

ODL Legal Information Service Policy

One of our functions is to provide reference assistance to Oklahoma state residents and others concerning Oklahoma law. Although we cannot give legal advice, including interpreting legal materials, we can make suggestions about resources and research tools for customers to use.

The Oklahoma Department of Libraries does not provide any legal advice to any person and is not engaged in the practice of law. The information provided by staff and on the web site is not legal advice. The information is provided solely as a service to our users.

We make no claims, promises, or guarantees about the accuracy, completeness, or adequacy of any information found on our web site or through a link from the site, or from information found in our collection. Users should carefully review any information to determine its accuracy, relevance, timeliness, and completeness.

By using our collection or our web site and its links, the users acknowledge and agree that the Oklahoma Department of Libraries and its staff are not responsible for any errors or omissions nor for any damages resulting or alleged to result from use or application. If a user chooses a photocopy, download and/or use information, the user assumes full responsibility from any resulting loss or damage.

Information found in our collection or on the internet is no substitute for competent legal advice. We recommend that users consult a lawyer. If users do not have an attorney, we suggest that they use the Find a Lawyer feature of the Oklahoma Bar Association (www.okbar.org) to identify a lawyer or identify legal assistance options or contact the State Bar Association in their own state.

Because of the ethical and legal implications surrounding the unauthorized practice of law, ODL librarians may **NOT** engage in the following activities:

- Perform legal research;
- Answer a legal question;
- Advise any patron on the status of the law on a particular issue;
- Recommend a particular attorney;
- Explain legal procedure, court rules or jurisdiction; or
- Interpret the text of a statute, legal opinion, or administrative regulation

No one but duly admitted members of the bar may practice law. A lawyer is trained to prepare legal documents for clients, to explain the law, to advise on personal and business matters and to represent clients before courts and government agencies.