

2026 ISSUE NO. 1

MEMBER NEWSLETTER

# THE CLEVELAND LAW LIBRARY



## NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of the Cleveland Law Library Association will be held at the Law Library on Tuesday, April 21, 2026 at 12:00 p.m. A light lunch will be served. Agenda items will include the Law Librarian's Report and the election of Directors to serve three-year terms from Spring 2026 - Spring 2029. The Board recommends the following candidates:

- John M. Alten, Esq. - Ulmer & Berne LLP
- Richard G. Johnson, Esq. - RGJ LLC
- Matthew D. Ridings, Esq. - Benesch, Friedlander, Coplan & Aronoff LLP
- Ronald Stansbury, Esq. - Tucker Ellis LLP, Retired

If you are unable to attend in person, please register [here](#) to attend online.



## LAW LIBRARY NEWS



### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Hello and welcome! We are thrilled to have you as part of The Cleveland Law Library. Your membership grants you access to not only thousands of books but free live CLE courses, 24/7 remote access to selected databases, in-house use of Lexis+, Westlaw Complete™, and other databases, and both research help and reference assistance.

Stop by the front desk anytime—we are happy to help you get started on your new journey!

### FASTCASE IS NOW VLEX

For many years, the Law Library has maintained a subscription to Fastcase that members can access remotely to research state and federal cases, statutes, and other primary law content. Effective February 28, 2026, our Fastcase plan is now called VLEX.

The new interface is easy to use, but feel free to call the Law Library with your questions.



## AMERICA 250 CLE WEBINARS (FREE FOR EVERYONE)

On July 4th this year, the United States will celebrate the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. Many organizations are planning events to commemorate this momentous occasion, and the Law Library is offering a series of CLE programs devoted to our Country's legal history. Please join us for these free programs.



### UPCOMING CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION WEBINARS

<u><a href="#">Common Law Marriage, Coverture, Miscegenation, and Legislative Divorce: Not Quite 250 Years of Ohio Family Law</a></u>	3/19/26 10AM-11AM EST
<u><a href="#">Tumey v. Ohio: How the Beginning of the 20th Century, Prohibition, Baseball, and Judicial Ethics Collided with an Ohio Common Pleas Judge's Vision of Due Process</a></u>	4/28/26 3PM-4PM EST
<u><a href="#">Salmon P. Chase: From "Attorney General for Runaway Slaves" to Chief Justice of the United States</a></u>	5/21/26 2PM-3PM EST
<u><a href="#">The Black Experience with the Law in Ohio and in Cuyahoga County--A Historical Retrospective</a></u>	6/23/26 10AM-11AM EST

Written By: Kayla Fertig,  
Reference Librarian

### PODCAST ARTICLE



Tune into Law Library Insights to learn more about [America 250](#) and how Ohio is honoring our nation's 250th anniversary through a unique legal and historical lens. In our newest episode, we explore statewide initiatives, the Supreme Court of Ohio's 18-month celebration, and the free CLE programs hosted by the Cleveland Law Library. Learn how you can participate in this landmark celebration across all 88 counties.

[Listen today!](#)

# LAW LIBRARY EVENTS

## NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK April 19-25, 2026

Every year, libraries across the United States celebrate National Library Week in April to recognize the contributions of our nation’s libraries and librarians, as well as promote increased library use. This year’s theme is Find Your Joy! We hope that you find joy when Law Library staff assist you with your legal research. Help us celebrate this April as follows:

- Tuesday, April 21st:  
Attend our Annual Meeting and Board meeting (see article above for details)  
Recognize and thank our staff on National Library Workers’ Day
- Wednesday, April 22nd: Enjoy snacks and good cheer with Law Library staff
- Thursday, April 23rd at 2pm: Attend a Members Only (free) 1-hour CLE from Lexis entitled *Ethical Legal Research with Generative AI*. This course is preapproved for 1 hour of Professional Conduct CLE.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

## PEEPS!

In March of 2019, the Cleveland Law Library created a contest for the Ohio Regional Association of Law Libraries, which is now known as the Great Lakes & Ohio Valley Association of Law Libraries. Every year, law libraries submit law-related displays using marshmallow candies.

This year, the Law Library submitted its entry to highlight the first time in 120 years of meetings that the American Association of Law Libraries will be holding its annual conference in Cleveland, Ohio.



## LAW LIBRARY EVENTS



### LAW LIBRARY HELPED HOST OHIO MOCK TRIAL COMPETITIONS

The Law Library recently helped host two Ohio High School Mock Trial competitions in February at the Lakeside Courthouse. The Law Library was honored to serve as the headquarters of the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association and welcome the judicial panelists for check-in, lunch, and trial reporting.

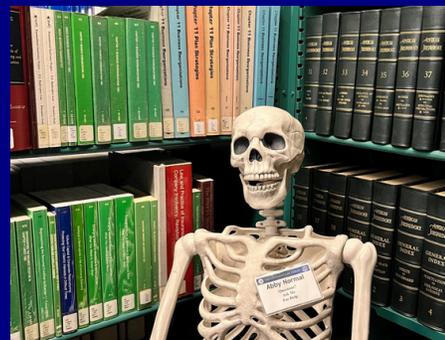


The Law Library would like to extend a special thank you to the Judges and staff of the Eighth District Court of Appeals, the Cuyahoga County Domestic Relations Court, the Cuyahoga County Probate Court, and the Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court for the use of their courtrooms so that local area high school students had the opportunity to conduct abbreviated 'mock' trials as pretend lawyers and witnesses in a formal courthouse atmosphere.



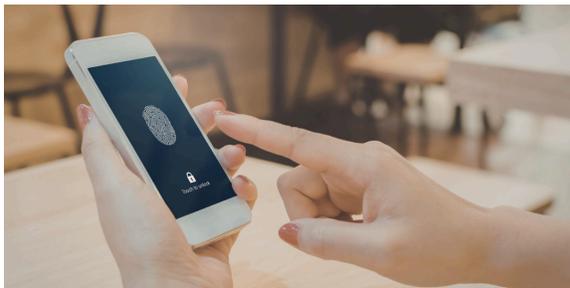
### CELEBRATING LIBRARY SHELFIE DAY

We celebrated Library Shelfie Day with the help of our library assistant, Abby! She showcased our many shelves (and herself) full of our law books. See the post [here!](#)



Written By: Aaron McIntire, Network Technician

## TECH CORNER: PASSKEYS



Passwords have become a tedious but necessary part of modern life. In today's digital age, they are so essential that many companies now provide full training sessions on how to create passwords. These workshops often emphasize using at least sixteen random characters and avoiding anything easy to guess. The Cybersecurity Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) also recommends that every individual account has its own unique password. That unrealistic expectation can feel daunting when surveys show that the average person has well over one hundred different accounts.

Password managers and two-factor authentication have emerged to help people practice safer habits, but these tools add yet another step to an already annoying process. It is understandable that someone might reuse a password for one of their many entertainment streaming services, but bad habits find their way to the workplace with dangerous consequences.

Frequent phishing attempts, large-scale data breaches, and growing concerns about AI-driven attacks have many convinced the traditional password system is outdated. Some even fear that a powerful quantum computer like the one the Cleveland Clinic now wields could one day go rouge and crack passwords instantly.

In response, an alternative to passwords called passkeys is gaining popularity. Passkeys replace long, complex passwords with a pair of cryptographic keys. When an account is created, a public key is stored on the company's server, while the private key remains securely on the user's device. Logging in requires only a username and a quick authentication step like a fingerprint, facial recognition, or a device PIN. Companies like Google argue that passkeys are safer and simpler because phishing sites cannot access both keys. They would also argue that passkeys offer a win-win in efficiency and cost to maintain. Although this approach increases reliance on smartphones or physical security keys, it offers hope for anyone tired of scanning their constitution-sized list of passwords. Many corporations are willing to bet that people take better care of their phones than their passwords.

Written By: Kayla Fertig, Reference Librarian

## FREE LEXISNEXIS EBOOK ACCESS

Cleveland Law Library members have access to a robust selection of LexisNexis eBooks, including essential titles such as Page's Ohio Revised Code, Couse's Ohio Form Book, and various LexisNexis Practice Guides. These resources can be accessed through the LexisNexis Digital Library using your library card number and pin. For additional details regarding these resources, please visit the [Cleveland Law Library's eBook webpage](#).

In addition to these local resources, the Supreme Court of Ohio Law Library offers free remote access to an extensive collection of LexisNexis/Matthew Bender eBooks for all Ohio attorneys in good standing. This digital collection is a powerhouse for legal research, featuring essential handbooks, practice manuals, and treatises. Whether you are looking for Ohio specific guidance or federal titles, you can now carry a premier law library with you. For the full list of available titles and registration details through the Supreme Court, please refer to our informational flyer.

Click [here](#) to see the flyer.

## SELECT NEW ACQUISITIONS

**We have recently acquired new volumes to all of these Ohio titles:**

- *Anderson's Ohio Criminal Practice and Procedure, Volumes 1& 2* (LexisNexis, 2025-26)
- *Anderson's Ohio Domestic Relations Practice Manual, Volumes 1& 2* (Lexis Nexis, 2025)
- *Anderson's Ohio Family Law, Volumes 1& 2* (LexisNexis, 2025)
- *Anderson's Ohio School Law Manual* (LexisNexis, 2026)
- *Baldwin's Ohio Appellate Practice* (Thomson Reuters, 2025-26)
- *Baldwin's Ohio Driving Under the Influence Law* (Thomson Reuters, 2025-26)
- *Baldwin's Ohio Landlord Tenant Law* (Thomson Reuters, 2025-26)
- *Sowald Morganstern Domestic Relations, Law Volumes 1-3* (Thomson Reuters, 2025-26)

## MONTHLY MEMES



January



February



March

## BECOME A POLL WORKER

Did you know attorneys can receive CLE credit for serving as poll workers?

VOTE CUYAHOGA COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

### Now Hiring

ATTORNEYS FOR ELECTION DAY

SCAN THE QR CODE TO APPLY TODAY:



Licensed Attorneys and Judges can earn CLE credits by working as an Election Official in Cuyahoga County!



WWW.443VOTE.US

electionofficials@cuyahogacounty.gov

216-443-3277

Plus, earn up to \$250 for the day!



## THE LIBRARY WILL BE CLOSED ON THESE DAYS IN 2026:

- Memorial Day, May 25<sup>th</sup>
- Juneteenth, June 19<sup>th</sup>
- Fourth of July Observed, July 3<sup>rd</sup>
- Labor Day, Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>
- Indigenous Peoples' Day, Oct. 12<sup>th</sup>
- Veterans Day, Nov. 11<sup>th</sup>
- Thanksgiving, Nov. 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup>
- Christmas, Dec. 25<sup>th</sup>

## **CLEVELAND LAW LIBRARY ASSOCIATION**

### Board of Directors:

Benjamin C. Sassé, Esq. - Tucker Ellis LLP, President  
Eric B. Levasseur, Esq. - Hahn Loeser & Parks LLP, Vice-President  
Kathleen M. Dugan, Esq. - The Cleveland Law Library, Secretary  
John M. Alten, Esq. - Ulmer & Berne LLP  
Hon. Mary J. Boyle - Eighth District Court of Appeals  
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Hon. John P. O'Donnell - Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court  
Rebecca Y. Price, Esq. - Law Office of Rebecca Yingst Price, LLC  
Matthew D. Ridings, Esq. - Benesch, Friedlander, Coplan & Aronoff LLP  
Ronald Stansbury, Esq., Tucker Ellis LLP, Retired  
Carla M. Tricarichi, Esq. - Tricarichi & Carnes  
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## **CUYAHOGA COUNTY LAW LIBRARY RESOURCES BOARD**

### Board of Directors:

Sheryl King Benford, Esq., Chair  
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Loree Potash, Esq., Secretary  
Hon. John P. O'Donnell, Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court  
Hon. Charles L. Patton, Jr., Cleveland Municipal Court

## **LAW LIBRARY STAFF**

Kathleen M. Dugan, Esq., M.L.S., Librarian & Chief Administrator  
Kayla Fertig, B.A., M.L.I.S, Reference Librarian  
Saingerel Gangaa, A.A.S., Bookkeeper  
Aaron McIntire, B.A., Network Technician  
Norma Herrera Covarrubias, A.S., B.A., Library Assistant, Notary Public



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