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JUNE 2016

*The Constitution is
the guide which I
never will abandon.*

George Washington



Northern
Kentucky
Bar
Association

HOW DO YOU TUNE IN?: RELIABLE COURT NEWS & BLAWGS

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When did you last sit down to read the newspaper or watch the 10 o'clock news? Have you heard about the most recent Sixth Circuit case that is bound for the Supreme Court? Do you know what is going on in the courts of your state?

Even if we take the time to read or watch the daily news, there is a slim chance when it comes to "court" news that we will learn anything beyond the most recent scandals in either the presidential election or the Supreme Court appointment process. If you are anything like me, those little tidbits are simply not enough and leave you yearning for more relevant information. Here are five useful sites and/or apps that can help you "tune in" to what's going on in the courts:

1. SCOTUSblog – www.scotusblog.com. The SCOTUSblog is one of the best resources for information from and regarding the United States Supreme Court. Whether you are looking for information about a case in front of the Court, a recent decision or even what someone said about the Court last Monday, this is the news site/blog for you. With commentary and materials written by practicing and former attorneys, law students, and journalists, this blog makes every attempt at an unbiased representation of the information so as to help you, the reader, become more familiar with what is going on. Subscribing to the blog is easy and you even have the ability to choose which topic areas you are interested in or to simply subscribe to all topics. Visit www.scotusblog.com/rss-feeds/ for more information and to subscribe.

2. Kentucky.gov, Court of Justice News Room – <http://migration.kentucky.gov/newsroom/kycourts/>. The newsroom for the Kentucky courts is where you can find a list of recent press releases for the court regarding upcoming arguments, new appointments or elections, events involving the Justices, or any notices regarding the courts such as e-filing or published reports. If you are looking to find out what is happening in Kentucky

with any of the branches of government, you will find this site quite useful. Much of this news can also be found on the Kentucky Court website (www.courts.ky.gov) where you also have the option to subscribe to the newsfeed.

3. FindLaw's 6th Circuit News & Information Blog – www.blogs.findlaw.com/sixth_circuit/. FindLaw is a legal news site that publishes information on a broad range of legal topics such as Supreme Court decisions, legislative updates and your typical legal news. In addition to the general legal news, FindLaw also has a blog specifically for the Sixth Circuit. In this blog you can find news and information regarding the courts and cases within the Sixth Circuit as well as entries/articles regarding topics of interest for those attorneys practicing in the Sixth Circuit. You are also able to subscribe to the general 6th Circuit News and Information Blog or you can choose to subscribe only to limited categories of information or case law updates.

4. Kentucky Court Report – www.kycourtreport.com. The Kentucky Court Report provides users with access to court minutes, published decisions, the calendar for oral arguments, streaming video for live arguments, rules and procedures, etc. for both the Supreme Court of Kentucky and the Kentucky Court of Appeals. Additionally, there are other resources for attorneys such as the Litigator's Toolkit, information on experts, and news articles such as the latest bar results. Subscribing is easy and can be done on the homepage.

5. LegalNewsance – Available on Android or iTunes. LegalNewsance is an app/feed that can be accessed either via Twitter (@LegalNewsance) or the downloadable app on your smartphone or tablet. Within the app you have access to a variety of information as well as the ability to create alerts for when a new posting on a particular subject occurs. LegalNewsance provides the user with information on current legal headlines, job postings, CLE information, and other forms of practice resources for

attorneys and law students.

In addition to these sources of legal news, you also have the option of visiting general legal blogs, or "blawgs," to gain insight into an unfamiliar area of law, provide input on developing areas of the law, and to simply catch up on current events. Not to mention, access to the majority of blawgs is free! Instead of providing you with a "Top 10 List," I thought it might be more helpful to share with you the most recent inductees of the ABA's *Blawg 100 Hall of Fame*.¹

- Adams on Contract Drafting – www.adamsdrafting.com/blog
- Election Law Blog – www.electionlawblog.org
- Josh Backman's Blog – www.joshblackman.com/blog
- The Jury Room – www.keenetrial.com/blog
- Ohio Employer's Law Blog – www.ohioemployerlawblog.com
- Popehat – www.popehat.com
- Ride the Lightning – <http://ridethelightning.senseient.com>
- Solo Practice University – www.solopracticeuniversity.com/blog
- THR, Esq. – www.hollywoodreporter.com/blogs/thr-esq
- Wills, Trusts & Estates Prof Blog – www.lawprofessors.typepad.com/trusts_estates_prof

Happy blawging!

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¹ The ABA "established the Blawg 100 Hall of Fame for those blogs which had consistently been outstanding throughout multiple Blawg 100 lists." Each year there are 10 inductees; the total is now up to 40. Sarah Mui, Molly McDonough & Lee Rawles, 2015 Blawg 100 Hall of Fame, *ABA Journal* (Dec. 1, 2015, 4:50 AM), http://www.abajournal.com/magazine/article/2013_blawg_100_hall_of_fame

