



# OBITER DICTUM

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## LIBRARY HOURS

The library will be open from 7:00 A.M. until midnight on Presidents Day, Monday, February 20.



Happy  
Chinese  
New  
Year

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

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## CIRCUIT CHANGE



Libraries lending books to patrons of other libraries via the San Diego Circuit place a paper band around the cover of the borrowed book. Information on the band identifies the lending library, the borrower, and the due date. UCSD has stopped attaching bands to the books they send to other San Diego Circuit libraries. After a trial period, they will review this new practice to see if things are working smoothly.

In place of the lavender bands, LRC Circuit patrons borrowing books from UCSD will receive an orange bookmark just like the one the LRC places in each Circuit book you check out now. We have revised the bookmark to add the patron's name and the due date at the top. USD, SDSU, and San Marcos will still band the books they lend via the Circuit. Please remember to keep track of all Circuit due dates to avoid paying fines. *Submitted by Ruth Hastings, Head of Circulation.*

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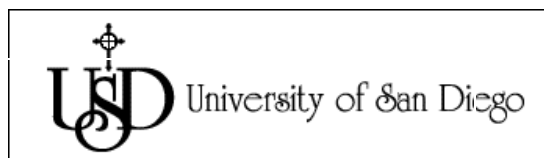
## LAVENDER LAW



John Adkins, LRC Head of Public Services and advisor to Pride Law, USD law school's organization for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) students, represented the school at the 2005 Lavender Law conference in San Diego. The annual event, hosted by the National Lesbian and Gay Law Association (NLGLA), provides a forum for gay and lesbian lawyers, judges, professors, law students, and members of the legal community to learn about emerging same-sex legal issues. Conference workshop topics included same-sex domestic violence, the status of same-sex marriage in California, and the so-called "gay panic" defense to murder. Current and emerging issues in LGBT family law were stressed, with particular emphasis on interstate recognition of same-sex

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**LAVENDER LAW  
(cont.)**



families, including securing rights and interests in relationships, parentage and adoption of children, and estate planning for domestic partners.

Thomson/West had a vendor booth touting its latest version of Achtenberg and Moulding's *SEXUAL ORIENTATION AND THE LAW* (KF4754.5 .S49 2004). Viewing this and similar products brought home the important interplay between librarians and lawyers. By doing a good job in our roles assisting practitioners and future practitioners, we enhance their ability to represent clients in the best way possible. *Submitted by John Adkins, Head of Public Services.*

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**JUDICIAL  
ACTIVISM IN  
THE GREATEST  
GENERATION?**



February 27 marks the 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of one the greatest figures to serve on the U.S. Supreme Court, Justice Hugo LaFayette Black. In *JUSTICE HUGO BLACK AND THE FIRST AMENDMENT*/KF4774 .A75 J8 1978, published 7 years after Black's 1971 death, journalism professors Everette Dennis and Donald Gillmor wrote:

To some he was essentially a political populist who distrusted power. To others he was an uncompromising absolutist whose pronouncements were rigid and unbending. He could be profoundly sensitive to human rights on the one hand and incredibly petty in his interpersonal relations on the other. And it was said by some that he loved freedom more in the abstract than in its day-to-day applications. [But] ... almost everyone is certain about one thing: Hugo Black was a fierce champion of the First Amendment (p. 3).

Biographies of Justice Black are among the most entertaining in the LRC. A sampling includes:

HOWARD BALL, *HUGO L. BLACK: COLD STEEL WARRIOR*/KF8745 .B55 B298 1996

MR. JUSTICE AND MRS. BLACK: *THE MEMOIRS OF HUGO L. BLACK AND ELIZABETH BLACK* (with foreword by Justice William J. Brennan, Jr.)/KF8745 .B55 A35 1986

ROGER K. NEWMAN, *HUGO BLACK: A BIOGRAPHY*/KF8745 .B55 N49 1997

STEVE SUITTS, *HUGO BLACK OF ALABAMA: HOW HIS ROOTS AND EARLY CAREER SHAPED THE GREAT CHAMPION OF THE CONSTITUTION*/KF8745 .B55 S85 2005

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**WARRANTLESS  
EAVES-  
DROPPING**



The Government Printing Office has posted the Department of Justice whitepaper on the issue of National Security Agency intercepts, entitled *LEGAL AUTHORITIES SUPPORTING THE ACTIVITIES OF THE NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY DESCRIBED BY THE PRESIDENT*, onto its Web site, GPO Access, at <http://purl.access.gpo.gov/GPO/lps66493>.

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