



ELLIS COUNTY LAW LIBRARY

# LIBRARY UPDATE

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## A Legacy of Liberty is theme for Law Day, May 1st



Law Day was established in 1958 by President Eisenhower. A Joint Resolution was later passed by Congress in 1961 that stated that Law Day "is a special day of celebration by the people of the United States...in appreciation of their liberties on the reaffirmation of their loyalty to the United States and of their rededication to the ideals of equality and justice under law in their relations with each other and with other countries; and...for the cultivation of the respect for law that is so vital to the democratic way of life."

The American Bar Association's theme this year is **A Legacy of Liberty** which commemorates the bicentennial birth observance of Abraham Lincoln. Lincoln devoted much of his life to the practice of law and his legal background helped bring credence to his presidential actions and formed the oratory for his speeches.

Each year the ABA designates a Law Day theme that state and local bar associations can use to conduct contests and other activities to promote greater understanding and awareness among students of the freedoms and responsibilities afforded them. The State Bar of Texas holds a statewide contest for winning entries from local bar associations' Law Day poster, editorial and photography contests.

Contact your local bar association for more information on Law Day events or how you can participate directly by speaking to a Government or History class within your school system. For more information about Law Day 2009, contact Holly Wilkerson at the State Bar of Texas, 1-800-204-2222 extension 1514.

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The library is located  
in Suite B105 in the  
basement of the  
Ellis Co. Courthouse.

### **Disability Law Compliance Manual**

This book is the second edition and includes a December 2008 update. The new amendments to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) signed by President Bush in September 2008 redefine “major life activities” and make clear that the definition of “disability” be interpreted broadly. The amendments offering increased protection are discussed where applicable throughout the update.

In §4:3 an employer’s reason for discharging an employee because he was sleeping on the job in violation of company policy was not a pretext for discrimination under the ADA absent any evidence that the employer acted with discriminatory animus and did not honestly believe that the employee was asleep during an unscheduled break.

In §12:13 the highlight speaks to ADA cases in which the court may decline to award attorney’s fees and costs to the prevailing plaintiff when such an award would be unjust.

The two volumes in this set include EEOC materials, survey forms, and construction and accessibility guidelines for compliance.



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### **Texas Practice Guide Family Law 2008-2009**

This Practice Guide covers all aspects of family law within the state. It provides detailed coverage of the law and includes Practice Tips and Examples. The topics covered are marriage, dissolution of marriage, pretrial dissolution practice, trial, post-trial dissolution practice, marital property, custody, child support, paternity, maintenance, using experts, torts, protective orders and enforcement, and appeals of family law cases.

There are three volumes with sixteen chapters of material including applicable forms.

### **Texas Probate Forms and Procedures**

This book is published by James Publishing and is very user friendly while providing accurate and authoritative information about the subject matter covered. Fifteen chapters cover everything from client engagement to contested matters. A CD-ROM of forms and procedures is also included to aid in document drafting.

### **Texas Civil Appeals 2008-2009– O’Connor’s**

The newest edition arrived in November and is written by Alessandra Ziek Beavers who was previously a briefing attorney for Justice Michol O’Connor. Included are commentaries, Texas Rules of Appellate Procedure, appeal and simplified citation forms, an appellate court directory and timetables. Everything included is streamlined to make your appeals process easier to manage.