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MUSE LAW LIBRARY MUSELETTER



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Director's Message



Temperatures are falling, and Halloween is on the horizon. After Fall Break, it often feels like we settle into a consistent pace across campus. For many, it's a faster pace, with more pressure. We hope all are able to find the rhythm and routine needed for success. More furniture arrived, so check out the whole library and campus to study when and where it works for you. We are well into the second half of the term, and there's plenty of time to complete outlines, memos and practice problems on your to-do list. Good luck maintaining your personal pace.

Roger V. Skalbeck

Associate Dean for Library and Information Services

Library News



Trick 'r treat! This one's a trick. We'll replace these terrible highlighters with candy soon. (Oct. 20, 2022)

Halloween is one of my favorite times of the year. What other day of the year can you justify dressing up like Darth Vader and eating your weight in Reese's cups? It's the magic time when the leaves turn orange, the corn turns candy, and the Counts turn Chocula. When you can literally pumpkin-spice everything in your life (ever try **pumpkin spice ramen noodles**? It's a real thing). As a law student, you are coming out of the mid-term grind, and we feel like you deserve a few treats. Check out the Law Library's annual **Halloween horror movie recommendations**, provided by our faculty, staff, and SLATE members. And stop by the Reference Desk on Halloween--*we'll have candy!*

Featured Resources



Create Custom Shortcuts in Google Docs

Google Docs users, rejoice! You can create shortcuts for the section and paragraph symbols. See how.



Pixlr Premium is Free!

Pixlr, a cloud-based photo editor, provides UR community members 1 year of free access to their Premium suite.



Two Student Writing Opportunities

The American Association of Law Libraries (AALL) and LexisNexis have announced their annual "Call for Papers" competition. And vLex's International Law and Technology Writing Competition will be accepting competition entries until the 1st of December 2022.

Materials Update



We added **75** new books to our collection this month. Browse the Law Library's latest resources on our [updated materials list](#).

Looking for an e-book? We added **over 800** new e-book titles this month. Check out our [updated e-book list](#).

Things to Consider



Happy National Voter Registration Day!

By Joyce Manna Janto

It is a day to celebrate democracy. A day to celebrate access to a basic right we have as American citizens, the right to cast a ballot for the candidate of our choice. If, for some reason, you aren't registered to vote you can go to [National Voter Registration Day](#) to learn the law in your home state. [Read more...](#)

Student Services Corner



There Will Be Bubbles. MuseKids Storytime is Back!

Parents, bring your kids! **Saturday, November 12 at 10:30 AM**, the Law Library will once again host MuseKids Storytime. All law students, faculty, staff, and alumni with children are welcome. Join us in the library for law-themed children's stories, coloring, and playtime. Snack provided. All ages are welcome!

MuseDay Tuesdays

Join us in the hall outside the library every Tuesday for bite-sized research, resource, and tech tips. Drop in anytime between 12 - 1. New topics every week. Earn a raffle ticket for each MuseDay you attend. Grand prize: \$100 gift card to the UR Spider Shop.

If you are a student who wants to have your voice heard and be published in MuseNews, contact [Alex Clay Hutchings](#), Student Services Librarian.

The Facepalm

Legal News to Make You 🧑



Be afraid. Be very afraid. Another Facepalm is here!

It's Halloween, and during the month of October I gorge myself on horror movies like a school kid eats mini Snickers. But there's nothing Fun Sized about some recent litigation surrounding horror movies, with millions of dollars at stake.

First, the curious case of Winnie the Pooh. We all know Pooh Bear as Disney's

tubby little cubby all stuffed with fluff who bears a striking resemblance to a certain president of a certain People's Republic (Google it). But what the heck does he have to do with horror movies? Well, **Pooh is getting his very own slasher-style reboot**, and things are about to get dark in the Hundred Acre Wood. The "plot" (quotes are necessary here) revolves around a villainous Pooh and Piglet who, after being abandoned by a college-bound Christopher Robin, go on a murderous, blood-thirsty rampage. I know my life was not complete until I heard this news, but the question remains--how did the producers of *Winnie the Pooh: Blood and Honey* get away with such a blatant appropriation of Disney's copyright? The answer is two words: *public domain*. Under U.S. copyright law, a creative work enters the public domain after the author's life, plus 70 years. And since A.A. Milne first published *Winnie-the-Pooh* in 1926, feel free to go nuts.

Next, **Jesse Eisenberg**, acclaimed star of *The Social Network*, is suing Lionsgate Entertainment for "exploitation of his name and image for financial profit." The problem? Lionsgate promoted a movie Eisenberg was in by saying he was in it. In 2007, Eisenberg spent one day filming a cameo for the low-budget horror schlock *Camp Hell*, which he did as a favor to his friends, the film's producers. But after Eisenberg's stratospheric rise with starring roles in Hollywood mainstream hits like *Now You See Me* and *Batman v. Superman*, Lionsgate wanted to cash in on his success by promoting DVD sales of *Camp Hell* by over-emphasizing Eisenberg. Despite the actor being on-screen for merely a few minutes, his name and photo appear prominently on the DVD cover, a ploy, the suit claims, to "fraudulently induce his fans to purchase" the DVD. Eisenberg has demanded damages of \$3 million, more than *Camp Hell's* entire budget. Eisenberg won the preliminary suit, which just goes to show you shouldn't ask your friends for favors.

Finally, we turn to Texas, where a **local gas station is being sued** by Vortex Inc., copyright holders of the legendary gore-fest *Texas Chainsaw Massacre*. The Gas Station off State Highway 304 (creative name, btw) was a filming location for the 1974 slasher, and its owners have capitalized on the movie's cult status. The Gas Station has been selling unlicensed movie memorabilia and hosting *Texas Chainsaw*-themed events, even after being politely asked by the copyright owners to stop. In response to the request, The Gas Station agreed stop, but only if the film's writers, Toby Hooper and Kim Henkel, would be available to host an annual autograph signing event on-site. Refusing to establish The Gas Station's own little Comic-Con, Vortex is is suing for \$150,000 in statutory damages *per infringing work*, to the tune of \$9.9 million. Needless to say, The

Gas Station is going to get massacred in court. *Ba-dum tssss.*

And that's your Halloween Leatherface-palm. I'll show myself out....

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MUSENEWS BLOG

LIBRARY HOURS

QUESTIONS?

Have a questions about Muse Law Library resources, events, or other goings-on? Want to share your ideas with us? Email Alex Clay Hutchings, Research & Student Services Librarian, at ahutchings@richmond.edu.

CHAT WITH A LIBRARIAN

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