

CLOCK TOWER QUARTERLY

Vol. 1

In This Issue

- Virtual Court Kiosk p. 2
- Law Library History pgs. 3 & 4
- Legal Aid Information p.5
- Dell DeHay Law Library Resources p. 6



Community Events and Legal Workshops

The Dell DeHay Law Library will have community events and legal workshops occurring throughout the year.

Visit our website for regular updates and announcements: <https://www.tarrantcountytx.gov/en/law-library/about-the-law-library/law-library-events.html>

Dell DeHay Law Library Contact Information

Hours:

Monday- Friday
8am-4pm

Note: Computers will automatically log off at 4pm.

Phone Number:

817-884-1481

Email:

lawlibrary@tarrantcountytx.gov

100 W. Weatherford, Room 420
Fort Worth, TX 76196



Dell DeHay Law Library Staff celebrating National Library Week in April.

Virtual Court Kiosk

Dell DeHay Law Library now partners with Texas Legal Services Center to provide support for virtual court hearings. The Virtual Court Kiosk is located in the Conference Room and available **Monday-Friday, 8:30am-3:30pm**. Call us at **817-884-1481 for a reservation**. Walk-ins are also accepted based on time slot availability.

Additional Information

- The Virtual Court Kiosk is provided free of charge to the public.
- Computer, headphones, camera, scanner and microphone provided.
- Texas Law Help provides guides for virtual court at <https://texaslawhelp.org/virtual-court>.
- Texas Legal Services Center (TLSC) website has additional information and for income based legal aid at <https://www.tlsc.org/help>.





Who Was Dell DeHay?

Dell DeHay served as the Tarrant County Law Librarian from 1962-1979. She was the third librarian to serve since the official opening on October 1, 1945. DeHay was an active member of the American Association of Law Libraries (AALL) and the Southwestern Association of Law Libraries (SWALL), serving as its Secretary-Treasurer for 9 years, 1967-1976.

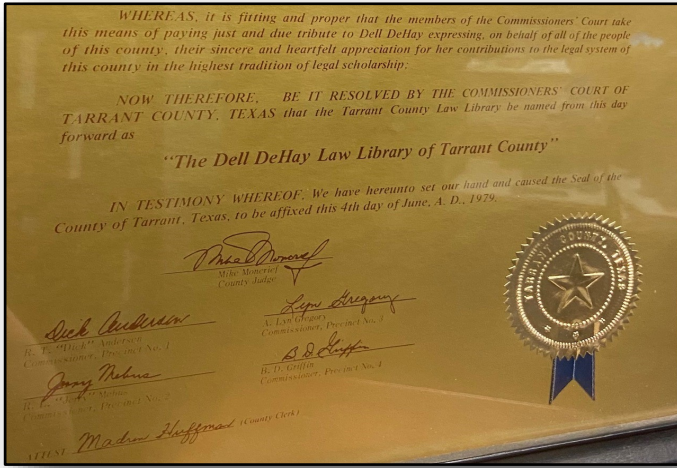
DeHay was born Alma Adelpia Markward on October 26, 1918 in Miami, Arizona. The family moved to Fort Worth shortly after her arrival, where her father became well known in the community as the Vice President of Fort Worth National Bank. DeHay, only 12 years old at the time, tragically lost her mother due to an inoperable brain tumor.

DeHay graduated from Polytechnic High School and attended Texas Wesleyan College, earning a degree in English that would be the foundation for her law librarian career.

She married Larry DeHay, a jeweler, upon graduation. Their family resided in Corpus Christi for several years, and DeHay began raising their two children (see image below).



The family moved to Fort Worth, and DeHay began her career as a Tarrant County Law Librarian in 1962. She worked primarily alone, and attended school in the evenings for her MLS degree at North Texas State University, now officially named University of North Texas. DeHay was a strong student and selected for membership in the Honor Society.



DeHay was diagnosed with cancer in 1975 and hired a part time assistant, Frances Perry. In 1977, a consultant hired by the Law Library Committee for purposes of evaluation credited her with building one of the top law libraries in the state.

DeHay was forced into early retirement due to her health and passed away six weeks later on June 12th, 1979. Eight days before her passing, the Tarrant County Law Library was renamed in her honor by the Tarrant County Court Commissioners Court (see image above). Perry would officially become the fourth Law Librarian in December 1979.

Perry wrote a memorial for the Texas Law Journal in 1980 commending DeHay as “gracious and kind, with a genius for being helpful. At the same time she possessed a drive and determination surprising in one of her good nature and petite stature...we who knew her will carry her image in our hearts and her influence in our lives.”

EARLY TIMELINE OF DELL DEHAY LAW LIBRARY

1944

- November 20, 1944 – Commissioners' Court passed resolution creating Tarrant County Law Library
- December 1, 1944 – Effective date of Commissioners' Court resolution
- Homa S. Hill, referred to by some as the "Father of the Law Library," became the first Chairman of the Library Committee

1945

- May 17, 1945 – George W. Steere chosen as the first Law Librarian
- July 1945 – Law Library's Rules and Regulations adopted by Commissioners' Court
- October 1, 1945 – Library officially opened to the public (located in 1895 Courthouse)

1948

- George W. Steere passed away
- Gueneth A. Babcock became the second Law Librarian

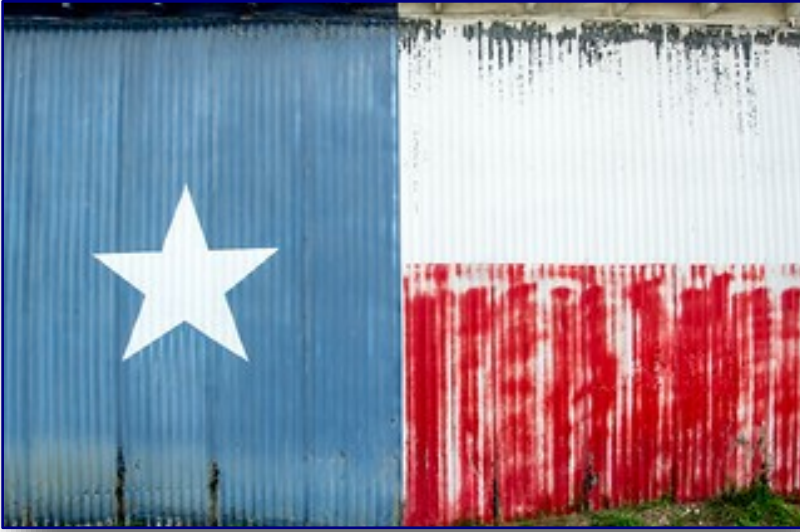
1958

- Law Library and Court of Appeals moved to second floor of old Civil Courts Building

1962

- Temporary, acting librarian, Alice Heaton, took over duties in the Law Library during Babcock's illness
- Gueneth A. Babcock passed away
- Dell DeHay became the third librarian and the first professional Law Librarian to serve at Tarrant County Law Library

Visit <https://www.tarrantcountytexas.gov/content/main/en/law-library/about-the-law-library/library-history.html> to learn more.



Texas Legal Aid

- **Legal Aid of Northwest Texas** (LANWT) is income based legal aid for residents of Northwest Texas. Visit www.lanwt.org to **apply online**. Application form is available in English and Spanish. Call **817-336-3943** to **apply if you are involved in a family law case, domestic violence situation, have a legal deadline and/or have been served a lawsuit.**
- **Tarrant County Bar Association** provides an attorney referral service. Call **817-336-4101**. The attorneys in this referral program have agreed to 30 minute consultations for \$20.00. You're not obligated to retain the attorney after the initial meeting.
- **Texas Lawyer's for Texas Veterans** provides legal aid for veterans. Visit the TLTV Tarrant County website at <https://txltvx.org>.
- **Texas Lawyers Legal Aid** is an informational blog written by Texas attorneys representing civil, family, accident, and immigration assistance. The blog includes articles, videos and contact information. Visit their website at www.texashealthandlife.com.

Online Legal Chat Options

- **Dell DeHay Law Library** provides a **24/7 automated chat** for legal questions. Web links are provided for information and forms. Visit <https://www.tarrantcountytexas.gov/en/law-library.html> for the automated chat.
- **Texas Law Help** provides a **live chat on Monday-Friday, 10am-4pm**, for legal assistance and/or website assistance. Visit <https://texaslawhelp.org/ask-a-question> for assistance.
- **Texas Free Legal Answers** is an **income based online chat**. Create an account, post a question, and you will receive an email when your answer is ready. Visit <https://texas.freelegalanswers.org> for more information.

Law Library Research Guides

Dell DeHay Law Library Research Guides are used for locating resources in the library or information online. Access the guides by visiting www.tarrantcountytexas.gov/content/main/en/law-library/research-guides.html.

Legal Forms

Dell DeHay Law Library provides fill-in-the-blank forms for some commonly requested forms. It is important to note that there are not fill-in-the-blank forms for every situation. Access the commonly requested forms page by visiting www.tarrantcountytexas.gov/en/law-library/forms.html.

New on the Shelf

- Courtroom Handbook on Texas Evidence KFT 1280 .T4
- The Handbook of Texas Family Law: a Quick Reference Guide to the Texas Family Code KFT 1280 .T492
- Handbook on Texas Discovery Practice: The New Rules Governing Discovery KFT 1280 .T4
- O'Connor's Federal Law Civil Forms KF 8836 . 0266
- O'Connor's Texas Causes of Action REF KFT 1733 .026
- O'Connor's Texas Forms Real Estate REF KFT 1326 .A65 0266



Did You Know?

Dell DeHay Law Library provides access to the following databases:

- Lexis
- Westlaw
- Hein Online
- Bloomberg Business

LexisNexis Digital Library (eBooks) are available with a free account. Signup at <https://www.tarrantcountytexas.gov/content/main/en/law-library/online-ebooks-registration.html>.