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"What is a Law Librarian?" brochure draft

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TYPES OF LAW LIBRARIANS

PRIVATE LAW LIBRARIANS: Private law librarians are employed in law firms of all sizes in towns and cities throughout the country. They also manage the law libraries of corporate legal departments and government agencies.

GOVERNMENT LAW LIBRARIANS: These librarians serve the legal information needs of the judiciary. They are found in the large urban federal court library to the isolated rural county law library.

ACADEMIC LAW LIBRARIANS: Academic law librarians instruct law students in the effective use of print and online research tools. They work closely with law school professors to provide research support. They also serve members of the university community, the practicing bar and the general public.
A Law Librarian

A law librarian is a skilled information specialist who works in public and academic libraries, law firms, corporations, government agencies, court libraries and as independent consultants. They help judges, attorneys, professors, students, and members of the public find information on legal issues.

What does a Law Librarian do?

A Law Librarian performs various duties relating to the organization and distribution of legal information. These duties include:

- specialized reference and research services
- teaching legal research and materials use
- online database searching and training
- evaluating and collecting legal materials
- promoting resource sharing among libraries
- designing and maintaining circulation systems
- preparing fiscal reports, budgets and long range plans

Qualifications of a Law Librarian

Most employers require a Master's degree in Library Science or Information Services for a professional position. A law degree is required for some positions especially in law schools. Computer skills and an interest in law are desirable.

Paraprofessional positions are available for people with bachelor degrees with management experience and library science coursework.

For more information about the law librarian profession, contact the American Association of Law Libraries at 312-939-4764.