

LLSDC Annual Report 2025-2026

2025-2026 LLSDC Executive Board

Justine Morgan, President; Andrew Martin, Vice President; Brandi Osborne, Corresponding Secretary; Karen Stephanites, Recording Secretary; Aaron Murphy, Treasurer; Ryan Jones, Assistant Treasurer; Keith Gabel, Membership Secretary; Sue Ann Orsini, Board Member; Mary Kate Hunter, Board Member; Chris Moua, Immediate Past President

Programs & Publications

The board organized or sponsored several programs and publications for the society's members and guests. Some of the programs included opening and closing ceremonies, the holiday party, the Sandy Peterson Memorial Lecture featuring Elonka Dunin, a cryptographer who discussed the background, history and code behind the CIA's Kryptos sculpture. In addition, we sponsored Jenny Silbiger in a virtual town hall session and an early career professionals meet and greet.

Special Interest Sections

PLLIP SIS: The PLLIP SIS met and discussed corporate research.

Legislative SIS: The Legislative SIS hosted a session on the United States Code at 100 given by Shawn Nevers. This year marks the centennial of the United States Code. To properly understand the Code as it is in 2026, it's important to understand how it came to be in 1926. In this presentation, Shawn Nevers, director of the BYU Law Library, shared the history of the creation of the United States Code as discovered in archival and congressional sources—a history that has not fully been told. This history helps explain many features of our current code, including positive and non-positive law titles, statutory notes, and the 50 (now 54) title structure. It is also instructive in the benefits and drawbacks of private-public partnerships in legal publishing. Finally, this presentation addressed how the current code fulfills the goals of its creators and where it falls short.

The Legislative SIS also hosted a virtual roundtable with Brian Lindsey, "An Inside Look at the U.S. Code." Brian Lindsey has worked as a U.S. Code editor with the Office of the Law Revision Counsel in the United States House of Representatives since January of 2006 and was appointed Law Revision Counsel in October of last year. Brian gave an overview presentation providing an inside look at the maintenance and publication of the U.S. Code, the official codification of general and permanent Federal statutory law. Attendees learned about the Office and how it updates the U.S. Code to incorporate new laws enacted by Congress. Historical background was provided to explain why the U.S. Code looks as it does today. The session also explored features of the U.S. Code website and how notes added by Code editors can give important context to the statutory text beyond what is printed.

Legal Research Institutes

We were thrilled to continue the Legal Research Institutes, which are split up into various Zoom sessions across two weeks. These sessions covered:

- LRI Statutes – April 14th
- LRI Legislative History – April 15th
- LRI Cost Effective Research – April 16th
- LRI Cases – April 21st
- LRI Administrative Law – April 22nd
- LRI Secondary Sources – April 23rd

Other Initiatives

LLSDC Law Library Lights: LLSDC Law Library Lights was revived and an issue was produced in January by Sharon Beth Bronheim and Sabrina Zator.

Submitted by Justine Morgan, LLSDC President (2025-2026)