discusses cases involving individual rights and liberties: First Amendment freedoms of speech, association, press, and religion; Sixth Amendment issues of search and seizure, self-incrimination, right to counsel, and cruel and unusual punishment; and the Fourteenth Amendment-based economic rights and right to privacy.

¶19 The textual part of the book ends with a short glossary of legal terms from “actual malice” to “vagueness.” One appendix helpfully lists the cases reviewed alphabetically with a concise parenthetical description of the holding; unfortunately there is no reference to the corresponding page numbers in the textual part of the volume, and the index does not include case names, so the user is left to winkle out the location of the case as best he or she is able by using a subject approach in the index or by browsing through the book's pages. A second appendix provides the text of the United States Constitution.

¶20 As a librarian, the index to a reference work is always of consuming interest to me, and the one for this book could be characterized as rather bare-bones. As noted, no cases are indexed by name; the index includes names of persons and organizations and descriptive topics. There is no cross-referencing of index entries, nor are terms such as “actual malice” discoverable under any alternative entry, such as “malice, actual.”

¶21 Despite this shortcoming, *Landmark Supreme Court Cases* is a wonderful and much-needed resource that fulfills Lively's determination to make this complex legal information understandable to those without legal knowledge or legal education. Moving through the pages of the book, I found myself thinking, “Wow! If only I (sporting a background in classical languages) had been able to read this book before entering law school, I might not have trembled quite so much for quite so long a time in first semester Con Law class.” Certainly appropriate and highly desirable for academic and public libraries, a law school library might find this volume used more often than anticipated by entering first-year students.

Halvorson, T.R. *Law of the Super Searchers: The Online Secrets of Top Legal Researchers*. Edited by Reva Basch. Medford, N.J.: CyberAge Books, an imprint of Information Today, Inc., 1999. 220p. Paper, \$24.95.

*Reviewed by Laura M. Shoman*

¶22 Building on the successes of author Reva Basch's “Super Searcher” books,<sup>3</sup> attorney Halvorson and Basch join forces to collect and present the wisdom and experience of eight individuals involved in various aspects of legal research. This

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3. REVA BASCH, *SECRETS OF THE SUPER SEARCHERS* (1993); REVA BASCH, *SECRETS OF THE SUPER NET SEARCHERS: THE REFLECTIONS, REVELATIONS, AND HARD WON WISDOM OF 35 OF THE WORLD'S TOP INTERNET RESEARCHERS* (1996).

is not a reference book per se, in that it is not designed to be consulted on specific points. Rather, the volume serves as a portable “seminar panel” on electronic legal research (including CD-ROM, commercial databases, and the Internet). Halvorson, a solo practitioner in Montana, crafted a series of questions from those Basch used in her earlier volumes and added appropriate law-related topics to fill out the discussion.

¶23 Interviewees from law firms are librarians Sabrina Pacifici, Cindy Chick, Genie Tyburski, and Roberta Shaffer, who each work in settings serving fifty or more attorneys; and Catherine Best, a research lawyer at a Canadian firm. George Jackson and Diane Botluk are academicians. Attorney Leigh Webber teaches continuing legal education programs on Internet legal research. There is no indication why these individuals were selected or what characteristics makes them, in particular, “top” or “super” legal researchers. Although Halvorson considered this a diverse group of searchers, adding solo librarians from small firms in suburban or rural areas, or librarians from corporate, judicial, or government agency settings would have created a truly diverse set of perspectives.

¶24 The introduction provides a useful overview to the challenges in legal research and includes a review of evolving trends and themes culled from the interviews. Readers looking for a quick “reality check” of their own practices will find the introduction brief but thorough. An exception is the summary on knowledge management, where Halvorson can only recognize that the “true subject of knowledge management is ourselves. We need to manage what we already know, what we have already done. . . . We need to save our work, our answers, our paths, our memoranda, and our collegial pointers. . . . If we can’t manage ourselves, how will we manage the world?” (p.24–25) (Interestingly, most of the interviewees did not save work for future reference, preferring instead to perform the search anew because the scope of information changes so quickly. Several also cited the lack of a mechanism to store prior searches in a meaningful, accessible manner.)

¶25 Each chapter follows a standard formula of questions (with little deviation among the law firm librarians) and concludes with a bulleted list of highlights selected from the answers. The questions appear in bold in one font and the answers appear indented in a different font. A more even formatting of the text and some additional editorial synthesis of the discussion would help the flow of the material. For example, it was refreshing to hear directly from the searchers, but after the fourth chapter of reading “Are you often asked to ‘get everything’ on a certain topic?” it became quite clear that patrons universally want “everything” and that super searchers, along with mere mortals, should use the reference interview process to focus the research project.

¶26 Topics discussed include Westlaw versus LEXIS-NEXIS; proprietary interfaces to those services versus the browser-based interfaces; the role of the Internet in performing legal research; workflow, such as “intake procedures,” budget and project estimates, research methods, work product, and record keeping;

reference interviews; and pitfalls of Internet research. The two appendixes include a list of URLs mentioned in the book and a glossary of terms that includes both legal and “library” terms (e.g., star pagination and relevancy ranking). The index is organized by general topic and by interviewee.

¶127 The book works best as a supplement for online or legal research courses, or as an overview to legal information services for newcomers to the field. It is also useful as a self-paced seminar—if you’ve not been able to attend a professional seminar on legal research trends and practices in recent years, the book may serve as a substitute of sorts. The 200 pages of main text may easily be read in an afternoon. There are no big secrets, but the book does contain many well-founded opinions, as well as helpful reminders and suggestions for successful searching.

Hirshman, Linda. *A Woman’s Guide to Law School*. New York: Penguin Books, 1999. 290 p. Paper, \$14.95.

*Reviewed by Margaret G. Arnold*

¶128 *A Woman’s Guide to Law School* is a “must read” for any woman (and perhaps man) who is contemplating law school, currently in law school, or even recently graduated from law school. Lawyer and law professor Linda Hirshman examines the impact that choice of law school has in determining a woman’s success in law school. The book may be most appropriate for academic law or undergraduate libraries, as Hirshman covers practically the whole law school experience with the prospective law student reader in mind. The chapters are organized in a logical manner beginning with the initial contemplation of law school and moving through the major challenges of the first year up to the job interview process. Through an analysis of factors she ranks law schools according to their “femscore” to identify the law schools where women are most likely to succeed. She presents all of her information in an informative, well-researched, and entertaining way.

¶129 My first reaction to this book was, “Where was it when I was in law school?” I found within it many answers to questions that lingered from my own law school experience, along with a lot of information that I wish I had before starting law school. Throughout the book, Hirshman presents many facts about law schools and the history of our legal system that help the reader understand why law schools are the way they are today. With this information, the reader has the opportunity (as she suggests on the first page of her book) to “try out” law school before buying.

¶130 In chapter 2, Hirshman focuses on examples of schools where women succeed and several where women seem to have less than successful experiences. Through her research, which included interviews with female students, she found that the schools where women seemed happiest had cooperative atmospheres, solid public interest programs, and first-year courses that emphasized those

lawyering skills that tend to come more naturally for women. In chapter 4, she further identifies the factors that make a law school compatible for women, including the dominant political view of the school, the active presence of the Federalist Society or Olin Foundation at the school, the number of women on the faculty, the number of women teaching first-year courses, and the presence of women teaching constitutional law courses. She also cautions that the law school catalog depictions of the number of women students or female-oriented courses may not accurately reflect the reality at some schools.

¶131 In chapter 5, the heart of her book, Hirshman ranks law schools on a “success for women” scale to help readers select a law school. The ranking is a result of a survey of law schools she conducted in 1995, in which she studied several factors that are potentially indicative of a woman’s success in law school. The law schools are ranked by percentage of female faculty, percentage of female students, and percentage of women who make law review, along with some percentages of women who earn Order of the Coif status. The sum of the numbers in the first three categories comprises a school’s “femscore.” Schools are then ranked in fifteen different status categories (according to LSAT score) from highest to lowest femscore. Higher-scoring schools are presumably places where women are more likely to succeed. The results are presented in an easy-to-use series of tables. Not surprisingly, the schools with the higher femscores also had some of the traits described earlier in the book. According to her ranking, women do better at public institutions, at integrated institutions, and at northern and western schools. She adds that students generally know if their school is women-friendly.

¶132 Hirshman’s style throughout the book is factual, funny, and friendly. In fact, she even offers to be the readers’ best friend by inviting them to e-mail her with comments or come to her summer camp for women who are about to enter law school. She acts as a personal cheerleader for the law school application process in chapter 3, instructing high-scoring female graduates not to pass on law school. She says, “If you can make it in business school, God bless. Otherwise . . . you go girl [to law school, that is].” (p.47) With the same spirit, she takes the mystery out of the LSAT for her wary readers by informing them that, “the LSAT is not like learning how to ride a bike, which most girls do. It’s like learning how to catch a ball, which not enough girls are taught to do. . . . There are three ways to get good at playing the LSAT—cheap, pretty expensive, and really expensive.” (p.71–72) Hirshman’s humor continues in the remaining chapters on succeeding once you’re in law school, and she provides the reader with many common-sense tips for studying for class, surviving first-year exams, and making law review.

¶133 The appendix of the book contains the survey that she sent to law school deans across the country to obtain information for her ranking of law schools, and the index provides readers with easy access to information on particular schools

and persons mentioned within the book. *A Woman's Guide to Law School* provides readers with both useful insights and information not available in other sources, drawing attention to a subject that has deserved further consideration for a long time.

Lawson, Jerry. *The Complete Internet Handbook for Lawyers*. Chicago: Law Practice Management Section, American Bar Association, 1999. 472p. Paper, \$49.95.

*Reviewed by Richard E. Humphrey*

¶134 Few books I have read recently have impressed me as much as Jerry Lawson's *The Complete Internet Handbook for Lawyers*. It delivers a thorough explanation of the practical applications of the Internet in the legal practice environment. Lawson has clearly devoted a great deal of time and energy to developing a useful primer for Internet users at all levels of experience, and his efforts have produced a well-organized, insightful text.

¶135 The overall design of this book is appealing. The font size is easy to read, and there is enough "white space" to keep the pages uncluttered. The author has also included many illustrations, consisting primarily of Web site home pages. These illustrations, combined with a glossary and a detailed index, make this a very "user friendly" publication. The table of contents arrangement and the division of the text into separate "parts" are particularly helpful in allowing experienced Internet users to skip over basic materials and proceed to those subject areas that are less familiar. Unlike similar publications that are outdated as quickly as they are released, Lawson's book provides the added value of a supplemental Web site. He states in the introduction of the text that neither the book nor the Web site are complete in themselves; readers must consult both in order to acquire the full benefits of each.

¶136 The text of this work is particularly well written. The author uses basic layman's terminology rather than jargon or unfamiliar acronyms as many other authors on this subject have done. In those instances where technical terminology is the only viable option for getting his point across, Lawson includes definitions that clarify the meanings of his technical terms. Although the words he uses are simple and clear, he does not "talk down" to the novice Internet user, but maintains a professional and respectful tone throughout. The inclusion of his personal opinions is likewise even-handed. He makes frequent statements to the effect that his opinions on specific subjects may not necessarily agree with those of other Internet authorities, depending upon their experience and background.

¶137 A brief look at the table of contents of this work informs the reader that this is no "quick and dirty" treatment of Internet issues. The author has laid out a clear overview of the significance of Internet usage for attorneys, detailing in part one (chapters 1-3) why lawyers find the Internet important, what the major components of the Internet encompass, and how e-mail is the most significant tool for lawyers communicating in today's practice environment.

¶138 In part two, Lawson devotes six chapters (4–9) to the use of the Internet for legal research, not only praising the Internet’s strengths, but also emphasizing those areas of legal research where the Internet is clearly *not* the best resource. He particularly notes the types of material that do not easily lend themselves to the Internet format. Readers will likely be impressed with the author’s frequent references to advice from law librarians whose opinions he solicited in the preparation of this book. Lawson has consulted most, if not all, of the current experts on Internet practice and implementation. Another useful feature is the inclusion of supplemental resources at the end of each chapter, often divided into separate categories of print and online.

¶139 Part three (chapters 10–13) explains how to use the Internet as a marketing tool, addressing the dangers, as well as the advantages, of this practice. The author specifically warns against unrealistic expectations of the benefits that having a Web site will provide and explains the pitfalls of poorly designed and poorly administered sites. He strongly advises employing a Web site design consultant, particularly when no one in the firm possesses significant Internet expertise.

¶140 In part four (chapters 14–17), the author addresses the ethical and security issues that can arise from extensive use of the Internet, especially in the legal practice environment. He devotes individual chapters to client matters, e-mail privacy, the threat from computer hackers, and the potential problem of computer viruses. Although Lawson appropriately addresses the latter issue, he also points out that computer virus paranoia can be taken to extremes and cautions that such fears should be tempered with common sense and a viable prevention plan.

¶141 Part five (chapters 18–20) is titled “Putting It All Together” and addresses the integration of tools and techniques with the predicted future of the Internet and its growing acceptance as a practice tool within the legal profession. Lawson particularly notes the impact of Internet usage on the concept of disintermediation and suggests some areas where disintermediation is likely to occur. He also mentions that the advent of Internet applications into the daily practice of law brings significant changes in the client’s perception of personal service. The ability to negotiate issues and communicate practice needs at the speed of a few keystrokes clearly raises the bar on service expectations. Lawson likens individuals who refuse to embrace the Internet as a useful practice tool to blacksmiths who doubted the public’s acceptance of the horseless carriage. He remarks that there were also those blacksmiths who recognized the automobile as a means to greater job security rather than its marking the end of their profession.

¶142 Perhaps the most appealing part of this book is part six, “Other Voices,” where the author provides “top ten” lists from thirty-one Internet-savvy information professionals whose views help to illustrate many of the points he presents in the preceding chapters. These lists range from “ten ways the Internet will change the legal profession” to “ten ways lawyers will change the Internet,” and cover such topics as worst pitfalls, using the Internet as a research tool, antivirus tips,

and Internet tips for certain practice areas. Readers will likely find this a very valuable resource, particularly when advising colleagues on the importance of Internet awareness and encouraging a thorough familiarity with the positive and negative aspects of Internet usage.

¶143 Another useful feature of this work is the addition of seven appendixes. The organizational structure of these aids is particularly helpful, since it allows an experienced Internet user to get right to the heart of more complicated questions, without needing to wade through pages and pages of already familiar material. These appendixes cover such pertinent topics as additional Internet tools, Internet addressing, troubleshooting, connection options, the technical aspects of Web site design, law office policies for Internet use, and additional cyber issues. Each of these appendixes ends with a list of supplemental resources available elsewhere.

¶144 Despite the fact that this book is titled *The Complete Internet Guide for Lawyers*, I would highly recommend it as a resource for anyone in the legal information management field. In my opinion, if you could buy only one book on this subject, this would be the one. Following Mr. Lawson's advice and consulting the sources he mentions would be beneficial to any Internet user, novice or expert. Needless to say, law firms would find the information contained here particularly useful, but the principles and practices presented could be implemented just as easily in an academic, government, or public law library setting. Unless you or someone else in your organization knows everything there is to know about the full benefits of Internet usage in a legal information management setting, I suggest that you either buy, or at the very least, borrow this book. You will not be disappointed.

Sinnott, John P. *A Practical Guide to Document Authentication: Legalization of Notarized & Certified Documents*. Dobbs Ferry, N.Y.: Oceana Publications, Inc., 1999. 570p. \$135.

*Reviewed by Jean M. Wenger*

¶145 The growth in international commerce and litigation has led to a corresponding need for the acceptance of notarized and certified documents by foreign authorities. Examples of documents requiring authentication include deeds, depositions, and affidavits. *A Practical Guide to Document Authentication* brought a smile to this foreign and international law librarian's face as I appreciate reference sources that are chock-full of really useful information including the what, where, and how. Moreover, all this hard-to-find information is packaged between two covers. Although the attorney recognizes the need for authentication, researching information on the process and particulars of authentication can be troublesome. The vast majority of patrons at my law library are practitioners and members of the bench, so questions often arise regarding the acceptance of U.S. public documents by foreign jurisdictions. The authentication waters become especially

murky when dealing with a country that has no direct diplomatic representation in the United States (i.e., Iran and Taiwan).

¶146 Sinnott addresses the steps that an attorney can follow to obtain the requisite authentication. The author is a practitioner and educator involved in an international intellectual property practice and relies on his years of experience in obtaining authentications in an active patent and trademark practice. The publication begins with a “How to Use This Book” section and introductions to the 1999 and first editions. These prefatory materials explicate the legalization process and why it is as it is.

¶147 Chapter 1, “Consular Legalization,” has entries for 182 countries. Considering its expanding role in the international legal landscape, one notable absence is the People’s Republic of China. Otherwise the coverage of nations is comprehensive, including information for perhaps some lesser requested jurisdictions like the British Antarctic Territory and Wallis and Futuna Islands. Each entry includes several sections of information. Section 1 describes consular and embassy functions and whether the country is a party to the Hague Convention on Legalization. Section 2 details step-by-step procedures for legalization, including what prior authentication is required, materials to be submitted with a request, and, if available, turnaround time, fees, and the methods of payment accepted. Section 3 lists the addresses, phone numbers, and hours of embassies and consulates. Some consulates in the United States have exclusive legalization jurisdiction and can only authenticate documents originating from those states. For example, when dealing with Japan, attorneys must submit documents originating in Wisconsin to the Japanese Consulate General in Chicago. This section includes such useful and practical information for all entries.

¶148 Chapter 2, “Legalization within the United States,” provides the individual states’ requirements for authentication of notary public signatures, obtaining the *apostille*, submission of materials and fees, and payment methods. This chapter also includes entries for Guam, Puerto Rico, American Samoa, and the Virgin Islands.

¶149 The publication does not have an index; the researcher looks up the requirements by country name. Appendixes contain the text of the Hague Convention Abolishing the Requirements of Legalization for Foreign Public Documents with a list of parties; the Protocol on Uniformity of Powers of Attorney which are to be Utilized Abroad with a list of parties; the National U.S.-Arab Chamber of Commerce; and the U.S. Department of State document certification requirements and the federal authorities competent to provide the *apostille*.

¶150 Sinnott stresses the difficulty of producing a publication that relies on very specific contact information which is subject to change at anytime. Questionnaires are sent to the foreign missions for updated information. For those countries that respond promptly, there is still the risk that the information will have changed in the interval between receipt and publication. Prior edition infor-

mation is used for countries whose missions do not respond by the deadline. Even factoring in potential changes, this guide will still place the attorney several steps ahead in understanding the process and having the documents accepted by the foreign authority.

¶151 Sinnott issued the first edition of this work as a loose-leaf in 1984, with several editions subsequently issued. The 1999 edition is a hardbound publication with future editions planned. *A Practical Guide to Document Authentication* is a real nuts-and-bolts resource for the complicated process of authentication, a process fraught with potential legal land mines. Law firms with an international practice, county law libraries, or any practitioner library that serves attorneys involved in international practice will find this an invaluable resource. Many academic law libraries may find it too practitioner-oriented, but those offering international programs or supporting an international collection should give this publication due consideration.

Wang, Guiguo and John Mo, eds. *Chinese Law*. The Hague: Kluwer Law International, 1999. 880p. \$297.

*Reviewed by Jean M. Wenger*

¶152 Wang Guiguo is the Woo Po Shing Professor (Chair) of Chinese and Comparative Law and Director of the Centre for Chinese and Comparative Law, School of Law, City University of Hong Kong. John Mo is an Australian barrister and solicitor and Associate Professor, School of Law, City University of Hong Kong. The editors state in the preface that this presentation of Chinese law is “from an angle that is close to the common law perspective, to enable readers with a common law background to appreciate the material better.” They achieve this objective. Direct parallels can rarely be drawn between any two legal systems and often much is lost in translation, but the authors here give the non-Chinese reader a strong sense of the state of the law and how it developed. Each of the individual chapters is written by professors and attorneys from the School of Law, City University of Hong Kong. The contributing authors also have affiliations with many legal institutions in countries outside China.

¶153 *Chinese Law* is divided into twenty chapters, forty to fifty pages in length, each covering an area of law, including the legal system, constitutional law and state structure, judicial review, general principles of civil law, and general principles of criminal law. Although not quite a scholarly tome, this work is much more than a simple reference work comprising topical listings of laws or brief synopses. The coverage of each chapter is inclusive and descriptive, providing the American legal researcher with a grounding in the intricacies of Chinese law.

¶154 Of particular note are the chapters on family, marriage and succession, judicial review, conflicts of law, and land law, because these topics are not routinely addressed in most English-language sources. The vast majority of English-

language legal publications about China are focused on business law, foreign investment, taxation, and arbitration law as China has become a major player in the international business arena. For researchers interested primarily in the commercial arena, topic-specific sources, many with translations of primary law, are available. *Chinese Law* does not include full-text English language translations of laws and regulations, although the reader will find translated sections of selected laws in some chapters. The footnotes contain many references to primary sources such as cases, laws, regulations, and regulatory promulgations.

¶155 The editors state the difficulty in presenting case citations in a common law format due to the lack of official or recognized English translations. The “Table of Cases” lists only the case name and the page reference in the book. The “List of Abbreviations” lists laws and organizations, not case law citations, and again only includes the page reference in the book. Unfortunately, the list of abbreviations does not contain the abbreviations of case reporters used in the various chapters. To decipher case citations, the researcher must first go to the page reference to find the abbreviation for the case citation, then must refer to the “hereinafter cited” references footnoted at the beginning of that chapter. This process is time-consuming and could have been handled more smoothly by including a listing of the unfamiliar case abbreviations used in the footnotes.

¶156 The footnotes refer not only to primary law sources but also to many secondary resources such as periodicals, conference papers, and other Chinese legal treatises. The authors do not cite to any electronic resources or indicate if any of their references are available in electronic format. The citations, although useful, would be difficult for most libraries to obtain and many may not be in English. The index is detailed, but there are no “see” or “see also” references to direct the researcher to alternative topic headings.

¶157 *Chinese Law* is a standard selection for libraries needing a resource with a detailed overview of current Chinese law and its development. The price may be a bit steep for a foreign reference book, but it does provide a solid starting point for approaching the complexities of Chinese law. Law firm libraries, any county or practitioner’s library supporting an international practice, and any academic law library supporting a curriculum with an international component will also find it very useful as a reference tool. Libraries with larger foreign law collections will need to supplement their Chinese law holdings with primary materials, in vernacular or translation, and in-depth topic-specific sources.

Whiteman, Michael and Peter Scott Campbell. *A Union List of Appellate Court Records and Briefs: Federal and State*. Littleton, Colo.: Fred B. Rothman & Co., 1999. 136p. \$37.50.

*Reviewed by Carol A. Grant*

¶158 Appellate briefs are a valuable tool often overlooked by legal researchers. Perhaps one reason for this oversight is the view that briefs are not accessible.

How often have librarians heard patrons say, “You mean I can get the briefs in this case? Wow!” This work makes it easier to provide access to appellate court records and briefs, especially for nonlocal jurisdictions. It saves searching through several sources in hopes of finding the correct contact information, the proper name of the court, or availability of the needed briefs.

¶159 *A Union List of Appellate Court Records and Briefs* is divided into four sections: United States Supreme Court, United States Courts of Appeals, state final appellate courts, and state intermediate appellate courts. The first listing in each category is the address, telephone number, and facsimile number of the Clerk of the Court. Libraries and state archives are then listed alphabetically by state. The entries include the institution’s name, address, telephone number, holdings, format, and lending policy. E-mail addresses and facsimile numbers are provided when available. There is also a listing of vendors, divided by court type, that provides the appropriate contact information and holdings.

¶160 A very useful tool, *A Union List of Appellate Court Records and Briefs* completes the progression started by earlier union lists that were published as articles in *Law Library Journal* and *Legal Reference Services Quarterly*.<sup>4</sup> This work updates and expands these efforts by combining information about records and briefs of federal and state final appellate courts with those of federal and state intermediate appellate courts into a single union list. It should prove valuable to the reference collection of all types of law libraries, be they public, private, academic, court, law firm, government, or association.

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4. See H.C. Hallam, Jr. & Edward G. Hudson, *United States Supreme Court Records and Briefs: A Union List With a Note on Their Distribution and Microfilming*, 40 L. LIBR. J. 82 (1947); Arthur A. Charpentier, *Appellate Records—A Beginning Union List*, 60 L. LIBR. J. 273 (1969); Gene Tietlebaum, *United States Supreme Court Briefs and Records: An Updated Union List*, LEGAL REFERENCE SERVICES Q., Fall 1982, at 9; *United States Courts of Appeals Briefs and Records: An Updated Union List*, LEGAL REFERENCE SERVICES Q., Fall 1983, at 67; *State Court of Last Resort’s Briefs and Records: An Updated Union List*, LEGAL REFERENCE SERVICES Q., Summer/Fall 1985, at 187; *Intermediate Appellate State Courts’ Briefs and Records: An Updated Union List*, LEGAL REFERENCE SERVICES Q., 1988 no. 1–2, at 159; Margaret A. Leary, *The Case of the Disappearing Briefs: A Study in Preservation Strategy*, 85 L. LIBR. J. 357 (1993).