

# Prince George's County Circuit Court Law Library

## COVID-19 Response

During the COVID-19 pandemic the Library partnered with LexisNexis and Westlaw to continue the flow of service as expected by our customers by providing temporary remote access to legal research databases from both companies. Other remote services included continuing reference service by email with an Ask a Librarian program, which is being marketed on Instagram in both English and Spanish, and enhancing the Library's website pages with an expanded list of self-help resources and newly created reference guides on several commonly asked about legal topics.

## New Projects:

### ***Court Forms Video Tutorial***

The Circuit Court's Law Library provides a step-by-step visual guide for self-represented litigants on how to find various types of official Court forms that are available on the Maryland Judiciary website. Users are guided on how to find family law forms for the Circuit Court using the Court Forms Finder and how to use filters to find forms related to other types of cases. Links to legal self-help websites are also highlighted.  
[https://youtu.be/IQ\\_iR3bGGOY](https://youtu.be/IQ_iR3bGGOY).



## ***Searching Maryland Rules Video Tutorial***

This tutorial video provides a step-by-step guide for self-represented litigants on how to search for Maryland Rules using the free Maryland Code and Court Rules website hosted by Thomson Reuters:

<https://govt.westlaw.com/mdc/Index>.

Users are shown how to navigate to and browse through the rules, as well as how to use the search function. There are also tips for how to create strong search terms and using some of the tools available on the website that make navigation easier.

<https://youtu.be/m60sM5CDHEE>.

## **Mission**

**Prince George's County Circuit Court Law Library provides legal information and information services to Judges and attorneys, state and county employees, and self-represented litigants who reside or practice in Prince George's County, Maryland.**

## Court and Community Outreach

- In FY20, the Law Library continued **The Judiciary Project: A Courthouse Experience**. The program provides students in grades 9 – 12 with an authentic opportunity to learn about the justice system by observing real cases and court procedures. Students also receive an overview of the Department of Juvenile Services and engage in a question and answer session with a Circuit Court for Prince George's County judge.

**The program hosted four different organizations with 120 participants for FY20** and included a defense attorney and State's Attorney Office Teen Court coordinator as guest speakers.

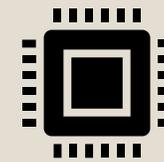
- The Library staff also **coordinated Courthouse tours** with the County's Office of Human Resource Management, the Clerk of the Circuit Court, and the Prince George's County Family Justice Center.
- Two **Westlaw training sessions** led by Law Library staff were offered to employees with Westlaw accounts to assist them in using Westlaw to perform their duties more efficiently.
- Law Library outreach to new and established attorneys includes regular announcements in the **Prince George's County Bar Association's monthly newsletter**.
- A Librarian led a presentation on free legal research resources at the **Law Library Association of Maryland's Legal Research Institute** that public and other librarians can use with confidence.
- Library staff attended **Conference of Maryland Court Law Library Directors, Prince George's County Circuit Court Directors, Law Library Association of Maryland** and **Citizens for Maryland Libraries meetings**, as well as professional associations events and training sessions and served as **board members**.



21,000  
Visitors



3,000  
Questions



3,000  
Computer  
Logins



2,100  
Photocopies



## Library Databases

- Westlaw
- Lexis
- HeinOnline
- VerdictSearch
- Support Alimony Calculator
- National Consumer Law Center Digital Library
- SASI-CALC

## Library Staff

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Vickie Yiannoulou,  
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## Contact Information

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