



September 1, 2018

Director's Corner

Angela T. Baldree, MLS

Last month I was fortunate enough to make my second trip to Cuba. I visited for the first time in 2012 when I attended the largest book festival in Latin American taking place in Havana. This was prior to the loosening of restrictions put in place by the Obama administration. Havana and the surrounding countryside were beautiful but also very much in need of help. Buildings were falling down, there was one freeway (a term I use loosely), and many people were still plowing their fields and traveling by horses.

I returned to an even more beautiful Cuba that has definitely seen improvements. Two new luxury hotels have been built in the heart of Havana, and almost every corner now boasts brand new walk/don't walk electric signs. La Habana Vieja, Old Havana, is one of the most popular tourist locations in the city. Back in 2012 I was told that the Cuban government, in their attempt to open more free enterprise, created a restoration project for this area. All taxes collected from businesses in Old Havana would be set aside for projects in this area. The pictures below give a glimpse of the improvements made in six years.



Plaza Vieja in Cuba 2012 vs 2018



Cathedral of Havana San Cristobal 2012 vs 2018

While Cuba still does not accept cash or credit cards from the U.S., other positive changes have occurred. When I first visited, Cuban Immigration would not stamp American passports. I am very excited to now have a stamp in my passport from Cuba. Also, previously Americans could only legally purchase cultural items - books, music, art, etc. Tourists can now purchase goods and bring them into the U. S. including a very limited number of cigars and rum. Interestingly, it is usually cheaper to buy a glass of rum than a glass of water in Cuba. I purchased a bottle of Havana Club rum for four Cuban convertible pesos which is equal to one U. S. dollar. The same size bottle of Bacardi goes for more than \$20. Luckily, the quality and price of mojitos in Havana have stayed the same.



Mystic River Book Discussion

September's Brown Bag Lunch Program

Join Judge Charles Schneider as he leads a discussion on Dennis Lehane's 2001 award-winning novel about three boys whose lives are forever changed after a terrible event in their childhood.

Join us on **September 19, 2018, at 12:15 pm**. Space is limited and registration is required by calling or stopping by the circulation desk.

The first ten people to register will receive a complimentary copy of the book.



New Books

Minnie Ozbeytemur

The law library is continually working on keeping our collection current and accommodating. We acquired two books on social media: ***Legal Ethics and Social Media*** and ***Legal Results: Social Media Pamphlet***. Both books cover Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and YouTube. They provide information on subjects such as privacy issues and free expression as well as cyber-stalking and cyber-bullying. ***Legal Ethics and Social Media*** also includes ethical rules for navigating through status updates.

Stop in the law library to review these and all our books soon.



Franklin County Law Library
369 S. High Street, 10th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215
614.525.4971
614.525.4978 (fax)
lawlibrary.franklincountyohio.gov
FCLL-Info@franklincountyohio.gov

***Email Us
Your Questions!***

STAY CONNECTED

