

**Connecticut Judicial Branch  
Law Library Advisory Committee**  
April 25, 2014

The Connecticut Judicial Branch Law Library Advisory Committee met on April 25, 2014 at the Quinnipiac University School of Law, 275 Mount Carmel Avenue, Hamden, Connecticut, in the law library conference room LL241.

Present

Hon. Douglas C. Mintz, Chair  
Hon. Henry S. Cohn  
Hon. Jane B. Emons  
Hon. William J. Lavery  
Atty. Adam J. Cohen  
Atty. Eamonn S. Wisneski  
Ms. Ann DeVeaux  
Prof. Darcy Kirk

Absent

Hon. James W. Abrams  
Hon. Raheem L. Mullins  
Atty William H. Clendenen, Jr.  
Atty. William P. Yelenak  
Prof. S. Blair Kauffman

Other Attendee

Ms. Ann H. Doherty

Judge Mintz chaired and called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.

**I. Approval of Minutes**

The minutes from the September 27, 2013 meeting were approved.

**II. Law Library Operations**

Ann Doherty discussed the proposed FY15 budget allocation for Law Library Services. She indicated that each courthouse library would be receiving a slight increase for print materials and the Law Library Services Administrative Office will receive sufficient funds to continue the subscriptions to the present electronic services.

Ann reported that in February, 2014, two law librarians were hired to fill positions in the Litchfield and Middletown courthouse law libraries. The addition of new staff now allows the Litchfield Law Library to open four days a week, Monday-Wednesday, and Friday.

Ann reported on the activities and initiatives undertaken by law librarians. The librarians have participated in several collaborative Judicial Branch efforts, such as the Joint Services Committee of Law Library Services, Court Service Centers, and Public Information Desks; the Access to Justice Commission's Workgroup on Libraries and Access to Justice; and the JB Feedback pilot project. In addition, the librarians have actively participated on Law Library Services' committees. The efforts of the staff members responsible for making group purchases of print materials have resulted in savings of approximately \$12,000.00 this fiscal year. Research guides maintained by the law librarians are now updated on a scheduled basis by all staff. Ann reported that approximately 25-30 guides will have been revised and/or updated by the end of June, 2014.

The Marketing Committee participated in a Connecticut Library Association sponsored event, emphasizing the theme “Libraries Change Lives”. The Committee’s narrative on “Access to Justice Under Law” was selected, and the Judicial Branch Law Libraries were invited to display a poster at the Legislative Office Building, on April 16, 2014.

### **III. Surveys**

The Committee reviewed the results of the user group surveys conducted in the Fall, 2013, concerning the bibliographies of civil and criminal core legal materials, which are part of the “*Law Library Minimum Collection Standards*”. The Committee also reviewed the totals from the four month tracking charts submitted by the law librarians in connection with the use of print materials in core legal research areas by both patrons and librarians.

### **IV. Minimum Collection Standards and Core Legal Publication Bibliographies**

The Committee reviewed possible changes to the “*Law Library Minimum Collection Standards*” based on a study of current collection standards published by the ABA for law school libraries, by the American Association of Law Libraries for Appellate and State Libraries, and by various individual state and county law libraries. The Committee also considered the need to revise the “*Law Library Minimum Collection Standards*”, to reflect the move from emphasis on ownership of materials to providing reliable, sustainable access to information through electronic format. In addition, the Committee determined that the civil and criminal bibliographies should remain appended to the “*Minimum Collection Standards*”, as recommended titles, but not mandatory.

The Committee voted to forward to the Chief Justice the recommendation that the “*Law Library Minimum Collection Standards*”, together with the appended Civil and Criminal Bibliographies of Core Legal Publications, be adopted, as revised. Also, the Committee included the recommendation that the core bibliographies be amended from time to time, as the need arises.

### **V. Supreme Court Policies**

The Committee reviewed possible revisions to the policy statements to reflect the current status of the Connecticut Judicial Branch Law Libraries.

The Committee voted to forward to the Chief Justice the recommendation that the “*The Supreme Court Policies for the Establishment and Maintenance of a System of Law Libraries,*” be adopted, as revised.

### **VI. Law Library Services Strategic Plan**

The Committee discussed the need to update the Law Library Services’ strategic plan. The Deputy Director will review existing versions of the plan. Suggestions for revisions to update the plan and to align the plan’s goals with the Judicial Branch Strategic Plan will be presented at the next Advisory Committee meeting.

### **VII. Future meetings and Adjournment**

The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, October 17, 2014. The meeting adjourned at 3:20 p.m.