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### e-Museletter: November 2022

William Taylor Muse Law Library

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MUSE LAW LIBRARY MUSELETTER



Volume 37, Issue 4 // November 2022

## Director's Message



Happy Thanksgiving or Friendsgiving or whatever your traditions are in late November. The semester is nearly over, which means it's time to finish outlines, finalize papers, and plan for exams. The library is closed for a few days around Thanksgiving, and we'll be back open for business when reading week starts. We'll do our best to maintain **quiet and warm spaces to study.** Good luck concluding the term.

***Roger V. Skalbeck***

***Associate Dean for Library and Information Services***

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## Library News



*1Ls celebrate the end of the term in the Law Library (Nov. 18, 2022)*

As the winter approaches nights get a little longer, days get a little colder, and the world once again transforms into a holiday wonderland. We transition from autumn's pumpkin-spiceageddon to winter's peppermint-mochapocalypse. *Ever had white chocolate peppermint Pringles? **(It's a real thing)***. As we approach the end of the year and the end of the term, it's a chance for us to reflect and give thanks to everyone who made the journey wonderful. From the library, we thank all our students, faculty, and staff that have made this term so special. Enjoy your winter break, and good luck on finals. But first, the library news.

### **Library Hours**

The Library will retain its current hours through the end of exam period without change. View the Library's [\*\*complete hours here.\*\*](#)

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## **Featured Resources**



## Extended Quiet Zones and Seat Reservations for Fall 2022 Exams

Starting on Monday, November 21, the law library will extend our designated quiet zone and allow law students to reserve a study seat for use during Fall 2022 reading week and exam period.



## Change your email address, change your world

The University of Richmond automatically assigns each student a unique email address, but don't feel obligated to keep it.



## vLex International Law and Technology Writing Competition

vLex's Writing Competition will be accepting competition entries until the **1st of December 2022**.

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## Materials Update



We added **30** 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 300** new e-book titles this month. Check out our [\*\*updated e-book list.\*\*](#)

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## Things to Consider



## Google 2.0 – Improving Your Internet Searches

By Joyce Manna Janto

As the cliché goes – searching the Internet is both a blessing and a curse. A blessing in that a vast amount of information is available free of charge. A curse because a vast amount of information is available free of charge. The typical Google search can return millions if not billions of hits. How do you winnow down the results to insure you are looking at relevant, authentic information? [Read more...](#)

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## Student Services Corner



## **A Thanksgiving Hypo by Jack Ellis (1L)**

Want some bar prep with a side of cranberry sauce? Try Jack Ellis's turkey hypo (based on an actual case)!

## **Turn in your MuseDay Tuesday Punch Cards**

Thank you all for making MuseDay Tuesday a success! If you haven't done so already, please turn in your raffle ticket punch cards to the Reference Desk by November 22 at 5pm. To support the launch of MuseDay Tuesday this semester, we received a donation of a \$100 UR Spider Shop gift card. The drawing for this is at 5pm, Friday, November 18. We'll notify the winner via email and the selected student does not need to be present to win.

MuseDay Tuesdays will return with a new batch of research, resource, and technology tips next semester!

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 🙄



...Ready for it? It's another **Facepalm**, Taylor Swift edition!

The genre-spanning, bajillion-album-selling pop star has been racking up w's lately. With her latest album, *Midnights*, Swift broke 185 million Spotify streams in one day (a record) and has become the first artist to monopolize the top 10 Billboard spots at one time (another record). I guess she's kind of a big deal. But with great fame comes great litigation, and Swift has been busy in court. Let the sparks fly!

Swift is currently embroiled in a double-dose of copyright drama. First, author and poet **Teresa La Dart has filed a \$1 million suit** against Swift for alleged similarities between La Dart's 2010 book *Lover* and Swift's 2019 book of the same name. Claiming the superstar lifted "vibes" (that was her word) from La Dart's self-published book, the plaintiff cites both *Lovers* contain a "recollection of past years memorialized in a combination of written and pictorial components," not to mention pastel pinks and blues on the cover. A side-by-side comparison of the covers leads one to think La Dart needs to calm down, unless the concept of a "diary" or the color pink are La Dart's hard-earned intellectual property.

This suit comes hard on the heels of another copyright claim against the singer-songwriter, who is facing trial for **purportedly lifting lyrics** for her 2013 smash "Shake It Off" from rap group 3LW. According to 3LW's Sean Hall and Nathan Butler, Swift's chorus comes a bit too close for comfort to their 2001 "Playas Gon' Play." Judge Michael Fitzgerald recently denied Swift's most recent motion to dismiss the case, after an appellate court found the originality of Swift's song should be decided by a jury. This comes after Judge Fitzgerald



originally dismissed the case in 2017, claiming the lyrics are “too brief, unoriginal and uncreative to warrant protection under the Copyright Act.” Well, haters gonna hate, hate, hate, hate, hate.

In all fairness, Swift has been a bit of an intellectual property anti-hero herself in years past. In 2014, she filed for a trademark for the seemingly universal phrase **"This Sick Beat,"** a lyric from "Shake It Off," along with a host of other lines cherry-picked from her 1989 album. In fact, Swift owns roughly 60 trademarked words and phrases, including variations of her name and initials, song lyrics and titles, and the sickeningly cute appellation of her fan club – the "Swifties." Now, if you do want to get down with this sick beat™ you will have to ask Ms. Swift's permission.

Finally, a bit of recent news. **Ticketmaster**, the many-headed serpent serving as the dungeon master to all things "ticket," experienced massive outages during its presale for Swift's upcoming Eras Tour. Due to the unfathomable demand for tickets (over 2 million sold in a day) the site crashed, and since then Ticketmaster has suspended all Swift's sales due to lack of inventory. Many fans waited hours to purchase tickets, only to be met with glitches and left empty-handed. Well, glitches get stitches. **Tennessee Attorney General** Jonathan Skrmetti has launched an investigation into Ticketmaster's sales practices, with politicians the likes of AOC calling for a good ol' fashioned trust-busting. Talk about bad blood. Swifties of the world, unite!

But for now, if you are looking to score Tay-Tay tickets on the resale market, be prepared to pay **upwards of \$28,000** due to Ticketmaster's Chernobyl-esque meltdown. Now there's a Facepalm you can't shake off.

**READ OUR FACEPALM ARCHIVES HERE**

**MUSENEWS BLOG**

**LIBRARY HOURS**

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**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](mailto:ahutchings@richmond.edu).

## CHAT WITH A LIBRARIAN

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