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e.g., J Biol Chem or Nature

 -

e.g., 1996

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indexes scholarly literature from a wide range of topics. The service is fast and easy allowing you to quickly locate articles on an issue. The service is free to the public. Google Scholar has grown in popularity since its introduction in 2004 and significant law coverage developed just this year. I would use Google Scholar along with other search tools especially when you require a thorough knowledge of an issue.

Kenton County Law Library Expands Free

Westlaw Access to Public Library

Did you know that a portion of every case filing fee is allotted to your respective county law libraries? These fees are managed by the library trustees, who determine how the money will be used to best serve the citizens of the county. The library trustees consist of the County Attorney, a trustee selected by the Chief Circuit Judge of the county, and a trustee elected by the local bar association of the county. In Kenton County, your trustees are Garry Edmondson, Alma Puissegur, and Greta Hoffman.

Kenton County has used its funding to provide a fine law library on the second floor of the Kenton County Justice Center. Access to the library was limited due to the hours of the Justice Center. Judge Patricia Summe challenged the trustees to solve this problem.



The Trustees formulated a plan whereby WestLaw services would be made available to the public at the County Public Library. Alma Puissegur volunteered to approach the County Library with the idea. Dave Schroeder, County Librarian and his staff were very open and enthusiastic with the possibilities.

After several meetings and investigation, a deal was struck whereby the Kenton County Public Library now has available to the public in each of its three branches computer access to free WestLaw services. We have learned that this program is only the second of its kind in Kentucky (Danville has some public access), and the Trustees hope that other counties will follow.

At the suggestion of County Attorney Garry Edmondson, the public announcement of the program was coupled with the annual Law Day Celebration sponsored by the Northern Kentucky Bar Association. The ribbon-cutting celebration was held at the Covington Library on May 1, 2008. Among others in attendance were Judge Patricia Summe (Kenton Circuit Court), Judge Michelle Keller (Court of Appeals), and Cathy Stavros (N.K.B.A. President), along with the Trustees and the County Librarian and his staff.



by Greta Hoffman*

Free Westlaw access is still available in the law library of the Kenton County Justice Center, as well as a variety of written materials.

*Ms. Hoffman received her J.D. from Chase Law School in 1996; she has a B.S. in Management (NKU, 1990) and B.S. in Information Systems (2000). She was an associate with The Hoffman Firm from 2002 to 2008, and has since operated her own office. She is a member of the Northern Kentucky and Kentucky Bar Associations, the Academy of Collaborative Professionals, Board of Directors for the Northern Kentucky Community Action Center, Site Base Council for Ryland Heights Elementary, and Leadership Northern Kentucky.

