

CJCL News

DIRECTOR'S CUT: CELEBRATE NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK APRIL 8-14, 2018

Come to the library to help us celebrate what special places libraries are. We invite you to stop by each day to try some treats, and enjoy some fun pencils, pens, and bookmarks!

Reflecting on our role in the judicial branch, the main purpose of our library is to support the research of all court staff. Whether it be in print or online, we are here to help make your lives easier. In order to achieve that role, we have three departments that each play a unique part: Collections Management Services (CMS), Research and Reference Services (RRS), and Special Collections and Archives (SCA). Each department, or team, is responsible for different duties that interconnect to make the library run as efficiently as possible. As Patrick so eloquently put it, CMS is the heart of the library, RRS is the brains, while SCA is the soul! Let me explain.

In a nutshell, the CMS team handles: mail check-in; unpacking, processing and filing of material; managing invoices and accounting; and cataloging. We must have the shelves, and your desktop or office, filled with sources that are vital to use. We have to make sure library material is updated and reputable. For accounting, we must stay within our budget and be mindful of spending state money. For cataloging, this is the search engine to our collection, without it we could not find what we have in our library. As the heart pumps life through the body, CMS drives the entire library!

The RRS team requires expertise and accuracy which is crucial for performing the innovative legal research that we provide. While we compile many legislative histories, we also answer a wide variety of research questions. The team is aware of many different resources, some we subscribe to and some we don't. There are countless titles beyond Lexis and Westlaw and there are a number of smaller publishers you may have never heard of. If we don't own a source and can't access it online, we can use an interlibrary loan to borrow it from another library. By tapping into our professional organizations, we can access libraries across the country and internationally. This explains why RRS is the brains of the operation!

Finally, looking to SCA, while it is important to look to the future, we must understand the past. SCA has an amazing comprehension and perspective of the judicial branch and works on preserving, describing, and providing access to our special collection items, some which are indeed unusual and rare. Furthermore, SCA is responsible for displays in the building lobby and the Supreme Court Clerk's office. We also have SCA & RRS overlap in research duties and have found great benefits in this arrangement. Having this exceptional viewpoint is why SCA is the soul of the library!

I hope you see how special our library is. It is that welcoming team spirit that provides the judicial branch a wealth of information. Collectively we are an amazing team and we are all committed to serving each member of the judicial branch to the best of our abilities.



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- Jessica Brasch, Law Librarian, RRS
- Judith Mitchell, Law Librarian, RRS
- Martha Noble, Law Librarian & Archivist, SCA
- Erin Lybrand-Wenz, Cataloger & Assistant Law Librarian, CMS
- Patrick Worrell, Assistant Law Librarian, CMS
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Research & Reference Services

HOW TO REQUEST A LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

We often say that legislative histories are the “bread and butter” of the Research & Reference Services office. Whether you’re a regular user of our services, or a leg history newbie, we hope you find the following outline of the process useful.

1. Ask a Librarian

If you have a legislative history question, email us, call us, or come see us in person (we promise we don’t bite!). Whether it’s compiling all of the materials that may be available for a bill, or a quick refresher on where to find basic legislative information online, we can help!

2. Bill Number, Not Code Section ...

Because primary legislative resources are grouped by bill number, we compile legislative histories by bill number, not by code section. Use the annotated codes to identify the bills you are interested in. The “Credits” on West and the “History” on Deering’s/ Lexis are not always the same, so it is a good idea to check both. Hyperlinks to statutes only go back to the late 1980’s Westlaw and Lexis, so reviewing the bill language may require looking at Statutes & Amendments in print, or visiting the Assembly Clerk’s online archive. If you’re having trouble figuring out which bills added the language you are interested in, we can help with that too.

3. Do We Already Have It?

Once we have a bill number, we will check our collection of previously-compiled legislative histories (almost 2000 at this point!). If we have it, we send you a link. Depending on when the compilation was made, this may come with a caveat that “additional materials may be available.” If your time permits, we can review the compilation and supplement as needed.

4. State Archives or no State Archives?

If we do not have a previously-compiled legislative history, we will offer to compile one for you. The amount of material available and where we get it from is unique to each bill, but we break requests into two categories based on the amount of time they take to compile: In-house, which take 1-2 weeks, and State Archives, which take 3-4 weeks. We will do our best to accommodate rush requests, but unfortunately have very little control over the State Archives processing time.

5. Wait For It ...

We will do our best to get you the compilation as soon as possible, and will let you know if we run in to any unforeseen delays. That said, it’s okay to check in with us for an ETA.

6. You’ve Got Mail!

Once everything has been received and compiled, we will send you a link to a digital PDF compilation. Links will only work on court computers, and not from home. All of our leg histories are bookmarked, OCR’d, and locked for editing. If you would like to download an unlocked copy to markup yourself, please let us know.

7. Keep In Touch

Our legislative history procedures are an ongoing work in progress. Your feedback is always welcome!



End of an Era

Depending on how long you’ve been with the courts, you may remember the “white binders” we used to put together for legislative histories. (We now send links to digital compilations). The old binders take up a lot of space, have all been digitized, and in many cases, updated with new material. Accordingly, we’ve decided to dispose of the binders, which currently occupy two large walls on the east side of the Library. If you are looking for a legislative history, just follow the steps outlined here.

Wednesday January 7th 1880

Court met pursuant to adjournment.

Present Hon. R. D. Morrison, Chief Justice

E. W. McKinstry, J. S. D. McKee, J. D. Shafter, J.

D. Horton, J. W. A. Myrick, J. C. Ross, J.

J. W. Gross, Clerk and H. F. Parker, Bailiff

Ordered, That

George H. Smith, be and he is hereby appointed Reporter of Decisions, to hold such office at the pleasure of the Justice of the Court

Early handwritten [Minutes of the Supreme Court of California](#) housed in Special Collections & Archives record the January 7, 1880 appointment of George H. Smith, California's seventeenth Reporter of Decisions. Smith was responsible for the preparation of nine volumes of the *Official Reports* and was succeeded by the Honorable Warner Walton Cope, former Chief Justice of California, in 1883.

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS & ARCHIVES: CALIFORNIA'S 19TH CENTURY REPORTERS OF DECISIONS



Hon. George H. Smith
Associate Justice
California Court of Appeal,
Second Appellate District
1905-1906
◆
Commissioner
Supreme Court of California
1900-1904
◆
Reporter of Decisions
1880-1882

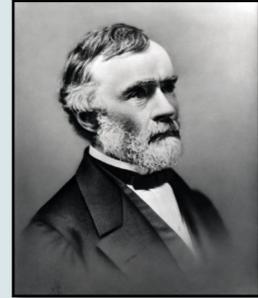
Photographic portrait from [Justices and Commissioners, Supreme Court of California: 1849-1900](#)

In Special Collections & Archives, we focus on collecting the personal and professional papers of members of the Supreme Court of California. Our manuscript collections reflect this focus and, currently, the papers of ten justices of the Supreme Court, including two former Chief Justices of California, are housed here. Additional resources supporting the study of California's legal and judicial history within our holdings include the papers of legal scholar and former Reporter of Decisions, Bernard E. Witkin, as well as the records of his predecessor, Randolph V. Whiting.

Charged with executing the constitutional and statutory responsibilities of the state's highest court as they pertain to the publication of opinions, the Reporter of Decisions has always filled an essential role. Information about California's earliest Reporters of Decisions—beyond what is contained in the reports themselves—is not always easy to find, however. In his 2007 article, [Headnotes About the Reporters, 1850-1990](#), Edward W. Jessen, California's 24th Reporter of Decisions, noted that not much is known about the state's third through sixth Reporters. We do know that 19 Reporters were appointed during the 19th century. By comparison, only six Reporters have been appointed since the beginning of the 20th century.

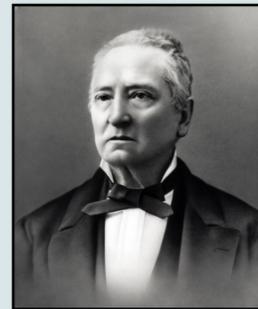
For more on California's Reporters of Decisions, including those who served during the tumultuous years of early statehood, watch for our recently updated exhibit, *In Writing With Reasons Stated: The Reporter of Decisions and the California Official Reports*, coming soon to the first floor of the Earl Warren Building.

THREE OF CALIFORNIA'S 19TH CENTURY SUPREME COURT JUSTICES ALSO SERVED AS REPORTERS OF DECISIONS



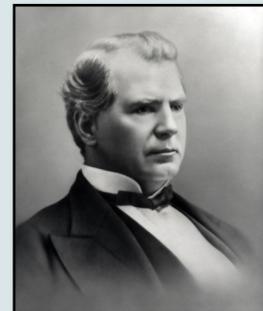
Hon. Edward Norton
Associate Justice
Supreme Court of California
1861-1864

◆
Reporter of Decisions
1850-1851



Hon. Nathaniel Bennett
Associate Justice
Supreme Court of California
1849-1851

◆
Reporter of Decisions
1851-1852



Hon. Warner Walton Cope
Chief Justice
Supreme Court of California
1863-1864

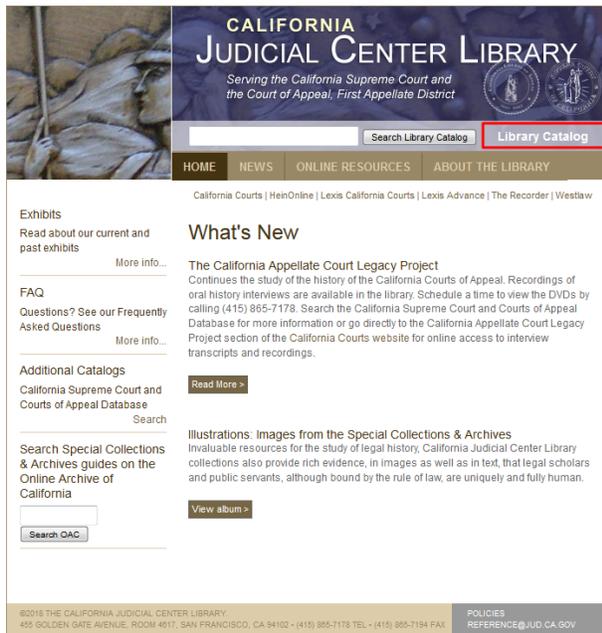
◆
Reporter of Decisions
1883-1887

FINDING THE CATALOG

Looking to see if the CJCL has a specific title?

You can access the [CJCL catalog](#) in **two ways**:

On our [website](#) select **Library Catalog**, seen below in the red box.



Or, access the catalog *directly* by visiting: <http://cjcl.iii.com>

In the catalog, you can search by title, author, keyword, subject, and more.

To display titles in the CJCL specifically, make sure *CJCL Collection* is selected in the *Select Library* drop down menu.



Library Catalog

The Catalog contains records for the California Judicial Center Library (serving the California Supreme Court and the Court of Appeal, First Appellate District) and records for the libraries of other Court of Appeal Districts throughout the state.

Search the catalog for books, periodicals and selected electronic resources.

Search by: **Select Library:**

Keyword
 Title
 Author
 Subject
 Call Number
 Govt Doc Number

Or: [Advanced Search](#) for more options and instructions

NEW SUBSCRIPTION

Starting December 2017 Library started a new subscription to ***Climate Change Law & Policy Reporter*** from Argent Communication Group. Here is a short description from the publisher's website:

“Each 28-32 page monthly issue of Climate Change Law & Policy Reporter quickly and thoroughly updates you – in 30 minutes or less – on rapidly changing, federal and relevant state climate change developments. This Reporter provides not only timely updates on case law, policy, legislation and regulatory events, but expert analysis of the issues by top practicing attorneys and other experts as well.

Designed for attorneys, consultants, and resource managers... Most people – attorneys included – tell us they don't want to have to wade through a lot of dense language to find out what's going on. We complied. Climate Change Law & Policy Reporter is written in an easy-to-read style, with references on where to get more information.”

Here are areas of coverage:

COVERS BOTH MITIGATION AND ADAPTATION ISSUES...

- ◆ Carbon Emission Restrictions, Trading and Regulation
- ◆ Alternative Energy Development and Regulation
- ◆ Federal Environmental Enforcement Actions
- ◆ Water Supply and Flood Control Impacts
- ◆ Land Use Planning, Development and Restrictions
- ◆ Endangered Species/Biodiversity
- ◆ Corporate Liability and Insurance Issues
- ◆ Both Federal and Relevant State Actions

It is also possible to search archival issues of this publication back to May 2008. We have created access information for online searches and will be more than happy to provide it to patrons.

A SELECTION OF NEW TITLES

- ◆ [Climate change & law policy reporter](#)
- ◆ [Programs and projects related to Mexico in California state government, 2017 update](#)
- ◆ [Keeping the promise of justice : celebrating 25 years of the National Association of Women Judges](#)
- ◆ [Navigating the California Coastal Act](#)
- ◆ [Handling claims against government entities : here's how and when to do it](#)
- ◆ [AB 60 driver's licenses : a mandated review of instances of discrimination](#)