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FIFTH CIRCUIT LIBRARIES

NEW ORLEANS LIBRARY VISITOR'S GUIDE

Address: 600 Camp St.

Library Web Site: <http://www.lb5.uscourts.gov/>

Hours:

M–F; 8:00am–4:30pm

Reference Desk:

(504) 310-7797

The Fifth Circuit Library is located on the first floor of the John Minor Wisdom U.S. Court of Appeals Building. The courthouse is located in the New Orleans Central Business District (CBD) at 600 Camp St., across from Lafayette Square Park. To use the library, you must go through court security at the front entrance of the building, and you must have a photo ID with you to enter.

Security Guidelines

- A valid, official photo ID is required - a federal, state, or municipal ID card or license that contains a picture. School IDs for minors are acceptable.
- No weapons of any kind are permitted, including pocketknives and mace.
- No tape recording or video recording devices of any kind are permitted.
- No cameras are allowed.
- Cell phones are permitted but must be turned off inside the courtrooms.
- Laptop computers and tablets are allowed.
- Guards do not have storage facilities to hold any items.
- Hats may not be worn in the building.

Parking

Street parking is limited in the CBD but there are public parking lots within a few blocks of the courthouse. Designated handicapped parking is available in front of the building on Camp St.

Courthouse Tours

Tours of the courthouse are available for individuals or groups when scheduled in advance. Contact the library at (504) 310-7797 to schedule a tour.

Fifth Circuit Library in New Orleans

The Fifth Circuit Library System serves the federal judges and court staff including circuit, district, magistrate, and bankruptcy courts, throughout Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas by supporting their research and information needs. There are nine libraries located within the circuit. The headquarters library in New Orleans is open to attorneys and the general public.

Services Available

Reference librarians are available to assist patrons with locating materials in the library, accessing the online catalog and public computers, and using materials like microfiche. Reference librarians can also give basic guidance on how to use the materials within the collection. However, the librarians cannot give legal advice, interpret any laws or legal documents, or perform legal research for you.

Books and other library materials may not be checked out, but copiers are available.

The Collection

The library's collection is designed to support the research activities and information needs of the judges, chambers staff, and judiciary personnel of all the courts within the Fifth Circuit. The collection consists of federal legal research materials as well as state legal research materials limited to Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas.

Print materials include case opinions, statutes, court rules, jury instructions, and treatises covering most subject areas of American Law, as well as form books, law reviews, and finding aids. Legislative history materials are available.

The library also has print copies of unpublished opinions from 1974-2003.

A link to the library catalog can be found here: <http://fifthcat.lb5.uscourts.gov/>.



Depository Library

The library is a selective depository for United States government documents like the Code of Federal Regulations, and Congressional Record. Public access to the government documents collection is guaranteed by law.

Computers and Copiers

Computer terminals with internet access are available for the public. Free printing from these terminals is available for legal research. Additionally, there are two photocopiers located in the library that are free to use. Please keep in mind that copying is reserved for library materials.

Westlaw Access

The library also offers free access to Westlaw at one of the computer terminals. Our Westlaw subscription includes all federal and state cases and codes, federal administrative laws, federal and state court rules, federal and state agency resources, model acts and uniform laws, and the KeyCite citation service.

Wireless Internet Access

Wireless internet access is available within the library. Ask for the login information at the reference desk. Printing is not available via the wireless connection. However, printing is available at the library's public computer workstations.

Cell Phone Policy

Please set your phone to silent or vibrate when you are in the library. If you need to use your phone, please do so in the hallway as a courtesy to other patrons.