CONNECTICUT JUDICIAL BRANCH
LAW LIBRARY SERVICES
2015-2016 ANNUAL REPORT
INTRODUCTION

During the period July 2015 through June 2016, the Connecticut Judicial Branch Law Library Services Unit experienced notable increases in walk-in traffic, and in computer usage. Also, staff participated in a number of collaborative efforts, outreach endeavors, and training presentations that showcased the ongoing commitment of the Judicial Branch professional law librarians to provide services and research assistance to all stakeholders, both internal and external.

Standing Law Library Services committees continued the focus of maintaining and improving access to services and resources. By working to provide equal access to law related information, the Judicial Branch law librarians offered the opportunity to library patrons to learn about and better understand the legal issues impacting their lives. By providing education in the law, the law librarians strengthen people’s ability to find concrete solutions to obtaining justice.

After the adoption of the Law Library Services Strategic Plan, 2015-2020 by the Law Library Advisory Committee in May 2015, implementation plans and schedules were developed and introduced to staff. All Law Library Services Unit’s staff members were assigned to participate in initiatives designed to achieve defined goals of the Strategic Plan, in order to strengthen the unit’s viability, enhance its flexibility, increase its visibility, and expand its services and resources to meet the evolving needs of all stakeholders. Initial progress reports on implementation actions are scheduled to be submitted during the next reporting period.
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VISION OF THE LAW LIBRARY SERVICES UNIT

The Law Library Services Unit of the Connecticut Judicial Branch will provide prompt and professional guidance and access to reliable and comprehensive information to individuals who are researching or pursuing legal rights and remedies. This will be accomplished by using the latest technology, by maintaining an up-to-date collection of appropriate materials, and by collaborating with Judicial Branch units and other organizations to offer services sufficient to meet the current and emerging needs of its patrons.

MISSION OF THE LAW LIBRARY SERVICES UNIT

The mission of the Law Library Services Unit is to provide the courts and the public with access to comprehensive and current legal materials and resources in an efficient and timely manner and to provide bibliographic assistance, educational programs, legal reference, and research guidance to all patrons.
LAW LIBRARY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

In accordance with The Connecticut Supreme Court Policies for the Establishment and Maintenance of a System of Law Libraries, the Law Library Advisory Committee, “shall meet annually and at such other times as it deems necessary, and may report to the Chief Justice and the Chief Court Administrator any recommendations it may have concerning the adequacy of the funding and services provided by the law libraries, whether additions or deletions should be made to the list of law libraries so established, whether amendments should be made to the minimum collection standards for the law libraries, and such other matters as the committee believes are pertinent to the operation of the law libraries.”

During the period covered by this report, in order to maintain a law library system that functions today and remains integral to the justice system in the future, the Law Library Services Unit began the process of working toward the goals contained in the [Strategic Plan for the Connecticut Judicial Branch Law Library Services Unit, 2015-2020](#), which was adopted by the Law Library Advisory Committee in May 2015. The Committee recognized the need for the Judicial Branch Law Library Services Unit to strengthen and expand its ability to respond to the changing landscape of legal services. The mission of the Law Library Services Unit supports and works in tandem with the Judicial Branch Strategic Plan’s goal of meeting the needs of the public in attaining equal access to justice. The strategic plan that was formulated as a guide for the future of the Law Library Services Unit recognizes the strategic direction of the Connecticut Judicial Branch, and is envisioned to complement and strengthen those ongoing Branch initiatives, while working within the framework of available resources and funds.

In furtherance of efforts to ensure that the legal information needs of all stakeholders are met, now and in the future, an implementation plan was created, outlining steps to be taken by the law librarians in order to move toward achieving the goals of the Strategic Plan. Each librarian was assigned to work on initial steps to be undertaken for two Strategic Plan goals. Assignments are overseen by the Supervising Law Librarians, and progress will be recorded on tracking grids. Periodic progress reports will be submitted to the Law Library Advisory Committee, during the next reporting period.

The Law Library Advisory Committee members serving during FY2015-2016 are listed below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Committee Members</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hon. Douglas C. Mintz, Chair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hon. James W. Abrams, Co-Chair</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hon. Henry S. Cohn</td>
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<tr>
<td>William H. Clendenen, Jr., Attorney</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adam J. Cohen, Attorney</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ann DeVeaux, Law Library Director</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hon. Jane B. Emons</td>
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<td>Prof. S. Blair Kauffman, Law Library Director</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prof. Darcy Kirk, Law Library Director</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hon. William J. Lavery (Resigned as of 11/17/2015)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hon. Kevin C Doyle (Appointed as of 1/14/2016)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hon. Raheem L. Mullins</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eamonn S. Wisneski, Attorney</td>
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<tr>
<td>William P. Yelenak, Attorney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary to the Committee: Deputy Director of Law Library Services, Ann H. Doherty, Judge Support Services, Superior Court Operations</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
STAFF

The Law Library Services Unit is a Connecticut Judicial Branch, Superior Court Operations Division unit within Judge Support Services. During most of Fiscal Year 2015-2016*, the staff of the Law Library Services Unit consisted of fifteen Law Librarians, two Supervising Law Librarians, and the Deputy Director.

*Resigned as of 11/12/2015
LAW LIBRARY SERVICES – SERVICES AND STATISTICS

For the period July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016, the Connecticut Judicial Branch Law Libraries report the following totals for the twelve staffed libraries:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Door count</td>
<td>181,543</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone reference responses</td>
<td>7,114</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email reference responses</td>
<td>3,842</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The door count total consists of both patrons who requested reference services, and patrons who utilized the law library resources but did not require assistance from a librarian. The number of patrons who visited the law libraries increased by 2% over the previous reporting period. The telephone and email reference responses represent assistance rendered to patrons directly contacting a library, or an individual librarian.

For the period July 1, 2015, through June 30, 2016, the following information was tracked:

### In-library users by type:

- Court: 2,869
- Judicial Branch personnel: 5,753
- Attorneys/Legal Professionals: 16,076
- Self-represented Litigants: 11,472
- General Public: 6,315

### In-library computer use:

- General: 9,380
- Case look-up/E-services: 2,922
- Legal research databases: 4,047

The number of patrons using the Law Library Services’ computer based legal research databases and resources increased by 42% over the reporting period of July 2014 – June 2015.
LAW LIBRARY SERVICES – SERVICES AND STATISTICS

In addition to email reference assistance provided to patrons contacting a particular library or an individual staff librarian, the Law Library Services Unit also responded to email reference requests through two additional email services: “Ask a Librarian” service, offered through the Law Library Services web site, and “Ask Us a Question” service, offered through the Judicial Branch web site and managed by the law librarians.

2015-2016: “Ask a Librarian” Email Service – 536 email reference questions were asked and answered by the Judicial Branch Law Librarians. This number represents 72 responses to attorneys and/or legal professionals, and 464 responses to self-represented parties or members of the general public.

2015-2016: Judicial Branch “Ask Us a Question” Email Service – This service began in August 2013, and the law librarians have managed the service since its inception. During Fiscal Year 2015-2016, the law librarians responded to 1,689 inquiries for information and assistance, covering a wide range of court and law related matters. This number represents 67 responses to attorneys and/or legal professionals, and 1,622 responses to self-represented parties or members of the general public. In addition, on a monthly basis, a staff librarian compiles and reports detailed statistics concerning the service to the Judicial Branch Web Board.
**LAW LIBRARY SERVICES – SERVICES AND STATISTICS**

**2015-2016: Law Library Services, “E-Notification” Services** through which assigned librarians monitor the Advance Release Opinions from the Connecticut Supreme and Appellate Courts, and releases from selected Bureau of National Affairs (BNA) services: U.S Law Week, Criminal Law Reporter, and Family Law Reporter. Summaries of released opinions are forwarded, via email, to judges, staff attorneys, and other Judicial personnel who sign up for the service and are on a distribution list. Full-text decisions or articles are provided, upon request.

**2015-2016:** The following requests were filled through the E-Notification Services:

- Advance Release Opinions from the Connecticut Supreme and Appellate Courts - 545
- BNA U.S. Law Week – 76
- BNA Family Law Reporter – 325
- BNA Criminal Law Reporter – 47

Responses provided by this service increased by 5% over the previous reporting period.

**2015-2016: Connecticut Law Reporter Highlights** This additional E-Notification Service is offered to Superior Court Judges. To date, 63 Judges have signed up to receive a weekly bulletin which provides electronic access to selected Connecticut court decisions.
LAW LIBRARY SERVICES – COMMITTEES AND SERVICES

Law Library Services, through its standing committees, was involved in the following services, activities, and initiatives during the reporting period:

“Ask a Librarian” Email Service

Purpose: Management and oversight of the Law Library Services’ email reference service, “Ask a Librarian.” Duties include establishing policies and procedures for the service, providing staff training, scheduling coverage, modifying guidelines, and providing coverage backup, as needed.

2015-2016: The law librarians responded to 536 reference inquiries.

Cataloging and Original Cataloging

Purpose: Management and maintenance of the online catalog for Law Library Services. Create both copy and original catalog records, as necessary, for inclusion in the online catalog.

2015-2016: The committee issued guidelines for cataloging standards and procedures to be followed by staff when updating the online catalog. The “Catalog Records Tracker,” a worksheet used as a tool for reporting needed catalog revisions is available for all library staff to check to see what is needed to maintain the catalog accuracy and currency for each library’s holdings. During this fiscal year, committee members created 75 original catalog records.

Group Purchasing

Purpose: Coordinate purchasing of titles system-wide for law libraries. Contact and negotiate with vendor for discounts. Address any problems with purchases. Process billing for group purchases, and oversee distribution of material.

2015-2016: The number of group purchases completed during any time period is dictated by the number of titles published that are of interest to the law librarians and are offered at group purchase rates. During this fiscal year, 8 titles were purchased through this program, resulting in a savings of $8,963.98 over the publisher list price.
LAW LIBRARY SERVICES – COMMITTEES AND SERVICES

Inmate Correspondence Service

**Purpose:** This service provides prisoners with requested information, within the guidelines established by the Law Library Services Unit. The committee members share the correspondence responsibility. A New Haven staff librarian oversees the service.

**2015-2016:** During this reporting period, 119 written requests were received, and 94 responses were mailed to inmates who submitted requests that complied with the guidelines. The requests submitted to this service increased by 61% over the previous reporting period.

Interlibrary Loan (ILL)

**Purpose:** Coordinate and process interlibrary loan requests submitted by the law librarians for patrons. Provide access to and monitor the interlibrary loan system network. Serve as contact with lending and/or borrowing institutions.

**2015-2016:** 26 interlibrary loan requests were initiated, 16 filled, 1 cancelled, and 8 requests went unfilled. Of the 16 requests filled, 14 were loans of material from participating libraries, and 2 requests were filled by providing copies of materials.

Intranet & Blog

**Purpose:** Create and maintain an intranet page and blog for law library staff to share information, news, and resources. Site consists of administrative information and reference resources. Develop criteria for intranet content and blog postings, and establish an archiving procedure for the blog.

**2015-2016:** News, announcements, and useful information were posted periodically by committee members to share with staff.

Legal Research Guides

**Purpose:** Create and update existing legal research guides (pathfinders), and establish standards for formatting, editing, and publishing, both in print and online. Identify appropriate legal topics to create new legal research guides. Oversee management of the staff assignment schedule for continual updating of the guides.

**2015-2016:** There are 77 published legal research guides. 52 guides were updated, and 3 new guides were created and published.
LAW LIBRARY SERVICES – COMMITTEES AND SERVICES

Marketing

Purpose: Develop and increase awareness of Law Library Services’ resources and services through publications, programs, exhibits, special events, and the Internet. Provide programming to target patron groups. Create an outreach component to attract new and non-traditional users. Foster a working relationship with other libraries.

2015-2016: The Marketing Committee prepared, ordered, and distributed Judicial Branch Law Library calendars, in four sizes ranging from 5”x7” pocket size to 2’x3’ poster size. These calendars have proven to be very useful and popular with court personnel, as well as with attorneys, and the general public. During this reporting period, 4,790 calendars were distributed.

In the spring of 2016, the Marketing Committee, to celebrate Law Day, and with the assistance of the Judicial Branch Graphic Artist, created and distributed 44 posters marking the 50th anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court decision, *Miranda v. Arizona*, which ruling extended the Constitutional protection against self-incrimination to include police interrogations.

During this rating period, the Marketing Committee introduced electronic versions of 5 of Law Library Services’ popular palm cards for posting on the web feature “Self-Help Service for Court Matters.”

The Committee also prepared and distributed 1200 “Answer” palm cards to the Judicial Branch Law Libraries.

As part of the Access to Justice Workgroup on Libraries and Access to Justice’s initiative to form partnerships with the public librarians, the Marketing Committee created 2 quick reference cards for public librarians to use when assisting the public to find sources of legal reference information for Connecticut and for Federal research. The Committee distributed 1425 of each card to public librarians during this reporting period.
**NEW ATTORNEY PROGRAM**

**Purpose:** Develop, coordinate, and present the “Connecticut Legal Research & Courthouse Resources for New & Experienced Attorneys” program. Work with Judicial District courthouse personnel and other Court Operations units to schedule and present two to three programs each year. Explore option of developing future programs on legal research and services targeting attorneys.

**2015-2016:** In the Fall of 2015, the program, “Online Legal Research Available at the Judicial Branch Law Libraries,” was offered for new and experienced attorneys. The sessions, presented by a Judicial Branch Law Librarian, were held at the New Haven and Stamford Superior Courts. Attendance for both programs totaled 21 individuals.

**OUTREACH & TRAINING**

**Purpose:** Develop and provide training programs and instructions in multiple formats to present patrons with basic information concerning library services, court procedures, and legal research.

**2015-2016:** During this reporting period, members of the Committee presented programs to both internal and external stakeholders, highlighting the services, assistance, and resources available. Handouts and flyers created for distribution during Outreach programs were updated, organized, and placed in a computer folder for members to access, as needed. Also, during the reporting period, the instructional video: “How to Search the Connecticut General Statutes” was updated.

**SELF-REPRESENTED PARTIES INFORMATION SERIES VIDEOS**

**Purpose:** Develop and create slidecasts regarding court procedures for self-represented parties. Oversee maintenance of existing videos to ensure that content is kept up-to-date.

**2015-2016:** 1 slidecast was revised and is planned to be posted on the Judicial Branch web site as part of the Self-Represented Parties Information Series, during the next reporting period.
Staff Professional Development

Purpose: Identify and provide professional development programming to expand and strengthen staff's professional skills. Comprised of two Sub-Committees: 1) Education, and 2) Training.

- **Education Sub-Committee**
  Coordinate Annual Staff Development Program. Track professional educational opportunities pursued and offered by staff. Compile statistical information.

  **2015-2016:** In the Fall of 2015, the sub-committee arranged for a program for staff “Excellence in Colleague Communication,” presented by an EAP representative. The Annual Staff Development Program was held in June 2016, and featured a presentation by Attorney Thomas J. Londregan, Trial Court Judge for the Mashantucket Pequot Trial Court, who provided an overview of Indian Law. Staff also attended a hands-on e-Regulations training session presented by the Secretary of State’s Administrative Law Information Systems Manager.

  **2015-2016:** Staff attended 386.75 hours of training/staff development programs.

- **Training Sub-Committee**
  Ensure that all staff has adequate training on electronic programs (legal research and office management). Develop webinar tutorials for refreshing skills.

  **2015-2016:** Over 239 hours of training sessions were presented by committee members for library staff, and other Judicial Branch personnel, either in a group setting or one-on-one. Those attending the training sessions included Supreme Court Justices, Appellate and Superior Court Judges, law clerks, and Judicial Branch Legal Services staff.

![](New_Haven_Law_Library.jpg)
LAW LIBRARY SERVICES – COMMITTEES AND SERVICES

Web Page

**Purpose:** Create and update law library web site content. Periodically review the law libraries’ web pages for accuracy, completeness, and usability. Create links to legal information helpful to the courts and the public. Identify the need for changes, additions, or deletions, including links, and submit requests for change to the web developer.

**2014-2015:** 7 periodic web site link checks were conducted during the reporting period; more than 40,140 links were checked in total.

NewsLog (Sub-committee of Web Page Committee)

**Purpose:** Maintain the NewsLog on the Law Library Services web site. Provide advance release decision postings. Locate and post up-to-date information about Connecticut legislative developments, online legal research tools, new law library resources, and other topics of interest to the Connecticut legal community. Offer RSS (Rich Site Summary) feed so subscribers may receive notices and announcements as they are posted.

**2015-2016:** The Newslog editors were responsible for 385 posts during the reporting period.
LAW LIBRARY SERVICES – ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES AND SERVICES

During the time period covered by this report, the law librarians participated in additional assignments, activities, and services.

Collaborative Activities

Access to Justice (ATJ) Workgroup on Libraries and Access to Justice

2016: In January 2014, the Access to Justice (ATJ) Commission approved the creation of the ATJ Workgroup on Libraries and Access to Justice. During this reporting period, the co-chairs of the workgroup, including a supervising law librarian, undertook the planning and coordination of a “Justice Fair,” sponsored by the Connecticut Judicial Branch Access to Justice Commission.

The program focused on access to justice issues and the role public librarians can play in the ongoing effort to close the justice gap. The Justice Fair brought together Judicial Branch representatives, public librarians, courthouse law librarians, courthouse Court Service Center staff, academic librarians, and legal aid providers, who participated in panel discussions the morning of September 16, 2015, at the University of Connecticut School of Law.

In addition, a Judicial Branch law librarian and a Court Planner, both members of the workgroup, collaborated on drafting a training program for public librarians, “Court Services and Legal Reference for Librarians.” The program was presented twice during this reporting period, at the following locations:

- October 29, 2015, at the Connecticut State Library Service Center in Middletown, and
- March 3, 2016, at the Acton Public Library, Old Saybrook.
LAW LIBRARY SERVICES – ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES AND SERVICES

Public Service and Trust Commission - Access to Facilities Implementation Committee

A law librarian is a member of this committee, which works to improve access to Judicial Branch facilities. To date, this committee has surveyed Judicial facilities concerning accessibility, signage, and directions. The librarian is also an active member of the Subcommittee on Online Directions and General Information.

2015-2016: New and improved signs for mounting on the entrance doors of the law libraries were created and customized plastic sign holders were distributed.

Joint Services Workgroup

The workgroup is composed of five staff members from Law Library Services and five staff members from Court Service Centers/Public Information Desks. The mission of the workgroup is to foster ongoing communication and cooperation among designated Judicial Branch units by inventorying the services provided by each, recommending which entity is the most appropriate to provide the service, considering whether a particular service should be offered by more than one entity, and identifying and implementing methods for coordinating, complementing, and sharing information about services.

2015-2016: The Committee continued to offer an informational flyer detailing the services available at the Judicial Branch Law Libraries and the Court Service Centers/Public Information Desks.
LAW LIBRARY SERVICES – ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES AND SERVICES

Judicial Branch Strategic Plan District Liaison Program

During this reporting period, the two Law Librarians who were selected to participate in the Judicial Branch Strategic Plan District Liaison Program have been involved, with other District Liaisons in their respective Judicial Districts, in coordinating efforts to communicate information concerning the Judicial Branch Strategic Plan, and promoting and marketing the goals, vision, and values of the Plan to staff within their judicial districts.

Judicial Branch Web Board

A Supervising Law Librarian serves as a member of the Superior Court Operations Division Web Board. The Web Board coordinates and oversees the posting and updating of all of the information and material provided by the Superior Court Operation Division on the intranet for court staff and on the internet for the public. The board meets at least quarterly to ensure coordination and collaboration between units within the Division.

Judicial Branch Legal Exchange Program

The Legal Exchange Program is designed to foster communication and collaboration with the Bar by providing an opportunity to discuss local issues and convey information concerning courthouse resources. During this reporting period, Law Librarians participated in 6 Legal Exchange Programs that were held in Bridgeport, Danbury, Litchfield, New Britain, New London, and Stamford.
LIBRARY SERVICES – ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES AND SERVICES


During this reporting period a supervising law librarian participated in the State of Connecticut, Department of Administrative Services, Train-the-Trainer certificate program, as a trainer. Over a period of several months, the instructional sessions were held to work with enrolled individuals to increase their knowledge, skills, and abilities to function effectively as a trainer.

Connecticut State Library – Advisory Council for Library Planning and Development

During this reporting period, a New Haven Law Librarian served on the Connecticut State Library – Advisory Council for Library Planning and Development. The Advisory Council was created to assist the State Library Board in the planning and coordination of statewide library information services. Issues involving the State Library interlibrary loan delivery system (deliverIT CT) arose this reporting period. The New Haven staff librarian was asked to co-chair a task force formed to study and resolve the ongoing issues with the system.

Professional Organizations

Judicial Branch law librarians belong to, participate in, and hold voluntary leadership positions in a number of professional library organizations: American Association of Law Librarians, Southern New England Law Librarians Association, NELLCO, Inc. – an international consortium of law libraries, and Connecticut Library Association. The benefits of membership in these organizations are many: maintain awareness of current trends in the field, build a network of peers, access continuing education programs, and collaborate on community outreach programs.
## Patron Statistics

**By the numbers**
- Door Count: 181,543
- Telephone reference responses: 7,114
- Email reference responses: 3,842

**By the in-library users**
- Court: 2,869
- Judicial Branch personnel: 5,753
- Attorneys/legal professionals: 16,076
- Self-represented litigants: 11,472
- General public: 6,315

## In-Library Computer Use

- General: 9,380
- Case look-up/E-services: 2,922
- Legal research databases: 4,047

## Email Reference Services

**Ask-A-Librarian**
- Responses to Attorneys: 72
- Responses to Self-Represented/General Public: 464

**JB Feedback**
- Responses to Attorneys: 67
- Responses to Self-Represented/General Public: 1,622

## E-Notification Services

- Advance Release Decisions: 545
- BNA U.S. Law Week: 76
- BNA Family Law Reporter: 325
- BNA Criminal Law Reporter: 47

## Inmate Correspondence Service

- Written requests received: 119
- Responses mailed: 94

## Interlibrary Loan Service

- Requests initiated: 26
- Requests filled: 16
- Requests cancelled: 1
- Requests unfilled: 8
### New Attorney Program - Online Legal Research
- Total presentations: 2
- Total attendees: 21

### Self-Represented Parties’ Information
- “Court Matters” instructional guides: 5

### Education and Training
- Hours training attended: 386.50
- Hours staff training provided: 239.25

### Marketing Committee
- Calendars distributed: 4,790
- Palm cards distributed: 1,200
- Quick reference cards distributed: 2,450
- Law Day posters distributed: 44

### Research Guides
- Published research guides: 77
- Updated research guides: 52
- New research guides created and published: 3
- Average research guide downloads per month: 38,247

### Law by Subject Web Pages
- Total pages: 115
- New pages created: 3

### Law Library Services Web Site
- Periodic link checks: 7
- Links checked – more than: 40,140

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Hartford Law Library
THANK YOU!
Throughout this reporting period, the Judicial Branch law librarians have received many a “Thank you” from appreciative patrons. A sample of the comments follows:

“Fantastic! Thank you! This is exactly what I was looking for.”

“The help, insight, and knowledge of where to locate relevant information from the staff in the law library have been invaluable!”

“Terrific!! Thank you so much for your help!”

“Got it. You’re the best.”

“Thank you so much... The direction and resources are so greatly appreciated!”

“Thank you 😊”

“Thanks again... Your help and the library services are invaluable.”
CONCLUSION

This Annual Report showcases the value of the services of the Connecticut Judicial Branch Law Library Services Unit. The quantitative data presented provides a glimpse into what Law Library Services is all about - a dedicated staff of law librarians striving to meet the need for access to legal information. The duties, responsibilities, activities, and initiatives undertaken by the law librarians highlight the continued contributions of Law Library Services in its efforts to achieve the goals of the Strategic Plans of both the Judicial Branch and the Law Library Services Unit. The law librarians are frontline representatives of the Judicial Branch who are strategically positioned to utilize their knowledge, skill, and resources to assist patrons in pursuit of knowledge and understanding of the law. The information in this annual report demonstrates the progress made in focusing on the future and strengthening the ability of the law libraries to respond to the constantly evolving demands and needs of patrons.

This report is also intended to cultivate an appreciation for the vital role Law Library Services plays in supporting the Judicial Branch’s endeavors to fully and fairly serve those seeking access to justice. As stated in the previous Annual Report, the Law Library Services Unit will continue to expand involvement in programs and initiatives in order to meet the challenges of accurate, timely information delivery, and to assist the Connecticut Judicial Branch in its ongoing efforts to provide access to equal justice under the law.