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Museletter: September 2005

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Museletter

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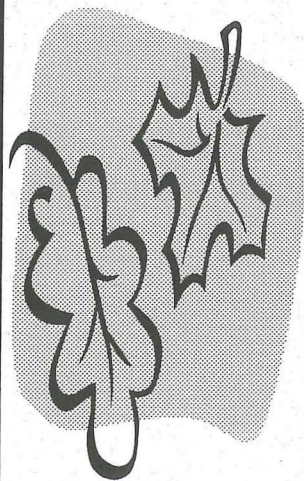
Fall 2005 Regular Library Hours

Sunday
10:00 a.m. - Midnight

Monday—Thursday
7:30 a.m. - Midnight

Friday
7:30 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Saturday
9:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.



BNA ONLINE

John R. Barden

The Bureau of National Affairs is one of the granddaddies of the loose-leaf service world. Since 1929, BNA has provided timely coverage on a number of legal topics ranging from tax law to labor relations to professional responsibility. BNA binders—large, clunky, frequently ragged—are regularly consulted in many law library and law firm collections.

What is so special about BNA products? Well, it depends on the title: BNA publishes a number of daily newsletters (such as tax, labor, intellectual property) that track late-breaking developments by topic. BNA also publishes case decisions, including many that will not find their way into the National Reporter System. These reporters are also arranged topically for ease of searching. Some of the BNA products are designed for practitioners, especially the highly esteemed Tax Management Portfolios, which cover a wide array of tax-related issues at federal, state, and international levels. Finally, there are some that don't really fit into a category; consider U.S. Law Week, which focuses on Supreme Court jurisprudence, including upcoming case information, reports of latest cases, and news about the judicial system.

Searching loose-leaves has never been a fun operation. Many users rejoiced when some BNA products became available full-text through Westlaw and Lexis. Faculty and students can access some of the databases through Westlaw and an even larger array through Lexis, using the standard searching techniques for those providers. However, use of those databases is restricted by the same provisions that govern your Lexis and Westlaw access. Furthermore, there is no guarantee that BNA will always maintain a relationship with those providers.

In 2002, BNA provided their own online environment for many of their products. The Muse Law Library presently subscribes to ninety-three BNA services through BNA Online (start from <http://law.richmond.edu/librarytech/bna.htm>), including some of their most popular titles: U.S. Law Week, Tax Management Portfolios, Daily Tax Report, Daily Labor Report, and ABA/BNA Lawyers' Manual on Professional Conduct, to name just a few. BNA Online access enables UR Law users to have the latest coverage directly from the source without the restrictions that apply to your Westlaw/Lexis passwords.

Using BNA Online is relatively simple. The URL above provides links to each of the publications. The home page of each publication varies somewhat, depending on whether it is a daily report, a case reporter, or a portfolio. However, all provide full-text searching with limited Boolean and field restriction features. More to the point, it's very easy to get to the latest information in any publication: usually, it is on the first page that you come to.

Continued on page 2

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A couple of caveats about using BNA Online: As with many databases, not all the back materials have been loaded. While the U.S. Patent Quarterly cases have been loaded all the way back to 1929, other libraries may only go back to the mid-1990s or even more recently. Click on the "All Issues" button to find an expandable directory of the available materials. Furthermore, these databases are discrete, and you may not find all you're looking for in one search. For example, a search for materials on Microsoft litigation and legal news since January 1 of this year produced results in "Class Action Litigation" (4 hits), "Antitrust & Trade Regulation Daily" (26), "Patent, Trademark & Copyright Law Daily" (7), and "E-Commerce Law Daily" (23). While some of these were duplicates, many were not. Trying several databases is a good tactic if there's any chance that your subject crosses database lines.

One BNA resource that I feel is underutilized here is U.S. Law Week. When I was in law school (not *that* many years ago), my classmates regularly scoured U.S. Law Week for information on upcoming constitutional cases and for ideas for case notes and advanced papers based on hot topics and circuit splits (both of which U.S. Law Week covers very well). Now that access to U.S. Law Week no longer requires waiting in line behind your colleagues and wrestling with binders, I encourage you to explore this tool for keeping up with developments at the highest level of our nation's judiciary.

BNA Services Available Online at UR Law

<u>ABA/BNA Lawyers' Manual on Professional Conduct (Current Reports)*</u>	<u>Environment & Safety Library*</u>	<u>Patent, Trademark & Copyright Law Daily*</u>
<u>ABA/BNA Lawyers' Manual on Professional Conduct*</u>	<u>Environment Due Diligence Report*</u>	<u>Patent, Trademark & Copyright Journal*</u>
<u>Antitrust & Trade Regulation Report*</u>	<u>Environment Reporter*</u>	<u>Pension & Benefits Daily*</u>
<u>Antitrust Trade & Regulation Daily*</u>	<u>Erisa Compliance and Enforcement Library</u>	<u>Pension & Benefits Reporter*</u>
	<u>Expert Evidence Report*</u>	<u>Pharmaceutical Law & Industry Report</u>
	<u>Family Law Reporter*</u>	<u>Privacy Law Watch*</u>
	<u>Federal Contracts Daily*</u>	<u>Privacy & Security Law Report*</u>
	<u>Federal Contracts Report*</u>	<u>Product Liability Daily*</u>
	<u>Federal Environment & Safety Regulatory Monitoring Report</u>	<u>Product Safety & Liability Reporter*</u>
	<u>Government Employee Relations Report*</u>	<u>Right-To-Know Planning Guide*</u>
<u>Banking Daily*</u>	<u>HazMat Transportation News*</u>	<u>Securities Law Daily*</u>
<u>Banking Report*</u>	<u>Health Care Daily Report*</u>	<u>Securities Regulation & Law Report*</u>
<u>Bankruptcy Law Daily*</u>	<u>Health Care Fraud Report*</u>	<u>State Environment Daily*</u>
<u>Bankruptcy Law Reporter*</u>	<u>Health Care Policy Report*</u>	<u>State Environment & Safety Regulatory Monitoring Report*</u>
<u>BioTech Watch*</u>	<u>Health Law & Business Library*</u>	<u>State Health Care Regulatory Developments*</u>
<u>Broker/Dealer Compliance Report*</u>	<u>Health Law Reporter*</u>	
	<u>Health Plan & Provider Report*</u>	
	<u>Human Resources Report*</u>	
<u>Chemical Regulation Daily*</u>	<u>Intellectual Property Library</u>	<u>TaxCore</u>
<u>Chemical Regulation Reporter*</u>	<u>International Business & Finance Daily*</u>	<u>Tax Management Portfolios Plus</u>
<u>Class Action Litigation Report*</u>	<u>International Trade Reporter*</u>	<u>Tax Management State Tax Library</u>
<u>Computer Technology Law Report*</u>	<u>International Environment Daily*</u>	<u>Tax Management Transfer Pricing Report</u>
<u>Construction Labor Report*</u>	<u>International Environment Reporter*</u>	<u>Tax Management Weekly State Tax Report</u>
<u>Corporate Accountability Report*</u>	<u>International Tax Monitor*</u>	<u>Telecommunications Monitor*</u>
<u>Corporate Accountability & Fraud Daily*</u>	<u>International Trade Daily*</u>	<u>Toxics Law Daily*</u>
<u>Corporate Counsel Weekly*</u>		<u>Toxics Law Reporter*</u>
<u>Corporate Governance Report*</u>	<u>Labor and Employment Law Library*</u>	<u>Transportation Watch*</u>
<u>Corporate Law Daily*</u>	<u>Labor Relations Week*</u>	
<u>Corporate Practice Library*</u>		<u>U.S. Law Week*</u>
<u>Criminal Law Reporter*</u>	<u>Medical Research Law & Policy*</u>	<u>Wage Hour & Leave Report*</u>
	<u>Medicare Report*</u>	<u>World Intellectual Property Report*</u>
	<u>Money & Politics Report*</u>	<u>World Securities Law Report</u>
		<u>WTO Reporter*</u>
<u>Daily Environment Report*</u>	<u>Occupational Safety & Health Daily*</u>	
<u>Daily Labor Report*</u>	<u>Occupational Safety & Health Reporter*</u>	
<u>Daily Report for Executives*</u>		
<u>Daily Tax Report*</u>		
<u>E-Commerce Law Daily*</u>		
<u>E-Commerce Tax Report*</u>		
<u>Electronic Commerce & Law Report*</u>		
<u>Employee Benefits Library*</u>		
<u>Employment Discrimination Report*</u>		
<u>Employment Discrimination Verdicts and Settlements*</u>		

But What If We Don't Have It? : Making Interlibrary Loan Requests
By Gail Zwirner, Head of Access Services

The Law Library's collection of over 350,000 volumes, and access to the University's collections at Boatwright, normally meet the needs for faculty and student research. However, when a faculty member sees a source useful for his research, a Law Review article author has cited something we don't hold, or a student wants to review a source to complete research for the upper level writing requirement, those circumstances require the Access Services Department to make an interlibrary loan request.

Many times these source requests are non-legal titles, where the researcher wants to find a broad or "pop culture" context on a topic. Examples of sources I borrowed this summer were on the death penalty, community property and the Disney Corporation. In other cases, researchers are looking for a historical context. I made a request, for example, for a 1901 hornbook on civil procedure.

Some of the frequently-asked questions about the interlibrary loan process are as follows:

How do I make a request? After you have exhausted the possibilities on campus by checking the online catalog of our holdings at <http://librarycat.richmond.edu>, or using online sources such as Hein Online, send an e-mail to Gail Zwirner at gzwirner@richmond.edu and make the request. Please provide as much information as possible, including author, book or journal title, year of publication, article title if applicable, and citation. For Law School faculty and staff, please make requests through our library and not through Boatwright or the *FirstSearch* system. That will delay the request because the Boatwright staff will forward the request to me.

How many titles may I borrow? As many as you feel you need to complete your research.

How soon will I get the book? It depends; usually within a week. We are members of two consortia. One is RALC in Richmond. Member institutions include VCU, Randolph Macon, Virginia Union, Union Theological, and the Library of Virginia. Requests are delivered by shuttle on Tuesdays and Thursdays. We lend and borrow with VCU the most of all libraries. Patrons can also obtain a RALC pass and go to the library for quicker self-service. You will be entered into their system and you'll be entitled to check out two books. The other consortium is COSELL, a group of southeastern law libraries.

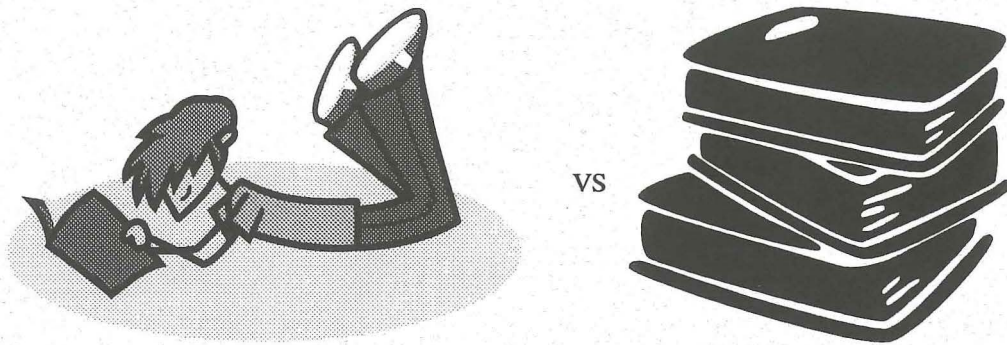
How long may I use the book? Again, it depends on the lending institution. The clock starts ticking as soon as the item is mailed. Sometimes it's two weeks; sometimes two months. I recommend when you receive the title, that you use it immediately. Most libraries do not allow renewals with interlibrary loan requests.

Anything else I should know about I.L.L.? Make your requests promptly to insure timely receipt. Double-check your citation for accuracy. One character off on a volume/page number or a misspelled author can jeopardize receiving the article promptly.

Best of luck with your research projects. Let us know how we can help. -gfb

Recreational Reading Anyone?

It is easy to think of the law library as containing only the dry volumes of statutes, reporters, law reviews and other needed and useful materials but the library's collection is more than work related. In addition to the resources that many attorneys rely upon daily in their work, the collection also contains a small but delightful recreational reading selection. Located at the front of the library near the entrance doors patrons will find many wonderful and entertaining volumes to offer a respite from Justice Holmes' lengthy opinion assigned for class. Located in the recreational collection are favorites by authors such as Scott Turow, John Grisham, Sandra Brown, Richard North Patterson, Lisa Scottoline, David Baldacci and many others. If you are ready for something unrelated to the law, Boatwright Library also offers a larger and more extensive collection of popular fiction for your reading pleasure. Boatwright's collection is located on the second floor of the library.



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