



Internet Access & Computer Use Policy

Washoe County Law Library

75 Court Street, Reno, NV 89501

I. PURPOSE.

The Internet, as an electronic information resource, enables the Law Library to provide access to a vast array of law-related information, ideas, commentary, and research tools beyond the confines of its own collection.

The Library provides computers for public use for the purpose of legal study and research. Use is limited to accessing the library's online catalog and electronic resources, and using the Internet to conduct legal research.

All users of the Library's public access computers, electronic resources and the Internet are expected to use these resources in a responsible manner, consistent with legal research.

Users are subject to the following guidelines:

II. DISCLAIMER.

- A. The Library does not vouch for the accuracy, completeness, or timeliness of information obtained through the Internet. Verifying the accuracy of information is the responsibility of the originator or producer, and assessing accuracy and timeliness of information is the responsibility of the user.
- B. Internet resources may contain material of a controversial nature. The Library does not endorse any viewpoints represented on the Internet, but does not attempt to control access to or content of materials available on the Internet, and cannot protect users from offensive information.
- C. Library system menus may identify specific resources and starting points for research. However, the Library cannot control Internet access points, which can change rapidly and unpredictably.
- D. The Library assumes no responsibility for any damages, direct or indirect, arising from use of its computer and network facilities, or from provision of access to electronic resources or Internet services.
- E. The Library reserves the right to modify and change these policies or procedures at any time.

III. GUIDELINES FOR ACCESS AND USE.

It is unacceptable to use the Library's computer system and Internet resources in any of the following ways:

- A. For any purpose that violates applicable United States or state laws.



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III. GUIDELINES FOR ACCESS AND USE (continued)

- B. For printing or downloading files and other information obtained via the Internet and/or from electronic resources in violation of applicable copyright laws and licensing agreements.
- C. For word processing including typing of letters, pleadings and any other documents. The use of Microsoft WordPad and Notepad are limited to use in conjunction with Legal Research.
- D. For downloading software, executable files, and similar "live" technology to Library computers or network disk drives.
- E. In a manner that destroys or damages equipment, software, or data belonging to the Library.
- F. In a manner that disrupts or interferes with network services. This includes, but is not limited to: propagation of computer viruses; excessive use of connect time or printing resources (including printing of images); attempts to add, modify, or remove system software or other system elements (including wallpaper, screensavers, etc.); attempts to evade system security measures or network access rights; distribution of unsolicited advertising; harassment, libeling, or slandering of others.
- G. In a manner that disrupts or interferes with other Library computer users. This includes, but is not limited to: harassment of others, and displaying or printing text or graphics that may reasonably be construed as offensive to others.
- H. Use of Library system resources to falsely represent yourself or the Library.

IV. LIMITATIONS ON USE.

Due to the limited Library resources available for providing public access to computers, the Internet and other network resources, the Library reserves the right to periodically set limits on the use of public-access computers in order to ensure equitable access to electronic resources, including the following limitations.

- A. The Library staff will scan all user diskettes for viruses prior to inserting them in any library public computer. Otherwise, the patron must purchase a new diskette from the library.
- B. The Library reserves the right to regularly delete files from computer and network disk drives.
- C. The Library is not responsible for damage(s) to the patron's diskette or computer, or any loss of data, damage, or liability that may occur from their use of library public computers.
- D. The patron assumes full risk when choosing to use their credit card to access and pay for Internet resources. The Library is not responsible for any loss or damage(s).



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IV. LIMITATIONS ON USE (continued)

- E. The Library will impose charges for printing information off-line. The first ten pages are free, with 15 cents charged for each additional page.
- F. The Library will impose fees for the purchase of new diskettes at \$1.00 per disk.
- G. The Library does not offer e-mail accounts. Library public computers may not be used to access personal or business e-mail services with other Internet Service Providers.
- H. Library computers may not be used to access Chat or Usenet sites.
- I. The Library reserves the right to limit usage to 1/2 hour when another user is waiting for access on a Library computer.
- J. The Library staff cannot provide extensive computer assistance to users of library public computers. The user assumes all responsibility when using computers.

V. VIOLATION OF THESE GUIDELINES.

- A. Users violating these guidelines will be advised of the Library's guidelines for use and will be asked to comply.
- B. The Library reserves the right to terminate network connections for users who repeat a violation of these guidelines after a previous warning.
- C. The Library reserves the right to prohibit those users who violate these guidelines from future access to or use of the Library's computers, electronic resources or network services.
- D. To the extent the Library incurs costs for damage to Library computer equipment, software or data by a user, the user will be financially liable for those costs.