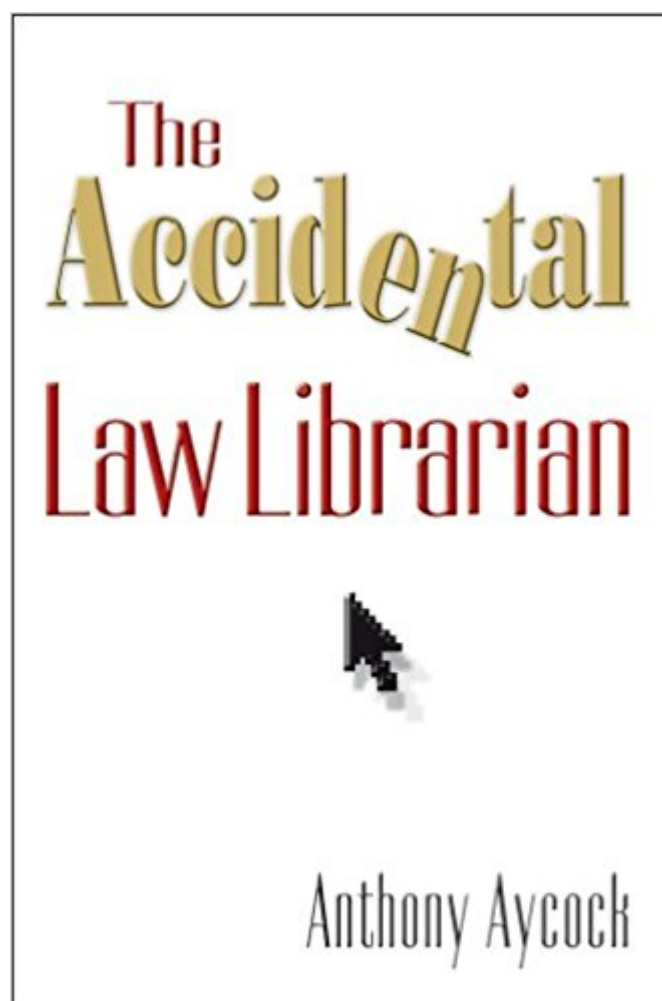


The book was found

The Accidental Law Librarian



Synopsis

Where can I find the case Simpson v. Satterfield? What are the laws in Nevada on gun ownership? Can you help me apply for a business license? How do I copyright my name? Questions like these make a new law librarian's head spin. The truth is, all librarians are apt to get legal questions, and most struggle to respond. Collection development, too, is tricky if you seldom work with legal publishers. As the law touches more and more of our daily lives while lawyers price their services out of the average person's range, the public increasingly turns to libraries for answers. Where can librarians turn? Okay, that one's easy to Anthony Aycock's *The Accidental Law Librarian*.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Aycock is BRILLIANT!! Not only has he become a successful Law Librarian himself, now he has taken his knowledge a step further and is helping those new to the unique world of law librarians. Anthony provides an in depth look at the job, various obstacles that can, and more than likely will, arise and much more. This allows his readers to gain the "upper hand" by having answers to questions they haven't been asked yet. I hope to see more from Anthony Aycock. Whether it be fact or fiction, Anthony Aycock's style of writing is one of a kind. He can captivate any audience.

The law library can be a daunting place for a researcher. It can be especially hard if you're the law librarian and are new to both the library and its contents. Anthony Aycock breaks down the mystery for those new to working in law libraries. His guide takes you through some war stories and basics

for starting to provide reference to the public and lawyers, and to maintain your law library collection. This is an introductory text. If you've worked in law libraries or with legal materials before, you'll find it too rudimentary. It also has a broad focus, encompassing both the private law firm librarian as well as the public librarian. This dilutes some of the usefulness of the guide, as there are large chunks - unauthorized practice of law, billing time - that are not applicable to one audience or the other. For the most part, I think public law librarians will find this more useful than private firm staff. The author has added some sample reference questions - and answers - at the back of the text. If you don't feel like you've got your bearings by reading the book, these can give you a way to dig in a bit further. I wouldn't say they're worth the price of admission on their own, but they're a great addition. Aycock's style is friendly and informal and makes the book accessible. If you've just been handed responsibility - or taken on the mantle voluntarily - of legal research in a public library, you should add this book to your reading list. [Applies to paperback edition] Disclosure: I am cited in this book (chapter 1), something I didn't know until I read it, as are a number of my friends and colleagues. That may make me overly biased, so take my review with a grain of salt!

The Accidental Law Librarian by Anthony Aycock is a wonderful reference guide for librarians and students wanting to know more about the world of a law librarian. The book includes many helpful tips on what databases to use, how to use and file the many looseleaves that a law librarian comes across, and where to search on the Internet for a person's information. Chapters 5 through 7 really drew me in with the various databases and free resources to use for information, which would be helpful for any librarian. School and academic librarians hoping to become more knowledgeable about databases to aid students in their research projects will find the free search tools very helpful; public librarians who have little experience with law and cases can use this book to guide patrons to information. I admit that for part of the book, I was lost. This was mainly due to my inexperience with law, but as I continued to read, the more I understood and learned. By the end of the book, I was already thinking of ways that I could use it in my library practice. I really appreciated the inclusion of the free law search resources, such as WashLaw and THOMAS. I had not heard of these until I read this book. I also enjoyed Mr. Aycock's story of meeting and aiding Dan, a law library visitor. For anyone looking for law resources, this book is a great read. It will also help if you happen to accidentally become a law librarian too. I received the ARC as a gift for reviewing the book; however, this does not influence my opinion or my review of the book.

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