

Minnesota State Law Library 2013 Annual Report



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Public Services

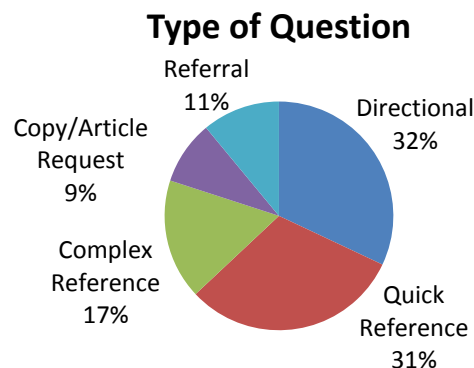
The Public Services Department is the “public face” of the Law Library. Circulation and reference statistics reflect interactions with library users. The public services reference desk is staffed weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. by professional librarians drawn from each of the three library departments: Public Services, Technical Services, and Outreach Services.

Library staff responded to an estimated 7,113 individual information requests. In addition, the library had 3,708 visitors who used the library’s resources without a librarian’s assistance. We received a variety of questions, which can be grouped into one of five categories (see graph below). Some inquiries are directional, such as where to find a book, transcript or brief; others are far more complex, such as how to conduct electronic legal research. Common questions also include where to find applicable forms, court rules, statutes, and case law.

In 2013, the Public Services Department underwent reconfiguration and staff changes with the retirement of reference librarian Anna Cherry, and the resignation of Mara Wiggins, circuit-riding librarian. We gave priority to hiring a designated Electronic Services Librarian, a position that had been staffed on an ad hoc basis by multiple staff for years. We emphasized this position because of the library’s desire to expand its electronic and social-media presence by, among other things, developing a new website in 2014, reconfiguring the appellate-court opinion archive, and accommodating the changes brought by appellate e-filing. Danielle Becker joined our staff in September as the Electronic Services Librarian. Additionally, we hired Clara Lowther as a part-time reference librarian to help develop and manage other pending projects, including the Minnesota Justices Series and the Unemployment Appeals Legal Advice Clinic.

2013 Public Services Statistics

- 7,113 reference questions
(266 of these were reference requests from jail inmates and state hospital patients)
- 3,708 unassisted visitors
- 380 additional people visiting for tours or classes
- 1,853 items circulated from the collection
- 73 items circulated to interlibrary loan networks

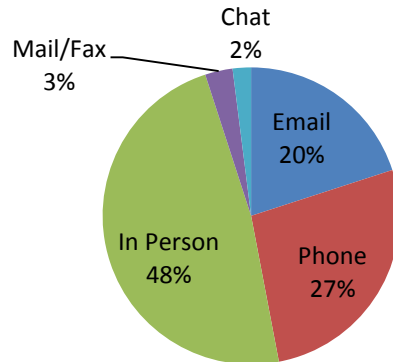


The Law Library increasingly communicates with its patrons by electronic means. In 2013, email comprised 20% of all of our interactions. Email is a fast, convenient, and inexpensive way to correspond both with members of the public and with the judicial branch statewide. Library staff continues to provide assistance through in-person interviews and phone reference, which have not abated. Library staff also provides mail services for prisoners in Minnesota county jails and civilly committed persons.

New Chat Service

In May of 2013 the Law Library entered into a partnership with Legal Services State Support to provide chat assistance to users of the LawHelpMN.org website. Librarians covered 6 hours of chat per week and assisted members of the general public in locating legal information and referred patrons to a variety of web resources including LawHelpMN.org, the library’s website, the Court’s Self-Help webpage, and other vetted internet legal resources.

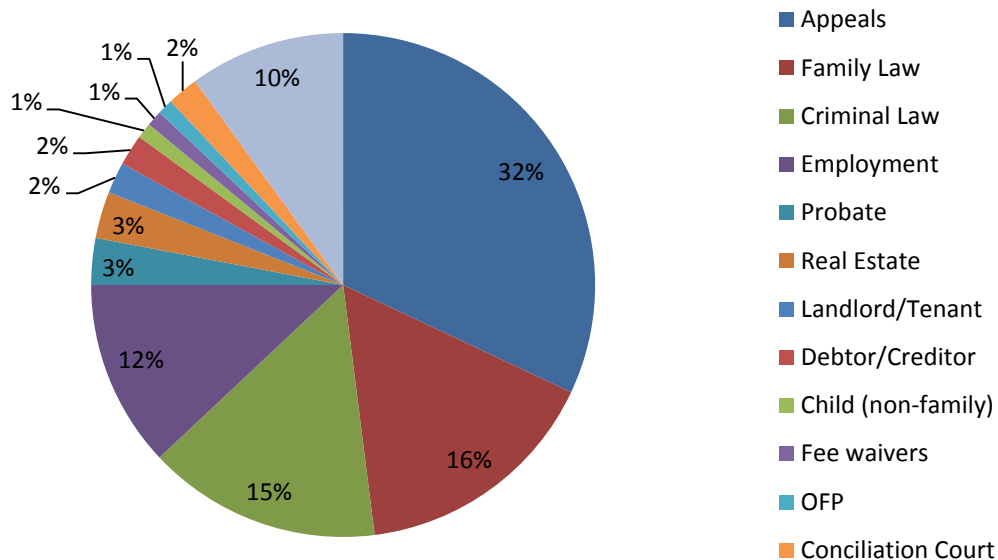
Method of Access to Library Staff



Subject of Requests

In 2013, the library began to categorize and track legal-research questions by topic. We will use this information to create and update web content, as well as to guide future collection-development decisions. A significant number of questions in the “other” category related to district court processes and rules, locating older district court records, and district court filing fees. As a result, in 2014 the library will track district-court-related requests as a new category. Other consistent areas of interest included Bluebook citation questions and questions related to how to use online legal-research databases.

Subject of Questions



Sampling of Unusual Research Requests

How can I find out if there are laws in my area regarding where I can land a helicopter?

How do I establish a cartway?

My rifle was confiscated because I was hunting on baited land. How do I get it back?

Can a bankruptcy case be voluntarily dismissed after discharge, but before the case has been closed?

I need to petition the county to modify a ditch. Do you have any sample forms?

I wanted to know the actual law which ties Minnesota state tax to the federal tax.

Is there a form I can use to get my husband's name off of the motor home now that he has died?

Is there such a law that exempts the City/County from being liable for civilian vehicular damage (traffic damages, not damage caused to an illegally parked car) caused by Public Works vehicles like snow plows, street sweepers, etc.?

Do you have any materials on detachment of real property? I think it is the opposite of annexation.

I am an unmarried woman who is in a relationship with a man. I have a mortgage with Habitat for Humanity and because he lives there they want to raise my house payment including his income and that it is stated in my contract that payments would be 30% of

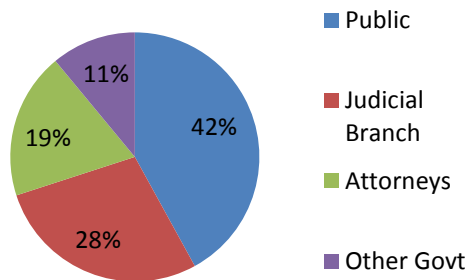
my 'family' income. He and I are NOT married and were not together when the contract was signed 14 years ago when my children and I built the house. I wonder if this is legal and what the state feels is the definition of family...thank you.

The State Law Library collaborates with other libraries and service providers. When a patron's needs are beyond the scope of services that staff can provide, the library provides referrals to area legal clinics, lawyer-referral services, county law libraries, and the [Court Self-Help Center](#). Questions related to legislative history occur periodically and we refer patrons to the [Legislative Reference Library](#) or the [Minnesota Historical Society](#) for source information beyond that available in the State Law Library.

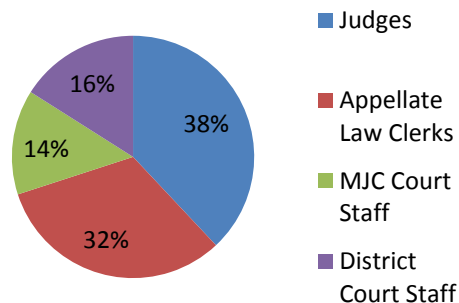
Library Patrons

The library's patron base ranges from self-represented litigants to attorneys and members of the judicial branch. Patrons from the courts include administrative court judges, trial court judges (throughout the state), appellate court judges and justices, and other court staff. Because our patrons have varied experience and education, staff must be able to communicate with different audiences and be familiar with a range of materials written for those audiences.

Library Patron Type



Users - Judicial Branch



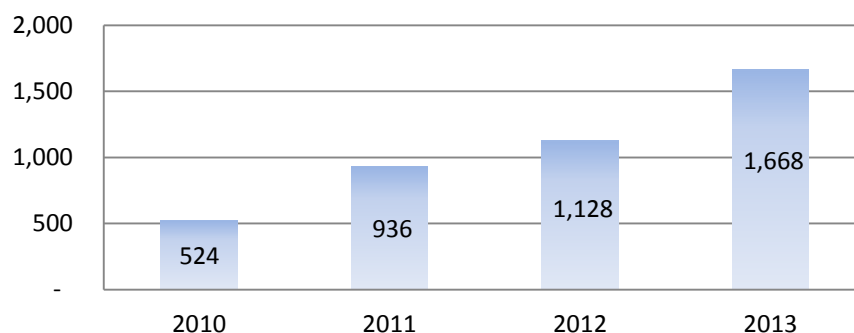
The library is also a valuable resource for law, library science, and paralegal students from programs at Inver Hills Community College, Rasmussen College, Minnesota School of Business/Globe University, the University of St. Catherine, and area law schools.

Current Awareness Services

Monthly New Articles List

The State Law Library strives to aid the judicial branch by providing current and relevant legal materials. One way we provide current awareness service is the Recently Received Law Review Articles list, a monthly e-mailed bibliography of journal articles sent to all judicial branch employees. Judicial patrons may request any of the 35 articles on each list and receive a scanned copy of the article by e-mail. The response to this service, which began in January 2010, has been extremely positive. The service provided 524 articles in 2010, 936 articles in 2011, 1128 articles in 2012, and 1668 in 2013. The increase from 2012 to 2013 was 47.9%.

Monthly Periodical List Requests for Articles 2010-2013



Topic and Journal Alerts

Upon request, library staff send notification alerts to judicial employees concerning new, recently received law review and periodical articles on any specific topic or from any journal of the patron's choosing. The articles are selected from the approximately 400 titles that the library receives in print format. In 2013, 1305 subject alerts were sent—up from 989 alerts sent in 2012, 740 alerts in 2011, and 463 alerts from 2010. The increase from 2012 to 2013 was 32%.

At the end of 2013, 73 individuals used this service to receive customized alerts on 67 different topics. Alerts were sent to Minnesota Supreme Court justices, Court of Appeals judges, district court judges, referees, court administrators, law clerks, court psychologists, human resources staff, as well as other judicial employees. Non-judicial branch users include Minnesota Workers' Compensation Court of Appeals judges and administrative law judges. We have also extended the service to a few other individuals, including Minnesota Department of Corrections attorneys and correctional facility librarians, as well as former judicial branch employees.

The Outreach Services department provided other current-awareness services as well. In 2013, two biannual bibliographies of articles related to diversity and the law sent to the Minnesota Judicial Branch Diversity Collaboration Group, as well as to other judicial staff interested in the topic. On a quarterly basis, we provided a packet of current tables of contents from incoming Minnesota legal periodicals to the judges of the Court of Appeals.

New Books List

The Law Library also notifies the judicial branch each month about new titles added to the collection. In 2013, this resulted in 66 requests from court judges and staff for 133 new titles.

Electronic Services

Law Library Website

- 187,640 visits to the website (average of 15,637 per month)
- 961,547 pages viewed on the Library website

- 107,007 website visitors
- 13% of visitors were international

The Library website continues to be a valuable asset to the Minnesota legal community and the public, making many resources accessible to users without the constraints of physically being in the library. While most interactions relate to governmental and legal concerns of Minnesota residents or those conducting business in Minnesota, users also seek information about federal courts and government in general.

Opinions and Briefs

Many users use the website to conduct full-text searches of the [Appellate Court Archive](#). Decisions of the Minnesota Court of Appeals (published and unpublished) and the Minnesota Supreme Court from May 1996 to today are available free of charge on the website.

The Public Services and Technical Services staffs continue the ongoing project of posting online selected appellate court briefs in accordance with the [Rules of Public Access to Records of the Judicial Branch](#) (which specifies no posting of appendices, along with data privacy protections). Additionally, the library maintains the searchable “Issues in Briefs” database. This database includes statements of the issues presented to the higher court for review, a summary of arguments as to why the trial court acted incorrectly (according to the appellant's brief) or correctly (according to the respondent's brief), and a conclusion stating the relief sought. These materials are a valuable resource to researchers working on similar legal issues.

Other Activities

As the library prepares for a new website, the Electronic Services Librarian has been mapping the flow of information on the library's antiquated but still-functional website. We have spent considerable time reviewing processes associated with adding appellate court opinions and briefs to the library's appellate court archive in the hope of streamlining these processes until we develop new systems that will be compatible with the library's new website anticipated in 2014.

The library has begun using LibGuides, a web based tool, to update the library's [Legal Topics page](#). LibGuides is a dynamic product that allows the library to share legal information while the library's webpage is currently in development. [Several guides](#) have already been developed and these guides and others in current development will merge seamlessly when converted to the new website later in 2014. The library is particularly excited about the [Appeals](#) guide, as it allows attorneys and the general public to access appellate materials remotely.

We have also expanded the library's wireless system so that patrons may access the wireless network from any point in the library. And we have added additional public terminals to our network, including an MPA ([MN Public Access](#)) terminal providing a courthouse view of trial court records.

The website also includes a compilation of Minnesota county and municipal [ordinances](#) that are available online. This is a valuable resource for anyone researching local law and is one of the most heavily used resources on the website.

The State Law Library has had a Twitter account since 2008 (@StateLawLibrary). The library currently has 883 followers (an increase of 102 since 2012). They include attorneys, law firms, law schools, legal organizations, and libraries.

The State Law Librarian and the Electronic Services Librarian have been actively participating in the planning, development and testing of the appellate court's e-filing system with a view toward enabling self-represented litigants to use it in the future.

Technical Services

Our Technical Services Department is responsible for ordering, receiving, processing, and cataloging books and other media, including websites and online documents, for the library's collection. In addition, the department catalogs materials for seven county law libraries. The department also serves as a publisher of the Minnesota appellate courts' briefs on microfiche for county and academic law libraries.

When new items come in, library staff analyzes, catalogs, processes, and then shelves them in the State Law Library, the Court of Appeals Research Library, or the Supreme Court Research Library. The staff also culls outdated materials from all three libraries and relocates materials to make space for new volumes in popular growth areas of the collection.

Technical Services Statistics

- 2,288 continuation items added (new replacement volumes, hardbound supplements)
- 548 new titles added
- 1,518 items withdrawn
- 1,654 briefs processed
- 147 transcripts processed
- 3,581 Federal Depository Library items added
- 18,705 catalog records created
- 16,979 catalog records edited or deleted

The State Law Library Collection

The State Law Library has the second-largest legal collection in Minnesota. In compliance with our collection-development plan, the library collects primary legal materials of the federal government, its territories, and the states; secondary materials on a wide variety of legal subjects; Minnesota law of all types; and federal and state government documents, including selected depository items. It also houses many unique items of historical significance to the legal community. Examples include appellate briefs going back to the start of the State, historical practice materials, opinions of the Minnesota Supreme Court from its inception, and early statutory and regulatory materials. In addition to print resources, the library subscribes to multiple electronic resources, including Westlaw, LexisNexis, HeinOnline, several business and academic periodicals, and online newspapers. Patrons may use these resources at the library for free.

In the summer of 2013, we began the first inventory of the library's collection in 20 years. Due to the size of the library, we anticipate that this project will continue through much of 2014.

Use of the library's print collection has remained steady since last year. In 2013, 1,853 items circulated from the collection. This was an 8% increase from 2012. As a result of interlibrary loan requests, 73 items were circulated to other libraries. The library added 548 new titles to the collection in 2013.

Last year the library received an important donation of legal books by a retired attorney, Douglas Hedin. We have added hundreds of these books to our collection and have benefited greatly by this generous gift. Some of these books were duplicates of ones we already own, and so we donated them to other law libraries within the state. We distributed 378 books to other law libraries. The remainder were sent to Better World Books for distribution to third-world libraries.

Minnesota Legal Periodicals Index

The [Minnesota Legal Periodical Index](#) (MLPI) is a bibliographic database that we have developed and maintained since 1984. It includes periodicals published by Minnesota law schools, bar associations, and commercial publishers. The web version of MLPI is powered by [LawMoose](#) and is a collaboration between the Minnesota State Law Library and Pritchard Law Webs. In 2013, the Head of Technical Services indexed 1,552 articles for the MLPI. The indexing process involves designating the journal, volume and issue, pagination, author, and title. In addition, up to three subject headings are assigned to each record to aid researchers in searching for articles by topic. Nine new subject headings were added to the index in 2013: Computers, Energy & Law, Healthcare, Ineffective Counsel, Medical Care, Mental Health Laws, National Security, Nursing Homes, and Science & Law.

Appellate Briefs

We provide access to appellate briefs in various formats. For Minnesota appellate decisions that are published in the *Northwestern Reporter*, the library binds the briefs and their appendices to ensure long-term access. These materials are heavily used by and circulated to attorneys. In 2013, 137 volumes of bound briefs were added to the collection. In addition, library staff prepares the briefs for microfiche processing. Area law libraries that do not have print copies of briefs purchase the microfiche. In 2013, 1,425 microfiche sheets were produced. We also scan most civil briefs and make them available on the internet. A total of 1,654 briefs were processed by library staff in 2013.

Minnesota Supreme Court Historical Society Preservation Committee

The Head of Technical Services serves on the Preservation Committee of the Minnesota Supreme Court Historical Society. The Committee works to preserve the memories, writings, and oral histories of the men and women who shaped the history of the Minnesota Supreme Court. The Head of Technical Services compiled a guide for retired justices to help them understand what to include in their Justice Series book. It was compiled and distributed both to retired justices and to those nearing retirement.

Services to County Law Libraries

County Law Library Program

The Minnesota State Law Library is required by law (Minn. Stat. Chapter 134A) to advise and assist county law libraries throughout the state. We provide this assistance primarily through the County Law Library Program (CLLP). Since most of the counties in Minnesota do not have full-time professional law librarians on staff, the Program Coordinator provides centralized services and information to county law libraries to assist those who supervise the libraries. Often, local law library managers are full-time law clerks, court administrators, or other county staff who take on law-library duties as additional duties.

The Program Coordinator periodically visits county law libraries and provides recommendations for solving problems or addressing issues. The Coordinator also provides training in law library management and helps develop cooperative programs such as the Minnesota Law Libraries Self-Help Network.

In 2013, CLLP developed a two-tier membership system. County law libraries who belong to tier one receive primary legal materials and phone consultation for routine questions related to staffing issues, library space, collection content, filing fees and other budgetary matters, legal vendors, and the appropriate use of library funds. Libraries who belong to tier two receive the benefits of tier one, plus one on-site library visit, development of a county-specific resource sheet, assistance in developing a clinic for legal advice or forms review, and patron access to the State Law Library's reference desk via a toll-free telephone number.

Of the 84 eligible county law libraries in Minnesota, 34 became tier one members of CLLP and one library chose tier two. In addition, 16 member libraries are associated with the Minnesota Law Libraries Self-Help Network, which provides county law libraries with discounted access to Westlaw.

In June the Circuit Riding Librarian resigned. Since then, oversight of the Minnesota Law Libraries Self-Help Network has been handled by the CLLP Coordinator and State Law Librarian in St. Paul.

Educational Programs

In October, the State Law Library hosted and helped plan the MCCLL fall educational program, *Maximizing Local Resources: To Help Pro Se Litigants Navigate the Court System*. In addition to providing training for new law-library managers, sessions included a pro-se e-filing update and presentations from Volunteer Lawyers Network's Spanish Legal Services, Tubman Family Crisis & Support Services, Minnesota State Archives, and Call for Justice.

Resources for County Law Libraries

To assist county law libraries, we host valuable information on our website. We provide the recommendations to county law libraries, set forth by the [Statewide Law Library/Self-Help Center Project Advisory Workgroup](#). Other documents of note include the following: [Statement](#)

[of Position: County Law Libraries](#), Office of the State Auditor (October 2008); [County Law Libraries](#) by Rebecca Otto, State Auditor (November 2008 article for *Minnesota Counties*); and the [Position Statement on County Law Library Funds](#).

Cataloging Services

The State Law Library offers cataloging services for county law libraries that want their collections to be available online. In 2013, the Cataloging Librarian added 760 catalog records for 7 counties.

Law Library Service to Prisoners Program (LLSP)

The mission of LLSP is to provide law library service to prisoners in Minnesota. We do this by providing access to legal materials at correctional facilities and our library. Law librarians, based at the judicial center, conduct monthly visits at eight adult correctional facilities to meet with inmates. Questions that cannot be answered on-site using legal materials at the prison are researched at our library. Inmates also write or call LLSP for assistance with their legal research. We also provide law library services to Minnesota Department of Corrections (DOC) inmates housed in other facilities, such as county jails, state hospitals, and other states, as well as to DOC staff.

LLSP is funded by an inter-agency agreement between the State Law Library and the Department of Corrections; the program began as a pilot project in 1984, with one librarian visiting five correctional facilities and a part-time clerk providing photocopying support. Today, the staff includes two full-time and one half-time librarians, as well as one part-time clerk.

Overview of 2013

The Department of Corrections strives to make the legal research services and materials available to inmates as uniform as possible in all Minnesota correctional facilities. Throughout 2013, LLSP continued working closely with DOC staff to implement this goal. LLSP librarians met with DOC librarians and program administrators during their spring meeting at the DOC's main office in St. Paul.

In 2012, we provided 33,822 requested items to 2,039 inmates. In 2013, LLSP provided 41,366 requested items to 2,465 inmates, an increase of over 20% in the number of items provide and inmate assisted. The number of on-site meetings with inmates also increased by over 14%, going from 924 in 2012 to 1,056 in 2013.

- 9,452** Total DOC inmates (as of 1/1/2013)
- 88** Prison visits by LLSP staff
- 8,268** Estimated miles travelled
- 1,056** Inmate interviews
- 2,465** Individual inmates assisted

41,366 Inmate requests processed

992 Hours worked by LLSP volunteer

LLSP staff also revised and updated LLSP's annual *Reference Guide: Occupations Impacted by Felony Convictions*, an important resource for inmates. LLSP librarians also created an informational checklist for inmates: *How to Request Custody/Parenting Time Forms through LLSP*. This checklist simplifies the process for the prisoner and helps LLSP librarians fill inmate requests.

Statistical Highlights

LLSP compiles many statistics, some of which are shown in the tables, graph, and pie chart that follow. A few observations concerning 2013 correctional facility statistics follow. All percentages reflect changes from 2012 to 2013.

- Stillwater and Faribault received the largest numbers of items delivered to inmates from our library (10,205 and 6,793, respectively). Requests by inmates in Lino Lakes and Shakopee increased by the largest percentage (80.1% and 41.4%, respectively).
- Stillwater and Faribault had the largest number of inmates assisted (625 and 411, respectively).
- Numbers of inmates assisted in Lino Lakes and Stillwater facilities increased by the largest percentage (94.3% and 31.3%, respectively).
- Stillwater and Faribault had the largest number of on-site meetings with inmates (184 and 164, respectively).
- Lino Lakes and St. Cloud saw significant percentage increases in on-site meetings with inmates (64.3% and 44.0%, respectively).

By the Numbers – LLSP in 2013

Ten Year Statistical Comparison 2003-2013				
LLSP Activities	2003	2008	2013	% Change, 2003 to 2013
Inmate Requests Processed	24,914	30,152	41,366	66.04%
On-Site Meetings with Inmates	1680	1145	1056	-37.14%
Individuals Assisted	1504	1891	2465	63.9%

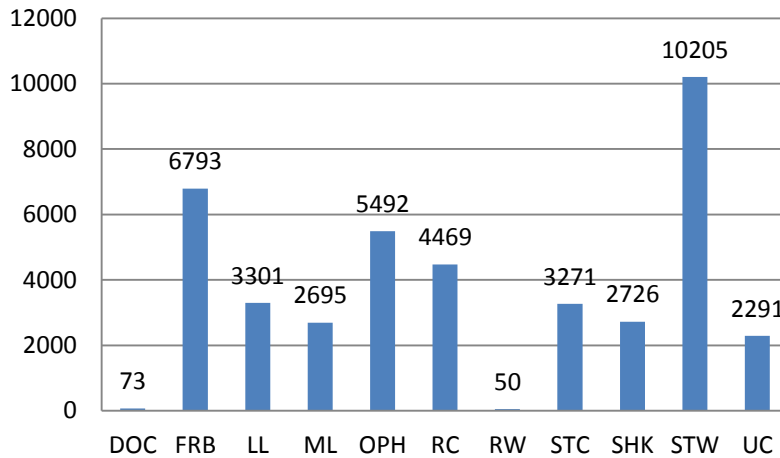
Two Year Statistical Comparison			
LLSP Activities	2012	2013	% Change
Inmate Requests Processed	33,822	41,366	22.3%
On-Site Meetings with Inmates	924	1056	14.3%
Individuals Assisted	2039	2465	20.9%

Inmate Requests Processed is the total number of items provided to prisoners.

On-Site Meetings with Inmates is the total number of in-person interviews with prisoners.

Individuals Assisted is the total number of inmates who were provided information in person, by telephone, or by mail.

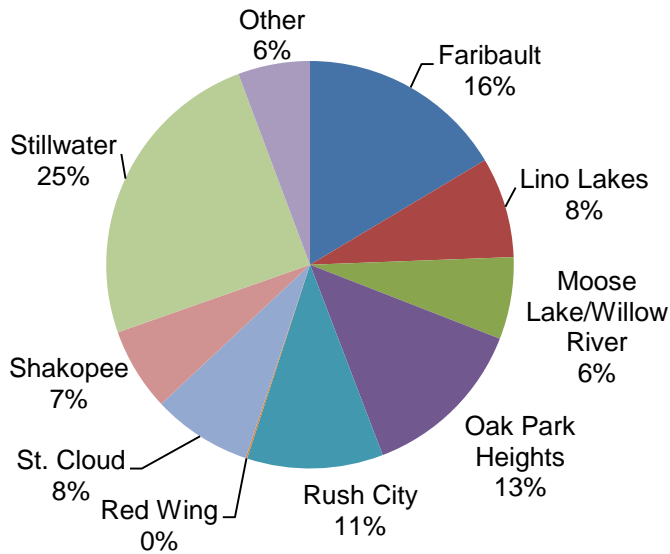
Requests Processed by Facility 2013



Abbreviations for correctional facilities used above:

FRB - Faribault, LL – Lino Lakes, ML – Moose Lake/Willow River, OPH – Oak Park Heights, RC – Rush City, RW – Red Wing, STC - St. Cloud, SHK – Shakopee, STW – Stillwater, UC/DOC – Minnesota Under Contract and Department of Corrections Staff

Total Inmate Requests by Facility 2013



New Programs and Services

Continuing Legal Education Programs

In January the State Law Library hosted its first free CLE program at the Minnesota Judicial Center. Overall, the library hosted seven CLE programs in 2013. The programs offered attendees four standard credits, one ethics credit, one professional development credit, and two elimination of bias credits, free of charge. Topics included the Sovereignty Movement in Minnesota; Chronic Stress, Mental Health and Addiction; Innocence Project of Minnesota — Recent Cases; Working with Transgender Individuals in the Court System; A Minnesota Judge at Nuremberg; Protecting Victims' Records and Confidentiality in the Digital Age; and Minnesota Beer and Wine Law.

In addition, during the year the State Law Librarian presented 5 continuing legal education programs on the topic of legal research.

Lawyers without Rights Exhibit & Nuremberg Program

During the week of November 5-8, the State Law Library hosted a traveling display entitled “Lawyers without Rights: Jewish Lawyers in Germany Under the Third Reich”. The exhibition was presented by the German Federal Bar, in cooperation with the American Bar Association and its Section of International Law. The exhibition's visit to Minnesota was hosted by the Minnesota Federal District Court, the Minnesota Federal Bar Association, and the Minnesota Supreme Court. 186 people visited this exhibit at the State Law Library.

In addition, on November 5th a luncheon CLE entitled “A Minnesota Judge at Nuremberg” was presented. Several Minnesota lawyers played key roles in the Nuremberg Trials that took place after World War II. Among those Minnesotans was Justice William Christianson. Justice Christianson was appointed to the Nuremberg tribunal after losing a 1946 bid for election to the Minnesota Supreme Court. Justice Christianson served at Nuremberg from 1947 to 1949 and presided over trials of several Nazi war criminals.

Retired Justice Paul Anderson presented the program and Justice David Stras acted as moderator. Justice Christianson's son also participated in the presentation and shared recollections of his family's time in Nuremberg. The CLE was sponsored by the Minnesota State Law Library, the Minnesota State Bar Association, the Hennepin County Bar Association, and the Ramsey County Bar Association.

In conjunction with the exhibit, the Library created two display cabinets focusing on Minnesota's participation in the Nuremberg Trials, as well as the trials themselves. The displays included items from the library's Special Collection Room that highlighted the various trials.

Unemployment Appeal Legal Advice Clinic

In April, the Minnesota State Law Library and the Labor and Employment Section of the Minnesota State Bar Association started a free clinic for people contemplating an appeal to the

Minnesota Court of Appeals from a denial of unemployment benefits. The clinic is staffed by volunteer attorneys, law library staff, and law students. The clinic meets twice per month; once via phone and once at the State Law Library.

In 2013, the clinic assisted 35 people. Of those people, 23 (66%) did not appeal after receiving assistance. The clinic helped 16 people in person and 19 by telephone. One person was provided full representation, on a pro bono basis.

While most of the clinic's clients lived in the seven-county metropolitan area, the clinic also assisted residents of Cass, Fillmore, McLeod, Olmsted, Pine, Sherburne, and Stearns Counties.

Girl from Birch Creek

On August 20, the library hosted a screening of the new documentary on Justice Rosalie Wahl. *Girl from Birch Creek* tells the story of Justice Wahl, who was the first woman to serve on the Minnesota Supreme Court. The filmmaker attended and answered questions afterwards.

Live Chat Collaboration

In May the State Law Library partnered with Legal Services State Support to provide chat assistance to users of the LawHelpMN.org website. This collaboration has been so successful that reference staff has increased the weekly hours commitment from six to nine in 2014 and have also initiated quarterly training opportunities between the two organizations.

Outreach to Public Libraries

In April, the State Law Librarian met with the Council of Regional Public Library System Administrators to inform them of the services the State Law Library can offer, such as reference help for their librarians and patrons and classes for the public or library staff on legal research topics.

In September the State Law Librarian traveled to Mt. Iron and met with librarians from the Arrowhead Regional Library System to discuss State Law Library services to public libraries. The Arrowhead Region includes libraries from Carlton, Koochiching, St. Louis, Itasca, Cook, Lake of the Woods, and Lake Counties. It was a valuable opportunity to promote the State Law Library to an area of the state that has limited access to legal information and services.

The State Law Library is an active participant in the [Capitol Area Library Consortium](#) (CALCO). The State Law Librarian regularly attends the group's meetings. In addition, in May the library participated in an open house at the [MN-DOT Library](#) by hosting an information table. This provided an opportunity for the law library to promote its services and collection to MN-DOT staff.

The library is also active in [MnPALS](#), a consortium of Minnesota private college and university libraries, state government libraries, public libraries, school libraries, and special libraries. In 2013, the Catalog Librarian presented two programs on a new system of cataloging library materials called "RDA" at statewide MnPALS conferences.

Additional Ongoing Outreach Activities

State Law Library Information Sent to New MJB Employees in 2013

A PowerPoint presentation was sent to 332 new judicial branch employees throughout the state. The presentation provides an overview of Minnesota State Law Library services. We also sent information about current awareness services to new judicial employees.

Everybody Wins

The Head of Outreach Services coordinated an ongoing read-aloud program in which adult volunteers are paired with students at Benjamin E. Mays Elementary School during a weekly reading session. The reading program runs from October through early April. Most of the readers are judicial employees, although some are from other agencies. During the 2012–2013 school year, 75 adults read to 46 first-grade students. During the 2013–2014 school year, 77 adults read to 57 second-grade students.

Feedback on Our Services

The State Law Library strives to provide excellent service to its users. Below is a sampling of some of the messages we received in 2013.

“Thank you very much! For some reason, I was never exposed to Pirsig's works and never seem to think of them on my own. As always, it is a great pleasure dealing with the Library.” ~Attorney

“Thanks; what you left is exactly what I needed. I appreciate the quick response.”
~Appellate Court Judge

“I greatly appreciate [the librarians'] help, which has been invaluable to the project Nebraska Court of Appeal Judge and I have undertaken to chronicle the creation and evolution of the Council of Chief Judges of the State Courts of Appeal.” ~ Retired Judge, California Court of Appeal

“You have no idea how much you have helped us. Thank you!” ~member of the public

“The library exceeded my wildest expectations.” ~Appellate Court Judge

“This is a wonderful [current awareness] service and a great opportunity to step back and take a long view.” ~District Court Referee

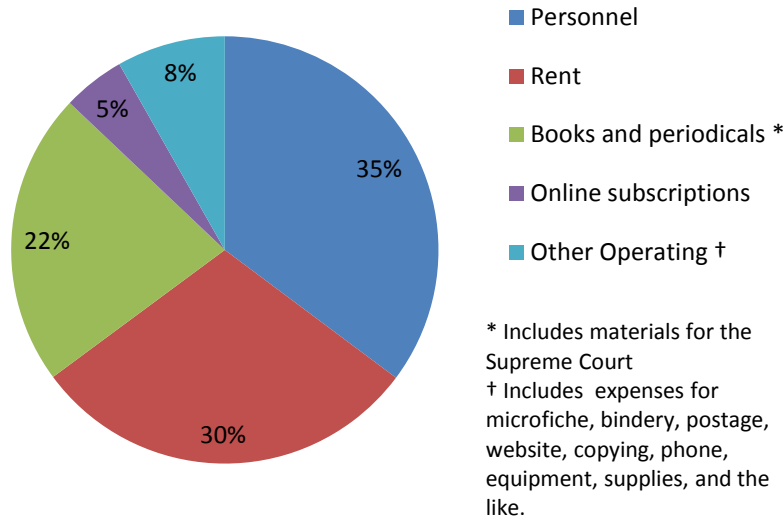
“Thank you. This is a really great resource that is very much appreciated!” ~State Court Administration staff

“[District Court judge] was so pleased with the ease and speed of his previous material request, so thank you. As you know, research inspires more research. No surprise that the last article inspired a new article request.” ~District Court Law Clerk

“Thank you for bringing these [CLE] opportunities to us here at the MJC. It is so nice to have these opportunities made so convenient.” ~State Court Administration staff

Budget Summary

Budget Allocations \$1,883,192 in expenditures



Staff Changes and Milestones

- Bill Erlandson celebrated 25 years of service.
- Anna Cherry, reference librarian and webmaster, retired after almost 11 years with the State Law Library.
- Mara Wiggins, Circuit Riding Law Librarian, resigned to accept another position.
- Danielle Becker was hired as the Electronic Services Librarian.
- Clara Lowther, who started as an intern, was hired as a reference librarian.
- Melissa Terrien, who had been hired as a temporary employee, became a permanent member of the Technical Services staff.
- In 2013, the library was assisted by long term volunteer Joan O. and intern Molly McGilp.
- Valuable service to the new unemployment appeals clinic was provided by law students Nicole Faulkner (William Mitchell), Lisa Hui-Peterson (Hamline), and Amanda Sicoli (William Mitchell).