Wandering the Web

Robert M. Lawless   
*University of Missouri*

Jack G. Montgomery   
*University of Missouri*

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Selected Internet Sites of Interest to Commercial Lawyers
by Professor Robert M. Lawless
(U. of Missouri-Columbia)

Federal Materials

1. United States Code
   <http://www.law.cornell.edu:80/usc.html>
   The U.S. Code is maintained by the Legal Information Institute
   ("LII") and is current as of 1/26/94. Updates may be tracked through
   the Library of Congress' Thomas site, which is discussed below. The
   LII maintains a page to assist in the update process at <http://
   www.law.cornell.edu/lexicon/usc/index.html>

2. Specific federal statutes
   Securities Act of 1933
   <http://www.law.wisc.edu/CCL/33Act/index.html>
   Securities Act of 1934
   <http://www.law.wisc.edu/CCL/34Act/index.html>
   Bankruptcy Reform Act of 1994
   <http://bankruptcy.com/usbc.94.html>

3. U.S. Supreme Court decisions
   <http://www.law.cornell.edu:80/supct/supct.table.html>
   This is a searchable database of opinions dating back to 1990.

4. Other court decisions
   <http://www.law.wisc.edu/opinions.html>
   All of the U.S. Courts of Appeals and at least thirteen state courts
   have searchable databases of recent opinions. Generally, these data-
   bases have opinions for only the most recent year or two, but their
   usefulness will grow as the years go by.

5. Code of Federal Regulations
   <http://www.pls.com:8001/his/cfr.html>
   The House of Representatives maintains a searchable database of
   the Code of Federal Regulations.

6. Federal bill tracking & legislative history
   <http://thomas.loc.gov>
   The Library of Congress' free Thomas service contains a wealth of
   information, including the text of bills pending before Congress as well
   as text from the Congressional Record. Thomas allows you to search
   for bills by subject, keywords, committee and sponsor. Thomas also
   contains links to many more government sites with further information.

Bankruptcy & Commercial Law Materials

1. Internet Bankruptcy Library
   <http://bankruptcy.com>
   The Bankruptcy Creditors' Service maintains an extensive collec-
   tion of bankruptcy materials, such as news stories about major
   chapter 11s <http://bankruptcy.com/chap11.html>; some financial data
   from major chapter 11s <http://bankruptcy.com/Bankruptcy_Petitions>;
   the full text of the Bankruptcy Reform Act of 1994 <http://
   bankruptcy.com/usbc.94.html>; a limited library of form pleadings
   <http://bankruptcy.com/plead.html>; and other materials.

2. Credit Mgmt. Info. & Support, Inc.
   <http://www.teleport.com/%7Erichb/index.html>

This company's Web server provides an overview of many busi-
ness bankruptcy issues.

3. Massachusetts Bankruptcy Page
   <http://prospect.com/craigmace/phase.html>
   The Boston law firm of Craig & Mace maintains a Web site
   with a searchable index of all Massachusetts bankruptcy decisions
   since January 1, 1995.

4. Commercial Law League of America
   <http://bankrupt.com/80/cla/cla.html>
   The Commercial Law League of America maintains an Internet
   site with information about that organization, which includes informa-
   bankrupt.com/80/cla/legis.html>. It is a good way to keep updated
   on commercial-law developments in Washington. Reports about meet-
   ings of the National Bankruptcy Review Commission also are posted
   periodically <http://bankrupt.com/80/cla/bankcom.html>

5. American Bankruptcy Institute
   <http://www.abworld.org>
   The ABI maintains a Web server that promises the "architect site
   for bankruptcy information." It is a fee-paid service, costing ABI mem-
   bers $12.50/month.

6. Executive Office for U.S. Trustees
   <http://gopher.usdoj.gov/offices/ust.html>
   The Executive Office for U.S. Trustees maintains a sparse Web
   presence. Its most useful feature is the EOST's guidelines for reviewing
   fee applications <gopher://justice2.usdoj.gov:70/11/ust/guidelines

Other Useful Materials

1. IRS Forms & Publications
   The IRS maintains an extensive library of forms, instructions, and
   other publications. These files can be downloaded and printed. Unfortu-
   nately, you will need a special graphics program, such as Adobe
   Acrobat to view these forms. On the brighter side, the IRS site points you
   to a version of Adobe Acrobat that you may download and use for free.

2. Legal Information Institute
   <http://www.law.cornell.edu>
   One of the early providers of legal information on the Web was
   Cornell Law School. Today, they maintain a Web site with extensive
   amounts of legal material; many of the materials mentioned elsewhere
   in this document are from the Legal Information Institute. The LII also
   maintains "pointers" to other sources of legal information.

3. Legal Resource Database
   <http://www.twc.com/entryos/markshk/mrk.html>
   The Legal Resource Database is an index of Web sites with legal
   materials. The database is arranged according to subject matter.

4. FindLaw
   <http://www.findlaw.com>
   FindLaw is a newcomer to the Web but has quickly become a useful
   resource for practicing attorneys. It is an extensive index of Web sites
   with legal materials. The subject matter categories are cross-
   referenced, so, for example, UCC articles 3 and 4 are indexed under
   banking law as well as commercial law.