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FIT for Purpose ? The New FLARE Index to Treaties

Dr. Peter Clinch and **Steven Whittle** describe the background development, various ways in which the service can be used, and technical issues of this fully searchable database. Launched in March 2009, it indexes and lists over 1,500 of the most significant multilateral treaties concluded from 1856 onwards. It was conceived to fill a gap in the range of information finding tools available on the internet for the international lawyer.

<http://www.llrx.com/features/flareindex.htm>

E-Discovery Update: Pushing Back Against Hardcopy ESI Productions

Conrad J. Jacoby addresses how critical technology issues related to document authenticity and document-associated metadata have left fewer lawyers willing to accept e-mail messages and other electronic documents in print format. He argues that litigants choosing to produce electronically stored information in hardcopy format should be prepared to provide more complete electronic copies of their production, even when it isn't initially requested by opposing counsel.

<http://www.llrx.com/columns/hardcopyesi.htm>

FOIA Facts: Expanding the FOIA

Scott A. Hodes highlights the recent introduction of legislation that would eliminate the FOIA shield for the Smithsonian Institute, and the continued lack of transparency when dealing with other federal agencies.

<http://www.llrx.com/columns/foia51.htm>

The Personal Information Trainer

Stuart Basefsky documents how the Personal Information Trainer can become a unique employee benefit written into the employment contract of key individuals deemed to be essential to the success of a firm or institution. This concept is useful to human resource managers, libraries, and the institutions they serve. This article provides the fundamental concepts and constructs necessary to implement such a program with an emphasis on why and how this should be done.

<http://www.llrx.com/features/personalinfotrainer.htm>

Cultural Challenges in Cross Border Mediation

Vikrant Singh Negi discusses how the role of cultural differences are crucial in cross border mediation. Although an individual's nationality does not necessarily determine the attitudes and behavior brought to the table, it can provide valuable guidelines as to which negotiation strategies are likely to work and which are likely to end in failure.

<http://www.llrx.com/features/crossbordermediation.htm>

Criminal Justice Resources: Sex Offender Laws

Ken Strutin's guide, which highlights key publications and resources, focuses on recent developments in the administration and implementation of federal laws. In addition, selected research on sex offenses, risk assessment, treatment and punishment are noted, along with a section on the new Adam Walsh Act.

<http://www.llrx.com/features/sexoffenderlaws.htm>

The Government Domain: Tracking Federal Dollars

Peggy Garvin reviews the strengths, weaknesses and range of source material offered by several free online federal contracts and awards information databases.

<http://www.llrx.com/columns/govdomain26.htm>

Reference from Coast to Coast: Stalking and Finding the Full-Text Article

Jan Bissett and **Margi Heinen** discuss a successful strategy for locating hard to find articles using a range of sources, including directories, online catalogs, specialized databases, commercial websites, and academic document delivery services.

<http://www.llrx.com/columns/reference52.htm>

FOIA Facts: Are Ombudsman The Answer?

Scott A. Hodes maintains that there are pros and cons to setting up an ombudsman's office, and the overall scheme may not be the answer in resolving the number of disputes that arise in the disclosure of public records.

<http://www.llrx.com/columns/foia41.htm>

CongressLine by GalleryWatch.com: The Capitol of Newspapers

Paul Jenks provides background, perspective and insight into the audience, content and role of a trio of newspapers of record for what he calls the "most inherently partisan institution in the country." These papers, available in print and online versions, are significant resources for anyone tracking the Hill and Congress.

<http://www.llrx.com/congress/capitolofnewspapers.htm>

The Government Domain: GovTrack and OpenCongress Go Beyond THOMAS

Peggy Garvin explores the evolution in the features and services provided by GovTrack, the free, public, independent web service with information on federal legislation, congressional documents, legislators, and votes. She also profiles a site with complementary content on lobbying activity and campaign contributions.

<http://www.llrx.com/columns/govdomain25.htm>

Commentary: Labor Protections and the Role of Card-Check Agreements

Beth Wellington reviews the background and legislation associated with card check-off campaigns to establish union representation, as well as the current political and corporate positions.

<http://www.llrx.com/extras/cardcheck.htm>

FOIA Facts: Suggestions for FOIA Amendments

Scott A. Hodes recommends four substantive ways in which agency accountability will lead to more effective and efficient processing of FOIA requests.

<http://www.llrx.com/columns/foia40.htm>

FOIA Facts: Making Effective FOIA Requests - Part II

Scott A. Hodes recommends three direct techniques to increase the efficient processing of your requests.

<http://www.llrx.com/columns/foia39.htm>

Reference from Coast to Coast: Researching Native American Legal Issues

Jan Bissett and **Margi Heinen's** pathfinder is a guide to specific commercial, government, academic and association sources that will assist you in focusing your results as you research this area of the law.

<http://www.llrx.com/columns/reference51.htm>
