



WASHINGTON LAWYERS' COMMITTEE
FOR CIVIL RIGHTS & URBAN AFFAIRS

Resources for Prison and Jail Legal Issues

ProBono.net Prisoners' Rights Section

www.probono.net/prisoners

This site supports lawyers who are providing legal assistance to prisoners (convicts and pre-trial detainees) with respect to the conditions of their confinement or their treatment by prison personnel. This is free to join. The site includes a library of helpful resources, including John Boston's thorough outlines, and many sample pleadings. The closed listserv is an invaluable resource for any prisoner rights litigator.

Jailhouse Lawyer's Manual

<http://www.columbia.edu/cu/hrlr/JLMOnline.html>

The Jailhouse Lawyer's Manual is written for non-lawyers, but exhaustive enough to be useful to practitioners on the outside. The Seventh Edition of the *JLM*, published in April of 2007, contains chapters, *inter alia*, on the following areas: the Prison Litigation Reform Act, legal, freedom of information, right to, rights of pretrial detainees, appeals, federal habeas corpus, relief from violations of inmates' rights under Sections 1983 and 1331, state's duty to protect inmates, rights to adequate medical care, AIDS in Prison, right to be free from assault, sexual abuse and sexual harassment, rights of incarcerated parents, prison marriage and divorce, special issues of female prisoners, inmates' right to communicate with the outside world, religious freedom in prison, immigration consequences to criminal activity, rights at prison disciplinary proceedings, and parole.

The Civil Rights Litigation Clearinghouse

www.clearinghouse.wustl.edu

The Civil Rights Litigation Clearinghouse is a collection of documents and information about civil rights cases in selected case categories across the United States. Currently, the categories include: Child Welfare, Criminal Justice (Other), Disability Rights-Pub. Accom., Education, Election / Voting Rights, Equal Employment, Fair Housing / Lending / Insurance, Immigration, Jail Conditions, Juvenile Institution, Mental Health Facility, Mental Retardation Facility, Nursing Home Conditions, Policing, Prison Conditions, Public Accommodations, Public Benefits, Public Defenders, Public Housing, School Desegregation, Speech and Religious Freedom.

11 DUPONT CIRCLE, NW SUITE 400 WASHINGTON, DC 20036

www.washlaw.org (WEBSITE) (202) 319-1000 (VOICE) (202) 319-1010 (FAX) (202) 319-1075 (TDD)

Stop Prisoner Rape

www.spr.org

SPR works to put an end to sexual violence against men, women, and youth in all forms of detention. To achieve this goal, SPR seeks to: engender policies that ensure government accountability for prisoner rape; change ill-informed and flippant public attitudes toward sexual assault behind bars; and promote access to resources for survivors of this type of violence. The website has legal resources and self-help resources, including “Hope for Healing: Information for Survivors of Sexual Assault in Detention” and “‘If He Is Raped,’ a Guide for Families and Friends of Male Rape Victims.”

The National Police Accountability Project of the National Lawyers Guild

www.nlg-npap.org

NPAP is an organization of plaintiffs’ attorneys who work on police misconduct cases. The Project uses a variety of means to communicate with its members, including members-only listserv for sharing legal analysis, litigation strategy and information regarding expert witnesses and other topics, and email bulletins regarding new cases and legal developments.

Prison Legal News

www.prisonlegalnews.org

Prison Legal News is an independent 48-page monthly magazine that provides a cutting edge review and analysis of prisoner rights, court rulings and news about prison issues. PLN has a national (U.S.) focus on both state and federal prison issues, with international coverage as well. PLN provides information that enables prisoners and other concerned individuals and organizations to seek the protection and enforcement of prisoner’s rights at the grass roots level. The website maintains a brief bank and a searchable articles database, available to subscribers. It also runs a free listserv.

SAVE Coalition

Stop Abuse and Violence Everywhere Coalition: dedicated to reforming the PLRA

www.savecoalition.org

The website has lots of information about the PLRA and information about efforts to reform it. Under “More Information,” you can get the American Constitution Society White Paper “The Prison Litigation Reform Act - A Proposal For Closing The Loophole For Rapists” by Deborah Golden (June 2006), which reviews sexual assault cases and the physical injury requirement.