Law librarians have at their disposal a wide variety of tools useful in building and developing legal collections. Bibliographies, checklists, directories, manuals, review media, and Web sites provide legal information professionals with the means of sorting through the dozens of publishers' announcements, circulars, and catalogs which land on their desks each day. While many of the publications listed below will not be appropriate acquisitions for the average law firm library, they can be consulted at a local academic or research law library in your area. Others, like the monthly Legal Information Alert or the annual Legal Information Buyer's Guide and Reference Manual, were specifically designed to assist law firms in choosing from among the vast, and often costly, literature in the field of law.

The thirty-five titles or Web sites listed below represent the most significant resources consulted by legal information professionals in the work of acquisitions and collection development. Included in the list are titles which can be employed in retrospective acquisitions, current acquisitions, locating book reviews (both general and legal), acquiring books (new and used), and in monitoring the practices of legal publishers. The author welcomes suggestions for additions to this list (E-mail: rilawpress@ids.net).

**Retrospective Acquisitions**


Conceived by the Association for American Law Schools and produced by the AALS Library Studies Project, under the direction of Miles O. Price and Harry Bitner, Law Books Recommended for Libraries made recommendations in 46 subject categories which were published by Fred B. Rothman from 1967-1976, with coverage to about 1970. Each entry is assigned a letter to designate its suitability for various types of libraries (A=Basic Collection; B=Intermediate Collection; C=Indepth Research Collection). Although the product itself was discontinued due to a lack of funding, it was later supplemented by annual volumes of recommended titles edited by Oscar J. Miller and Mortimer D. Schwartz (See entry for Recommended Publications for Legal Research below). Although out of print for a number of years, this set, which is owned by
many academic and research law libraries, can provide useful information for retrospective collection development.


**Cost:** print: $1750.00; volume 7 only: $275.00; print and CD-ROM: $1,850.00; CD-ROM only: $1,650.00; bound in leather: $1,875.00; bound in leather with CD-ROM: $1975.00.

This monumental scholarly reference work lists and describes the monographic and trial literature of American law published in the United States from its colonial founding to the end of 1860. It also includes works on foreign, comparative, and international which were published in the United States during that time. The **Bibliography of Early American Law** (BEAL) is divided into four sections: Monographs, Civil Trials, Criminal Trials, and Special Proceedings. Special Proceedings embraces selective legislative and administrative proceedings of an adjudicatory nature, and arbitrations. Access to individual entries is provided by means of indexes of authors, titles, specific subjects, names of parties to litigations, jurisdiction, language (if other than English), place of publication and publisher, and year of publication. The work is the product of thirty-five years research in early American bibliography for which the author received the Joseph L. Andrews Bibliographical Award from the American Association of Law Libraries in 1999. The definitive bibliography for pre-1860 American legal imprints.


**Cost** (one time): $12,99.00 (one user); $14,475.00 (2 users); $15,955.00 (3 users); $17,435.00 (4 users); annual upkeep cost is only 5% of initial cost.

Released in July, 2004, this retrospective database covers over 500 legal periodicals published in the United States, Canada, Great Britain, Ireland, Australia, and New Zealand. Contains the indexing from 28 of the publisher’s bound cumulations of the **Index to Legal Periodicals**, including 500,000 records, including book reviews and case citations.


**Cost:** Originally $495.00, but out-of-print; used set available on amazon.com for $59.95; or other used law book dealers.

An invaluable source of retrospective bibliographical information on more than 130,000 law or law-related book titles and 4,000 serial titles. Employing a combination of sources for the period covered, including the **American Book Publishing Record**, the **National Union Catalog**, and MARC tapes, the editors have selected entries from a total of more than 500,000 titles examined. Bibliographical entries in volumes 1-3 are organized by main entry within each subject, employing more than 39,000 Library of Congress subject headings. Vol. 4 includes author and titles indices, subject and titles serials indices, a listing of law
and law related publishers and distributors, and a listing of law and law related on-line database producers and vendors. Excluded are juvenile literature, handbooks, manuals, looseleafs, or pamphlets that do not indicate a sense of permanency.

**Cost:** out-of-print, but available used on amazon.com for about $10.00.
An early attempt to provide practicing lawyers with an annotated list of the best and most useful books for legal research in fifty-nine branches of the law, as well as the most useful legal reference works. The initial selections were made in consultation with members of the ABA’s Section of Corporation, Banking and Business Law through a survey which appeared in the November, 1967 issue of **The Business Lawyer** and published in the July, 1968 issue. This is the second edition of a work first edited by Richard Sloane and published in 1969. The second edition was edited by James A. McDermott, Chairman of the Business Law Libraries Committee of the ABA, with contributions from hundreds of practicing attorneys, law office librarians, and law professors. While now somewhat dated, it nevertheless provides a useful tool for retrospective acquisitions and an insight into law books that have stood the test of time.

**Cost:** $64.00 per year; $1,510.00 for set (33 vols.).
This series of annual volumes was designed to supplement the 10-volume **Law Books Recommended for Law Libraries** originally published by the Association of American Law Schools and its Library Studies Project. It consequently fills the void left that by the cessation of that project with its coverage to 1970. Oscar J. Miller and Mortimer D. Schwartz compiled 30 annual volumes before turning the editorship over to Mary Miller, Associate Director and Head of Acquisitions at the University of Buffalo, Charles B. Sears Law Library, State University of New York. Entries are organized into fifty subject areas, arranged alphabetically by main entry. Each entry is assigned a letter to designate its suitability for various types of libraries (A=Basic Collection; B=Intermediate Collection; C=Indepth Research Collection). Over the course of the thirty years, the editors examined over 95,000 items and selected over 26,000 for inclusion and ranking.

Over the years, Fred Shapiro has produced a number of useful studies of the most heavily cited law review articles. In this study, he draws upon the Institute for Scientific Information’s (ISI) **Social Sciences Citation Index** for the years 1981-1997 and runs these results through **SOCSCISRCH**, Westlaw’s version of the
Social Sciences Citation Index (which includes over 100 legal periodicals and over 1,000 social science periodicals) through March, 1999. The results are presented in four tables: the most-cited legal books (other than treatises and texts); the most-cited treatises and texts; British legal books most-cited in Social Science Citation Index; and non-legal books most-cited in legal periodicals. All four lists cover the period 1978-March, 1999. These lists can serve as extremely useful and objective tools for law library acquisitions, particularly in an academic law library environment.

### Current Acquisition Tools: Books/Online Services


**Cost:** $39.95 (paperbound); $89.95 (hardbound)

This collection of articles, published simultaneously as *Legal Reference Services Quarterly*, Volume 21, Numbers 2/3 and 4 (2002), addresses a number of timely issues related to impact of digital technology on law library collection development. Taking as their springboard a seminal paper by Penny Hazelton entitled “How Much of Your Print Collection Is Really on Westlaw or LEXIS-NEXIS,” Chiorazzi and Russell and their contributors examine both the philosophical and practical implications of Hazelton’s thesis for collection development, legal research, and the physical law libraries of the future. Articles also address such topics as strategic planning for distance learning, long term access to digital information, legal scholarship and digital publishing, consolidation of the legal publishing industry, access versus ownership, electronic journals in the academic law library, and the changing role of law library vendors. An essential acquisition for every law library.


**Cost:** 2005: $119.00 + $7.00 shipping and handling; *Law-Related CD-ROM Update* (3 issues): $44.00/yr.; Also available on the Internet at a cost of $119.00 per year, or through LawTRIO, a database on the web combining the **Directory of Law-Related CD-ROMs**, **Legal Looseleafs in Print**, and **Legal Newsletters in Print** costing $199.00 per year.

The most complete and accurate guide available to legal CD-ROM titles on the market. The 2005 edition includes detailed information on more than 1,700 CD-ROM products published in the United States and abroad in the areas of law, legislation, and regulation. In addition to the product listings, there are indices by publisher/distributor, search software, Macintosh titles, and subject. Includes citations to product reviews published in law-related publications. Kept current by the **Law-Related CD-ROM Update**, which appears three times per year between annual editions.
IndexMaster. 36400 Center Ridge Road, North Ridgeville, Ohio 44039. [Available at: www.indexmaster.com]

Cost: $25.00-$595.00 per year depending on size of firm, or type of library. (440) 327-1607; FAX: (440) 327-9301.

A state-of-the-art mega index to the tables and contents indexes of more than 6,000 legal treatises from dozens of the leading legal publishers across the country. Subscribers can search by keyword, author, title, or publisher and then view the specific index and table of contents pages which contain the desired terms, with search results ranked in order of their relevance. Provides libraries with a means of achieving maximum utilization of the titles already in the collections as well as the means of making informed decisions about which new titles to acquire. For a more complete description of IndexMaster, see the introduction to chapter 27: Legal Treatises and Other Subject Specialty Materials Law Books in Print: A Multimedia Sourcebook. New Providence, NJ: R. R. Bowker. Annual. 3 vols. Purchase includes mid-year cumulative supplement.

Cost: 2005: $929.00 (includes cumulative supplement); 10% discount in first year to standing order customers; 5% discount in subsequent years.

A comprehensive guide to more than 57,000 legal publications, including books, serials, microfiche, videocassettes, software and online databases. Some entries include brief annotations. Generally recommended for purchase only by larger law libraries. Attorneys are encouraged to consult this resource in their local state, court, county, bar association, or academic library. While the information is generally reliable, independent verification is recommended given the breadth of coverage. A close examination will reveal numerous omissions, including subsequent editions of earlier published works. For example, the 2002 edition not only omits the 1999 (5th) edition of Lawrence Taylor’s Drunk Driving Defense but the 1995 (4th) edition as well. A useful, but not exhaustive, bibliographical research tool.


Cost: now only available online at cost of $195.00 per year; 8th (print) edition: out-of-print.


**Cost:** $110.00 per year to non-members.

In addition to a variety of scholarly articles on all aspects of law librarianship, Law Library Journal contains subject bibliographies, and an annual Legal Reference Books Review (e.g. see Fall, 2003 issue). The Law Library Journal is available on Lexis-Nexis™, WESTLAW, H.W. Wilson and Hein-On-Line.


**Cost:** 2005: $136.00 + $7.00 shipping. Also available on the Internet at a cost of $136.00 per year; or through LawTRIO, a legal publications database on the web combining the: Directory of Law-Related CD-ROMs, Legal Looseleafs in Print, and Legal Newsletters in Print at a cost of $199.00 per year.

An exhaustive compilation of bibliographical data for over 3,600 looseleaf publications from 220 different publishers. Includes true looseleaf services, such as those from CCH, BNA, and RIA, and post-binder publications such as those published by Matthew Bender. Basically, coverage includes legal publications contained in ring or post-bound (compression) binders as opposed to permanently bound books. Each entry includes title, author, publisher, date of publication, number of volumes, cost and supplementation cost, frequency of supplementation, recent supplementation cost, Library of Congress control number/OCLC control number/LC classification, and indicates whether it is available online or on CD-ROM. Entries are indexed by publisher, subject, and electronic format. A publisher directory provides addresses and telephone numbers for all publishers represented. A valuable guide to what is generally an expensive form of publication.


**Cost:** 2005: $127.00 + $7.00 shipping. Also available on the Internet at a cost of $127.00 per year; or through LawTRIO, a legal publications database on the web combining the: Directory of Law-Related CD-ROMs, Legal Looseleafs in Print, and Legal Newsletters in Print at a cost of $199.00 per year.

A comprehensive guide to more than 2300 legal newsletters, including standard-type newsletters, bulletins, newsletter-reporting services, and all reporting services issued periodically and stored in looseleaf binders. Does not include publications that require interfiling (see Legal Looseleafs in Print). Each entry includes full bibliographical detail, including sources of indexing, online availability, and description. In addition to the main Title List, there is a publisher index, list of newsletters online, database list, database index, a list of newsletters registered with the Copyright Clearance Center, newsletters that accept advertising, and a subject index. An excellent resource for the attorney or law firm interested in
tracking down newsletters in specific subject areas and evaluating available alternatives. Entries include annual subscription costs.

**Cost:** $55.00.

An annotated bibliography containing descriptions of hundreds of the most useful reference books for the library, including general almanacs, encyclopedias, biographical works, dictionaries, practice and procedure titles, quotation books, research and bibliographical titles, statistical handbooks, style manuals, and bar association publications. Includes an author/title index.

**Cost:** $47.50.


**Cost:** $64.00 per year; $1,510.00 for set (33 vols.).

This series of annual volumes was designed to supplement the 10-volume *Law Books Recommended for Law Libraries* originally published by the Association of American Law Schools and its Library Studies Project. It consequently fills the void left that by the cessation of that project with its coverage to 1970. Oscar J. Miller and Mortimer D. Schwartz compiled 30 annual volumes before turning the editorship over to Mary Miller, Associate Director and Head of Acquisitions at the University of Buffalo, Charles B. Sears Law Library, State University of New York. Entries are organized into fifty subject areas, arranged alphabetically by main entry. Each entry is assigned a letter to designate its suitability for various types of libraries (A=Basic Collection; B=Intermediate Collection; C=Indepth Research Collection). Over the course of the thirty years, the editors examined over 95,000 items and selected over 26,000 for inclusion and ranking.

**Cost:** $125.00 + s + h.

A comprehensive guide to the purchase of United States legal information in all its categories and formats, combined with a number of unique reference features. Provides general guidance to those establishing a law office library as well as
guidance in the selection of specific categories of information, including statutes, case reporters, digests, citators, reference titles, CD-ROMs, and online services, to name just a few. Contains the most extensive annotated bibliography of legal treatises on the market (over 1,400 titles), organized under sixty subject headings, each of which is also represented in a unique spreadsheet providing basic bibliographic, cost, and 5-year supplementation cost data. Also includes an extensive guide to basic legal publications and information sources for all fifty states and the District of Columbia, with prices. Appendices include a guide to the histories and product lines of dozens of leading legal publishers, a directory of legal publishers with addresses, telephone numbers and Web sites, used and rare law book dealers, representative used law book prices, a selective list of looseleaf services, cost saving tips, spreadsheet of CALR case law coverage for eight vendors, an extensive bibliography, and index. Winner of the 1998 Joseph L. Andrews Bibliographical Award from the American Association of Law Libraries. An essential reference tool for any legal professional who purchases or uses legal information. Previous editions published in 1996, 1997-98, 1998-99, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, and 2004.

Current Acquisitions: General Review Sources

**Against the Grain.** 209 Richardson Avenue, MSC 98, The Citadel, Charleston, SC 29409. Published in February, April, June, September, November and December/January. Web site: [http://www.against-the-grain.com/](http://www.against-the-grain.com/)

**Cost:** $40.00 per year (6 issues). If *Publishers Weekly* is the bible of the publishing industry," Against the Grain is the bible for the world of library acquisitions, providing news about libraries, publishers, book jobbers and subscription agents, and the issues, literature and people that impact the world of books and journals. Articles are insightful, informative, and well-written. An absolutely essential read for the acquisitions librarians who wishes to remain informed about issues important to the profession. Tables of Contents available on the Web at: [http://www.against-the-grain.com/](http://www.against-the-grain.com/)


**Cost:** $280.00 per year (magazine); $310.00 per year (ChoiceReviews.online); $360.00 per year (reviews on cards).

**Subscriptions:** 100 Riverview Center, Middletown, CT 06457. (860) 347-6933.

Each issue contains approximately 600 brief reviews of recent books and electronic media written by subject matter experts. Reviews are addressed specifically to librarians and faculty members who select materials for academic libraries, especially for undergraduate research and teaching. Reviews cover more than 50 subdisciplines spanning the humanities, science and technology, and the social and behavioral sciences. A publication of the Association of College and Research Libraries, a division of the American Library Association.
Library Journal. New York: Cahners Publishing Co., 1876- Published 20 times per year. Also available on the Web at: http://libraryjournal.reviewsnews.com

Cost: $141.00 per year. 245 W. 17th St., New York, NY 10011. (800) 677-6694 First published in 1876, Library Journal is the oldest independent national library publication, with a claimed readership of over 100,000 library directors, administrators, and others in public, academic and business libraries. Each issue includes reviews of 250-350 general adult books, most prior to publication. Reviews are addressed to the educated generalist and usually run from 125-150 words.


Cost: print: $66.00 per year; electronic: $66.00 (or $20.00 with print subscription); 2 years: $124.00; 3 years: $176.00.

The New York Review of Books has been described by Esquire magazine as “the premier literary intellectual magazine in the English language. First published in 1963, it now has a circulation of over 115,000 readers. It publishes lengthy reviews of both current fiction and non-fiction and features lengthy essays addressing most of the important political, cultural, and intellectual issues of the age written by leading writers, critics, intellectuals. Includes reviews of many law-related titles, including those in politics, history, and economics.


Cost: $65.00 per year (52 issues); also free online at: www.nytimes.com/pages/books/review/index.html

One of the leading sources in the United States for critical reviews of the best in current fiction and non-fiction, poetry. Also available in a free online version.


Available online at: publishersweekly.com

Cost: $225.00 per year (includes online access).

The leading publication for the publishing industry, Publishers Weekly serves as the publication of record for industry news, trends, and data. It is also the source for more than 7,500 succinct reviews of forthcoming books annually. With a subscriber base of 40,000, it reaches a total audience of nearly 100,000 in bookstores, libraries, and the publishing industry.
Current Acquisitions: Bibliographies and Reviews of Legal Materials

**Cost:** $755.00 per year; additional subscription: $95.00.  
Reports of new law and law-related titles in the form of 3" x 5" green slips of paper shipped to subscribers approximately every week. Each Hein green slip contains complete bibliographical information and price, and, in some instances, a brief description of contents. Titles are chosen from a variety of sources, including the ABA Journal, CHOICE, Forthcoming Books, Legal Information Alert, Library Journal, Library of Congress slips, etc. Books can be ordered by returning the Green slips to Hein. See also Current Publications in Legal and Related Fields (below).

**Cost:** $75.00 per year (6 issues). Nov./Dec., 2000 to date also available online at no cost.  
An invaluable source for reviews of current scholarly monographic literature in the field of law and related disciplines. A typical issue includes one or more extended lead reviews or author interviews, 10-15 reviews of current titles, a listing of books received, and “Nota Bander,” Professor Bander’s erudite and opinionated musings on the contemporary legal literary scene. The reviews, with a few exceptions, tend to focus on books and issues of greatest interest to the legal scholarly community, rather than on those of interest to the practicing attorney. Many are written by the faculty, professional library staff, and students of Suffolk University Law School, of which Professor Bander is Law Librarian Emeritus, although, in recent issues, reviews have increasingly been penned by librarians and professors from other institutions. An useful resource for academic law libraries, but also of interest to other research law libraries, legal professionals, and those with an interest in contemporary legal and political issues. As one might expect in a publication aimed at the academic market, however, the ideological slant is decidedly left-of-center, much of this coming from the over-representation of reviews by Editor Michael Rustad. Moreover, the citations of reviews of political books appearing in other publications are more likely to come from the pages of the New York Review of Books, the American Prospect or the Nation than they are from National Review, Commentary, or Reason.

**Cost:** $765.00 per year. 1-800-877-425  
Current Law Index is a monthly publication indexing the content of more than 900 leading law journals, legal newspapers and specialty publications from the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, Ireland, Australia and New Zealand. Indexed
titles include academic law reviews, bar association journals, specialty journals and selected journals treating law-related disciplines such as criminology, accounting, business, criminal, international law, taxation, and estate planning. Produced in cooperation with the American Association of Law Libraries, Current Law Index provides the most comprehensive indexing of law-related articles available in print. Subscription includes annual cumulative volume. Content also available online on Legal Trac.

**Current Publications in Legal and Related Fields.** Fred B. Rothman, a division of William S. Hein & Co., Inc.] Looseleaf. Published nine times per year (monthly except June, July, and September) with an annual cumulation (April). **Cost:** $220.00 per year. Annual cumulation separately: $95.00. This current awareness bibliography draws new titles from the following publications: American Book Publishing Record, Bowker’s Legal Publishing Preview, Forthcoming Books, Fred B. Rothman & Co. green slips, Law publishers’ circulars and advance catalogs, Library Journal, Library of Congress proof slips (C.I.P.), newspaper articles, Publishers Weekly, University press catalogs. Reports on more 3,000 titles annually. This current awareness tool for law library acquisitions departments is an economical alternative to the Hein green slips, though lacking the latter’s convenience for ordering purposes.

**Index to Legal Periodicals and Books.** Bronx, NY: HW Wilson Company, 1908-date. Monthly (except September) with quarterly and annual cumulations. **Cost:** print: $515.00 per year; online: Index to Legal Periodicals and Books on WilsonWeb: $2.100 (one simultaneous user); $3,160.00 (2-4 users); $3,685.00 (5-8 users); Index to Legal Periodicals Full Text: $3,500.00 (one user); $5,250.00 (2-4 users); $6,125.00 (5-8 users); $7,870.00 (9-12 users); $10,490.00 (13-20 users); Index to Legal Periodicals Retrospective: 1918-1981 (one time price): $12,99.00 (one user); $14,475.00 (2 users); $15,955.00 (3 users); $17,435.00 (4 users); annual upkeep cost is only 5% of initial cost. First published in 1908, this index was originally titled the Index to Legal Periodicals, and, until 1980, was the only extensive index of legal periodical literature. It now indexes more than 1,000 English language legal periodicals published in the United States, Canada, Great Britain, Ireland, Australia, and New Zealand. In 1994, the title was changed to Index to Legal Periodicals and Books and approximately 1,400 monographs were added to the coverage. Also available on WilsonWeb in index and full text (see below), and retrospective versions (see Retrospective Acquisitions).

**Index to Legal Periodicals & Books on WilsonWeb.** Bronx, NY: HW Wilson Company, 1981-date. 800-367-6770. **Cost:** $2,100.00 (single user); $3,160.00 (2-4 users); $3,685.00 (5-8 users). This bibliographic database provides indexing of legal periodicals and law books published from August, 1981 to date. Periodical coverage includes more than 1,000 law reviews, bar association journals, university publications, yearbooks,
institutes, and government publications. **Index to Legal Periodicals & Books** covers all areas of jurisprudence, including recent court decisions, new legislation, and original scholarship. Since 1993, it has included the more than 300 law reviews and 1,400 monographic titles annually. Contains the same coverage as **Indexed Legal Periodicals Full Text**, but without the links to full text articles. **Index to Legal Periodicals Retrospective**, which provides coverage of articles published from 1918-1981, is also available as a separate database (see Retrospective Acquisitions).

**Cost**: $3,500.00 (one simultaneous user); $5,250.00 (2-4 users); $6,125.00 (5-8 users); $7,870.00 (9-12 users); $10,490.00 (13-20 users).  
Contains indexing of more 1,000 English language legal periodicals published in the United States, Canada, Great Britain, Ireland, Australia, and New Zealand from August, 1981 to date, and full text of over 200 select legal periodicals as far back as 1994. Also includes indexing of more than 1,400 monographs annually.

**Law and Politics Book Review**. College Park, MD: Law and Courts Section, American Political Science Association, 1991-date. Wayne McIntosh, University of Maryland, Department of Government & Politics. University of Maryland, Editor. The **Law and Politics Book Review** is sponsored by the Law and Courts Section of the American Political Science Association. Its web site functions as a searchable archive for all reviews published in this electronic journal since its founding in 1991. Supported by the Section and by the University of Maryland, it is the principal resource for reviews of English language books published in the "Law and Politics" field, broadly construed. Being published on the Internet, its readers receive the reviews automatically in their e-mail box upon publication. The Section has a membership of almost 900 and presently sends the Review to over 1,300 readers in 39 countries. The electronic medium allows the **LPBR** to review almost every book about the legal process and politics, to do longer reviews than are usually published, and to make the reviews available within six months of receipt. Reviews reflect the full range of scholarly and political opinion and typically run from 2,500 to 5,000 words. The **Review** presently remains available for an indefinite period on the Review's World Wide Web home page [currently: www.bsos.umd.edu/gvpt/lpbr .

**Legal Information Alert**. Chicago: Alert Publications, Inc.,1982-date. Published 10 times a year.  
**Cost**: $184.00 per year; 2d copy to same address: $80.00 per year.  
(773) 525-7594.  
The leading current awareness publication in the world of legal information. Editor and publisher Donna Tuke Heroy and her team of editors and contributors provide readers with a timely collection of feature articles and reviews of current legal information sources, both print and electronic. An essential tool for any legal
information professional. Unlike the BiMonthly Review of Law Books, this publication’s primary focus is on the needs of the active legal practitioner or law firm librarian, rather than the legal scholar.

**Legal Information Management Index.** Chapel Hill, NC: Legal Information Services, 1984-date. Bimonthly with annual cumulation. (919) 408-0267; FAX: (919) 408-0267.

**Cost:** $168.00 per year (includes annual cumulation).
Edited by law librarian and attorney Elyse Fox, this publication indexes 92 periodicals published in the United States, Canada and abroad. Indexed literature includes substantive English-language articles, bibliographies and surveys, and critical reviews of monographs, serials, software and hardware, online databases, microforms, CD-ROMs, looseleaf services, and audio-visual materials. Articles are indexed by key word, and by author. Book reviews are indexed by title. For law librarians, this is the best vehicle for keeping up with the flood of information in the fields of law librarianship and legal information management.


**Cost:** contact Thomson Gale at 1-800-877-4253.

**LegalTrac** is a Web-based database offering indexing for all major law reviews, legal newspapers, specialty law publications, bar association journals, and law-related articles from general interest publications. LegalTrac indexes over 850 legal periodicals published in the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, Australia, and other major English speaking countries and law-related articles from over 1,000 additional business and general interest titles. It also includes the full text of many titles, including many full-text book reviews. Coverage dates from 1980 for most periodicals indexed. Updated monthly. Corresponds to the print Current Law Index. No longer available on CD-ROM.

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**Essential Web Sites**

**ACQWEB** [http://acqweb.library.vanderbilt.edu/] Vanderbilt University School of Law.

Since 1994, AcqWeb has served as a “gathering place for librarians and other professionals interested in acquisitions and collection development.” It is designed to serve the staff who select and purchase the books, serials and related information resources for libraries. Among its numerous tools, AcqWeb provides an extensive **Directory of Publishers and Vendors** [http://acqweb.library.vanderbilt.edu/pubr.html],

**Directory of Law Publishers** [http://acqweb.library.vanderbilt.edu/pubr/law.html], and
WWW Resources for Law Librarians in Acquisitions and Collection Development [http://acqweb.library.vanderbilt.edu/law.html].
Those who deal regularly with legal publishers and vendors should bookmark this site. The library profession is much indebted to the efforts of Vanderbilt's Anna Belle Leiserson for creating and maintaining this site.

**Alibris.com**
The world’s leading supplier of new, out-of-print and hard to find books. Its inventory encompasses the holdings of hundreds of independent booksellers around the world and boasts a database of 35 million books, manuscripts, maps, photos, prints, and autographs. Located in the San Francisco Bay area, Alibris operates additional facilities across the United States for bookseller relations, technology development, and distribution. Visitors to the Web site can search its inventory or browse by subject area.

**Amazon.com**.
A revolutionary way of acquiring books, audio, video, and other forms of media. Amazon.com stocks thousands of legal, law-related, and general titles. Entries include thousands of user-generated reviews. Also includes many subject matter bibliographies and customer-inspired recommendations. Provides a search service for out-of-print titles (10% of its sales). While amazon.com has accepted credit card orders from its inception, it is now prepared to service institutional accounts which require invoicing (see *Against the Grain*, Nov., 2001, pp. 60-67).

**Book Depot**. [http://www.bookdepot.com/]
One of North America's largest wholesalers of discount and remainder books, the Book Depot has been wholesaling for more than 10 years, and selling online since 1997. Has an inventory of over 5 million books which can be located and purchased online.

**CRIVPage**. [http://www.aallnet.org/committee/criv/]
American Association of Law Libraries, Committee on Relations with Information Vendors (CRIV). The Committee on Relations with Information Vendors is charged with facilitating communications between information vendors and the members of the American Association of Law Libraries and the Executive Board in matters relating to provision of information in any format. The committee monitors complaints and provides constructive suggestions to vendors. The CRIVPage is an extremely useful site for anyone who acquires legal information, providing valuable insight into the issues, responses, and tools employed by professional law librarians in dealing with information vendors. The CRIVPage's CRIV Tools, includes a number of useful features, including tips for dealing with telemarketers and customer service departments, lists of divested titles, a glossary of publishing terms, a guide to negotiating Internet subscriptions, sample letters, a sample
publisher log, and vendor contact information. The site should be bookmarked by anyone who regularly deals with legal information vendors.

**Jurist: The Law Professors’ Network.** [available at: http://jurist.law.pitt.edu/]. According to its information page, Jurist is dedicated to advancing academic, professional, and public legal education by providing an online forum where law professors can find information important to the daily work as teachers and scholars, and where they can share knowledge and exchange ideas with a worldwide community of colleagues, law students, lawyers and interested citizens. Monthly book reviews are available in the Books-on-Law section and in an archive than goes back to April, 1998. Contains scholarly reviews of law and law-related titles by legal scholars from across the country. Reviews are available at: http://jurist.law.pitt.edu/lawbooks/index.htm.

**The Lawbook Exchange, Ltd.** 33 Terminal Ave., Clark, NJ 07066-1321
Available at: http://www.lawbookexc.com/
This New Jersey-based dealer specializes in new, used and rare law books for law libraries, practitioners and scholars. Its monthly online catalogs provide the most extensive current price lists for new, used, antiquarian, and reprinted law books, as well as detailed descriptions of rare and antiquarian titles.

**Law-lib list-serv.**
More than 3,000 law librarians associated with academic, governmental, law firm, and corporate law libraries are signed on to this list-serv, as well as representatives of legal publishers who use law-lib to monitor the opinions of their largest identifiable block of consumers. If you don’t mind sifting through dozens of irrelevant postings, monitoring law-lib is probably the best way of keeping attuned to the practices of the legal publishing industry. To subscribe, send the following message to: listproc@ucdavis.edu: “Subscribe [insert your first and last name]”

This site represents a collective effort by law librarians in many countries to create a virtual collection of collection development policy documents for law libraries, and a bibliography of models, standards, and guides for creating law library collection development policies. The site will eventually include policies from a broad range of law libraries: private, court, agency, public, prison, academic, other. The site also provides access to collection development policy documents for special types of legal materials, such as government documents. Further, the site provides access to related materials of interest, including relevant collection development policies for other types of libraries and special formats, and to bibliographical information on collection policy documents in print, collection
development standards, and guides to creating collection development policies. Law libraries are encouraged to contribute their collection development policy to the list. The site is edited by Alan Keely, Wake Forest University Professional Center Library.

**Legal Publishers’ List: Corporate Affiliations of Legal Publishers**


Committee on Relations with Information Vendors. American Association of Law Libraries.

This site, formerly maintained by Rob Richards of the University of Colorado Law Library, provides a continually updated organizational outline of legal publishers and their corporate affiliations, together with news reports of developments in the world of legal publishing. News items are contributed by law librarians from across the country. Responsibility for this Web site was recently assumed by AALL’s Committee on Relations with Information Vendors (CRIV).

**New Acquisitions Lists** [various]. Available at: [http://acqweb.library.vanderbilt.edu/law.html](http://acqweb.library.vanderbilt.edu/law.html)

A number of law libraries post recent acquisitions lists on their web sites. While many of these lists include titles acquired in recent months, others may contain an archive of titles acquired over the past several years.

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