



# DCLRC Docket

May 2005

A Publication of the Dane County Legal Resource Center

## Access Local Court Decisions @ DCLRC

Through the combined efforts of DCLRC, Dane Co Bar Association, Dane Co Circuit Court, and UW law students, the public can access selected decisions of Dane County Circuit Court Judges. **Local Decision Access Project (LDAP)** will make decisions available in print at DCLRC, and eventually online through the Dane County Bar Association.

\*Will all Circuit Court decisions be made available?

- No, only those voluntarily donated to this project by the judges. Cases that are confidential will not be accepted for donation. Some judges may choose not to donate any decisions, while others will donate many.

\*How can I locate and use these decisions in my legal research?

- Print decisions are housed at DCLRC. The decisions are indexed by law students in the following categories: judge/branch number, statute, and subject. Decisions are arranged by case number in binders separated by branch number. Binders cannot be checked out, but individual decisions may be photocopied for 25¢ per page. Circuit court decisions are not considered precedent, so it is unlikely that they will be allowed to be cited in court. However, the decisions may prove valuable for learning the court's previous rulings on issues that may be similar to your case. The project also provides a way for topical searching of local decisions.

\*How many decisions will be available?

- All decisions donated by Circuit Court judges will be made available. At this time, eight of 17 judges have donated nearly 90 decisions.

Not all aspects of this project are available yet. Stop into DCLRC to view the decisions that are available or ask questions about this project.

## May Used Book Sale

Order in the Court! In May, **legal fiction** is 50 cents off in our ongoing used book sale held in the library. New titles arrive each week. Be sure to stop in regularly to view our selection! Cleaning out your home library? Donate your books to DCLRC! We'll accept all books for our monthly book sale: Hardcover, novels, nonfiction, and paperbacks. Drop off your donations in room 315 any time we're open.

We are also a drop off point for recreational reading (magazines and softcover books) materials for the Dane County jail inmates.



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We're on the Web!  
<http://wsll.state.wi.us/branch/dclrc>



## News & Upcoming Events

### Two Legal Research in a Nutshell Classes in May!

Legal Research in a Nutshell classes will be held at the following times and locations. The class covers the basic Wisconsin primary and secondary legal resources in print and on the Internet and is designed for those with little or no experience with legal materials.

- **Friday May 13** from 10-Noon, Marshall Community Library (605 Waterloo Road, Marshall, WI). Call 655-3123 for more information.
- **Wednesday May 18** from 6:30-8:30 p.m., Verona Public Library (130 N Franklin St, Verona, WI). Call 845-7180 to reserve a place in the class.

### “Law and...” Series: May Topic

The topic for May is “*The American Jury*” and features information about jury duty, local procedures for Dane Co Circuit Court jury trials, and terms and statistics regarding juries. The “Law and...” series are library displays that highlight the role of law/lawyers in various subjects. Pictures of the displays and handouts listing relevant web links or a bibliography are [online](#).



### Have you *Blawg'd* us lately?

Don't forget to check the [DCLRC Blawg](#) for all the local legal news and research tips that are posted in between monthly newsletters! Recent posts include links to new resources on the Clerk of Courts website, new legal research and internet tips, and highlights of new local legal resources, such as Madison's Online City Hall. Visit us regularly or sign up for our notifier

services when you're on the blawg site.

### New Circuit Court Rules Booklet Published

The 2005 edition of the Dane County Circuit Court Rules has been published in booklet format. It is available for \$2.00 from DCLRC. The Rules are also on the [Clerk of Courts website](#).

## Dane County State of the Judiciary Released

Dane County Circuit Court has released a report “to provide information on the organization of the Dane County Circuit Court system, the functions of its many components, the work it has performed for our citizens and the fiscal implications of its operations. While it focuses on the current state of affairs and developments of last year, the hope is that the reader will gain an insight into the many challenges we face in fulfilling our mission and the constant reevaluation and adjustment we have made over many years to make the court system work for Dane County in 2005 and beyond.” The [report](#) is available on the Clerk of Court's website.



#### End Notes

If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter via email, reply to this message with “no thanks” in the message.

Comments about this newsletter are welcome. Please contact the library at (608) 266-6316 or [aula.seeger@wicourts.gov](mailto:aula.seeger@wicourts.gov). If you think others would enjoy this newsletter, feel free to forward it.