

2012

“My first year as Law Librarian saw many initiatives set in motion. It was a milestone year that demonstrated the strengths of the Law Library. I look forward to building on these accomplishments in the coming year.”

180 Years of Service

THE LAW LIBRARY CELEBRATED A MILESTONE OF SERVICE TO CONGRESS IN 2012

As I reach the end of year one as Law Librarian of Congress, I am delighted to present you with a snapshot of the Law Library’s successes in 2012.

From our physical collections to our digital assets, from our onsite services to our virtual services, and from our partnerships with national associations to our collaborations with international

organizations, the Law Library has worked on making its presence known on Capitol Hill and in all corners of the world.

I look forward to building on this past year’s accomplishments and continuing our collaborations in 2013. Best wishes to all for a new year filled with good health, fortune, and cheer.

— David S. Mao,
Law Librarian of Congress

This year, the Law Library focused on continuing its high-quality service to Congress, which was apparent in the 4,210 inquiries answered for Members of Congress and the 305 legal research reports, special studies, and memoranda created for Congress. The Law Library’s staff also offered professional services to executive branch agencies, the judiciary, law practitioners and researchers, students, scholars, foreign government officials and the diplomatic corps, the American business community, journalists, and citizens around the world.

Planning continued for the redesign of the Law Library Reading Room. The Public Services Division worked with the architecture and design firm to develop designs for the new space and detailed construction documents. The planning phase is progressing on schedule, and we hope to begin the physical renovation next year.

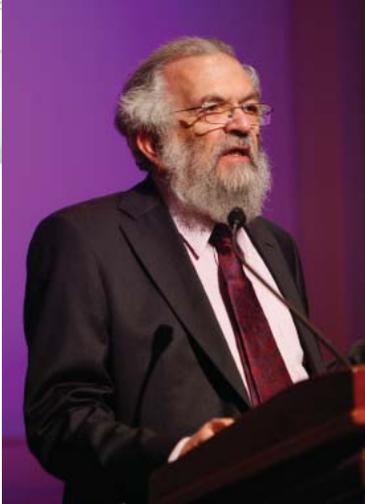
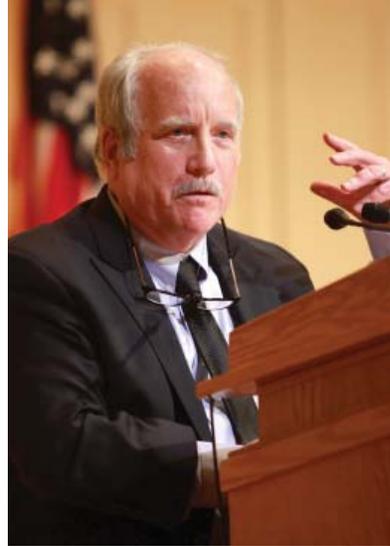
Developing, circulating, managing, and preserving a collection of over 2.84 million volumes remained a strong focus of the Law Library in fiscal 2012. During the year, a total of 18,134 titles, representing 32,650 volumes, were classified under the Library of Congress Classification system, making them more accessible to Congress and the world. All volumes were inventoried, relabeled, and reshelfed under the new call numbers. The Law Library completed its project of sending United States Court of Appeals Records and Briefs to the special collections modules at Fort Meade. A total of 7,470 boxes of records and briefs, containing 329,054 records and briefs from ten circuits were sent.



H I G H L I G H T S

FOR FISCAL 2012

- Invited renowned scholar, Professor Joseph Raz, who delivered the second Frederic R. and Molly S. Kellogg Biennial Lecture in Jurisprudence.
- Released the Congressional Record app that allows a user to read the daily edition of the *Congressional Record* on an iPad.
- Hosted the Association of American Law Schools for an all-day professional development event.
- Held the annual Law Day event, with Richard Dreyfuss as keynote speaker.
- Sponsored 10 Law Library staff to present at the American Association of Law Libraries meeting in Boston.
- Presented CLE programs at American Bar Association meetings in New Orleans and Chicago.
- Celebrated the 180th anniversary of the Law Library.
- Launched Congress.gov, the legislative information system to replace THOMAS.
- Welcomed well-known journalist, Dahlia Lithwick, who gave the Constitution Day presentation, "Supreme Court Review: Election-Year Issues and Highlights of the Last Term."
- Participated in the Library of Congress National Book Festival.



WEBSITE and SOCIAL MEDIA

5 Stars in iTunes ratings for the Congressional Record app

12,630 Followers on @THOMASdotgov Twitter account

15,782 Email subscribers to the Global Legal Monitor

29,076 Followers on @LawLibCongress Twitter

184,161 Page views for *In Custodia Legis* blog

9,473 "Likes" on Facebook

64.5 Million visits to THOMAS

COLLECTIONS

2.84 Million volumes in the Law Library

7,470 Boxes of books sent to Fort Meade

32,650 Volumes reclassified from in-house system to the Library of Congress classification system

210,000 Laws, judicial decisions, and related legal materials in the GLIN database

PRODUCTS and SERVICES

305 Legal research reports, special studies, and memoranda created for Congress

520 Articles written for the Global Legal Monitor

4,210 Congressional inquiries answered

1,298 Reports, legal opinions, and memoranda provided to other government agencies

1,131 Hours the Law Library Reading Room was open for congressional staff

3,613 Inquiries answered through "Ask a Librarian"

20,999 Items from the Law Library's collection circulated

39,646 Users served in person, by phone, by correspondence, or electronically