

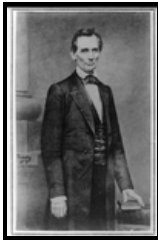
OBITER DICTUM

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LIBRARY HOURS

The library will remain open from 7:00 A.M. to midnight on Presidents' Day, Monday, February 21.

For details, check the Legal Research Center web site at <http://www.sandiego.edu/lrc/about/hours.php>.



NOTE: The photograph on the left was taken by famed photographer Matthew Brady on February 27, 1860, just before presidential candidate Abraham Lincoln delivered a speech at Cooper Union in New York City. The image is available in the archive of the "Today in History" section of the Library of Congress's American Memory project at <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/today/archive.html>.

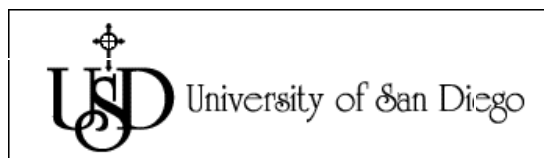
ANOTHER PRESIDENTIAL "BIRTHDAY"

Ten years ago last month at the beginning of the 104th Congress, the Library of Congress (LoC) launched the Web site THOMAS to make federal legislative information freely available to the Internet public. The site is named after President Thomas Jefferson, as is the LoC building, to honor Jefferson's spirit of inquiry as well as his donation of his personal collection of books to replace the original library materials, which were destroyed by the British when they set fire to the original Capitol building in 1814.



Researchers of legislative history and current legislation have come to rely on THOMAS for free access to federal bill text and status reports, public laws, the Congressional Record, committee reports, calendars, and more. With the opening of the 109th Congress, search enhancements have been developed to improve search efficiency and success. THOMAS users now can search the text of legislation across multiple sessions, from the 101st Congress (1989) to the present. All or any combination of congresses can be selected to be searched simultaneously. Word searches can be limited to 1) legislation with floor action or legislation that has been enrolled and sent to the president, and 2) just House or just Senate legislation.

The newsletter section of OBITER DICTUM may be found at <http://www.sandiego.edu/lrc/catalogs/news.php>



**"BIRTHDAY"
(cont.)**



Thomas Jefferson
Building of the Library
of Congress

Search results are sorted in relevance order, with the bills from different congresses intermixed. Different versions of the same bill are scattered in the results. Because different versions can have slightly or dramatically different text, they can show up anywhere in the relevance-ordered results. When the user selects one bill to display, an "Other Versions" link will appear at the top of the screen if other versions exist. Users should check the other versions to be sure they have the most recent or most relevant text for their needs. Searchers using the full text search, whether for a single congress or for several, should do a little further research in the Bill Summary and Status file, *Congressional Record*, and other sources to confirm that they have the right bill[s] and the right version[s].

The search screens for the *Congressional Record* and the biweekly *Congressional Record* Index have also been redesigned. Two *Congressional Record* links from the main THOMAS page—"Browse by Date or Keyword" and "Search Congressional Record"—both now lead to a page that combines access to the Index, an issue browse feature, and full text searching. From Peggy Garvin, *THOMAS: New Congress, A Few Changes*, The Government Domain (January 17, 2005) at <http://www.llrx.com/columns/govdomain1.htm#1>.

**PRACTICING
TO AVOID
SCANDAL**



Recent high profile corporate scandals have widened the spotlight on tales of insider trader and market manipulation to also expose financial reporting and accounting abuses. Even in companies not suspected of wrongdoing, the tough enforcement mechanisms of the Sarbanes Oxley Act of 2002 have affected the ordinary course of business and expanded the scope of legal practice and inquiry in corporate law fields.

New practice materials on the topic in the LRC collection include CONTINUING EDUCATION OF THE BAR, PROTECTING CORPORATE OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS IN A POST-SARBANES-OXLEY WORLD/KFC345 .Z9 P76 2004, and COLLEEN P. MAHONEY ET AL., THE SEC ENFORCEMENT PROCESS: PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE IN HANDLING AN SEC INVESTIGATION AFTER SARBANES-OXLEY/KF1397 .C654 no. 77-2nd, from BNA's Corporate Practice Series. Two multi-volume practice sets that incorporate recent developments are Part II of KATHLEEN F. BRICKEY, CORPORATE CRIMINAL LIABILITY: A TREATISE ON THE CRIMINAL LIABILITY OF CORPORATIONS, THEIR OFFICERS AND AGENTS/KF9236.5 B74 1984 and the looseleaf WILLIAM E. KNEPPER & DAN A. BAILEY, LIABILITY OF CORPORATE OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS/KF1423 .K682 2002. CCH puts out the handy JAMES HAMILTON & TED TRAUTMANN, SARBANES-OXLEY MANUAL: A HANDBOOK FOR THE ACT AND SEC RULES/KF1423 A315 C65 2003.

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