



November 2022

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### Director's Corner

Angela T. Baldree

The Franklin County Law Library will perform reference assistance for users based upon specific search parameters given by the patron. Our reference librarians respond to requests via email at [fcll-info@franklincountyohio.gov](mailto:fcll-info@franklincountyohio.gov). They are not attorneys and their answers should not be considered legal advice. Nor are they paralegals and should not be expected to do the amount of research as your own paralegal. The reference librarians can direct you to appropriate resources but cannot interpret those resources.

#### Examples of reference services include:

1. Locating legislative history
2. Locating current and prior versions of the Ohio Revised Code
3. Providing legal forms
4. Providing case law for all 50 states and federal courts
5. Locating law journal articles
6. Providing scanned pages from books in our print collection

#### Attorneys requesting assistance from the reference librarians should use the following guidelines:

1. Include your name, phone number, and email address clearly within the body of the email.
2. If you are requesting statutes, cases, or forms, provide the citation as completely as possible.
3. If you are requesting assistance with a legal topic, requests should be as specific as possible. Include the specific terms to be searched, the type of resources to be searched (cases, statutes, secondary sources, etc.), a date range, and the judicial jurisdiction.
4. Please provide information on research you have already conducted.
5. Librarians will refuse to answer if the request is too vague or requires a legal interpretation.
6. Questions regarding court policy and procedures (beyond their posted rules of court) should be directed to the courts and not the law library.

#### Some acceptable questions are:

1. Please send me the following case: Parsons v. Ferguson (1976), 46 Ohio St. 2d 389.
2. Can you email me Ohio Rev. Code § 325.19 with all its annotations?
3. Please send me all full-text Ohio cases from 2010-2022 regarding "breach of

- contract" and "commercial lease."  
4. Please provide the definition of "affirmative defense."
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## Recent Reference Requests

Susanna Marlowe

Dear Reference Librarian,  
I have heard that Congress passed a law expanding tax credits for solar powered projects. Can you help me locate them?

Signed,  
Building a Sunny New Home

Dear Builder,  
The Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 became law on August 16, 2022. Sec. 13302 extends and expands the Residential Clean Energy Credit, 26 USC 25D, so that solar photovoltaic systems installed between 2022-2032 are eligible for a 30% federal income tax credit. A tax credit is a dollar-for-dollar reduction in the amount of income tax you would otherwise owe. There is no maximum amount that can be claimed. More information is here: <https://www.energy.gov/eere/solar/homeowners-guide-federal-tax-credit-solar-photovoltaics>.

Signed,  
The Reference Librarian

Dear Reference Librarian,  
Are there Ohio laws limiting the number of women who can serve at one time on a public library board of trustees?

Signed,  
An Incredulous Public Librarian

Dear Fellow Librarian,  
Not anymore, but there were. Senate Bill 1 was passed by the Ohio Legislature in 1902. It was an act to organize city governments. Sec. 218 dealt with public libraries. It made no mention of the gender of the board members. In 1904, the legislature passed Senate Bill 4, which amended sec. 218, specifying that out of six board members, a maximum of three could be female. In 1976, House Bill 976 removed that limitation. The current law is Oh. Rev. Code Sec. 3375.12, which says nothing about the sex of the board members.

Signed,  
The Reference Librarian

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## Tech Talk - Privacy Browsers

Steve Stultz, FCLL IT Coordinator

Last month I touched on web browsers in my review of essential Windows apps. Let's go deeper into web browsers and discuss privacy-centered browsers.



There is a lot of chatter these days about how Google Chrome might not be the best choice for a browser from a privacy standpoint. Indeed, Google collects data about customer usage, compiles it into a marketable database, and then sells it to

companies looking to market to you based on your browsing habits. There is a lot of AI going on here behind the scenes, and some folks would rather see ads based on their interests versus random products and services. But privacy is a big downfall here. What else is Google going with the data it collects about your web browsing habits?

The good news is that there are other browsers, some based on the same engine that powers Google Chrome, that are much more privacy-centered. To go along with that, there are search engines that are also more privacy-centered than is Google.com.

- **Brave:** This is perhaps the best-known privacy browser, and it does quite a bit to keep your browser behavior away from companies looking to add to their big data databases. It blocks ads and website trackers (bits of data that track your browsing from site to site), and like all the browsers mentioned here, it is free. It's also open-source so that its source code can be audited.

- **Chromium:** This browser is the core from which Google Chrome is built, but it doesn't include any ties to Google whatsoever. And unlike Chrome, Chromium also doesn't track browsing history. The big disadvantage of Chromium is that it doesn't auto-update. So you'll need to periodically (often is better) update it yourself.

- **Firefox:** Firefox comes to us from the Mozilla Foundation, a non-profit organization founded in 2003 (but its roots go further back than that) after AOL bought the now-defunct Netscape Navigator years prior to that. Firefox is also open-source and includes some of the privacy-forward features of Brave, including ad blockers, plus a feature called DNS over HTTPS. In short, this means that your website lookups over DNS—the system that converts a website name to numbers that a browser can understand—is encrypted and not visible by your Internet provider.

- **Icecat:** This browser is based on Firefox, and it doesn't send telemetry back to the mother ship as does Firefox. It's widely believed that the telemetry that Firefox sends back is not a concern from a privacy standpoint, but if that bothers you, look at Icecat instead of Firefox.

Besides picking a more privacy-forward browser, consider using a privacy-forward search engine, too. The most popular of those is Duck Duck Go, which is based on Google.com but blocks all tracking. Yes, even if you use a privacy browser, Google.com can itself track you to some extent. There are others too.

And if you don't want to switch browsers, most if not all browsers have a private mode that allows you to browse without being tracked to a large extent.

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## What We're Reading

### Law Library Staff Share Their Favorites

Angela - *Femlandia* by Chirstina Dalcher, *Rock, Paper, Scissors* by Alice Feeney, and *Vigil Harbor* by Julia Glass

Minnie - *Book Lovers* by Emily Henry, *Killers of a Certain Age* by Deanna Raybourn, *The Winners* by Fredrick Backman

Susanna - *Local Gone Missing* by Fiona Barton, *Apples Never Fall* by Liane Moriarty, and *This is Going To Hurt: Secret Diaries of a Junior Doctor* by Adam Kay



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