

Appendix II

Description of Legal Periodical Categories

Category 1: Scholarly Law Journals-General

Periodicals categorized here should have a title that suggests that the articles in them are fairly general in scope and suggest that they are academic or scholarly. In addition, they should be:

- critical
- analytical
- evaluative or
- thought-provoking

Legal journals differ from legal digests in that the latter are simply summaries or compilations of legal happenings or developments. Interdisciplinary journals that have a legal component should be categorized here, as should general journals with a geographic or university-based descriptor (Journal of Chinese Law; Review of Brazilian Law; Harvard Law Review, etc.). The descriptors field can be useful; it will usually designate these as periodicals, which should confirm the categorization based on the title. If the title indicates it is a journal and the descriptor column indicates that it is a legal periodical, then it should be categorized under Category 1 (or 2).

Category 2: Scholarly Law Journals-Specialized

Periodicals categorized here should have a title that suggests that the articles in them that meet the same criteria as Category 1 (critical, analytical, evaluative or thought-provoking). They are distinguished from Category 1 articles in that they are focused on a narrower set of *legal* topics. The titles of these journals may suggest foci such as:

- Criminal law
- Commercial law
- Tax law
- Healthcare law

Titles of journals with geographic or university-based descriptors that are specialized should be categorized here.

Category 3: Legal Digests-General

Periodicals categorized here should have a title that suggests that the articles in them are fairly general in scope but are simply summaries or compilations of legal happenings, reforms, or developments. The descriptors field can be confusing here because they will usually indicate that these are periodicals, but they will not always suggest that they are digests. The titles or descriptors are likely to include words such as:

- Compilations
- Digest
- Yearbook

- Bulletin
- Summary
- Law Reforms

Category 4: Legal Digests-Specialized

Periodicals categorized here should have a title that suggests that the articles in them are fairly specialized summaries or compilations of legal happenings or developments. The descriptors field can be confusing here because they will usually indicate that these are periodicals, but they will not always suggest that they are digests. The titles, however, are likely to include modifiers such as:

- Digest of Financial Law
- Yearbook of Criminal Law Reform
- Summary of Tax Laws
- Bulletin of Criminal Law
- Compilation of Legislative Actions (if author is not a government entity)

Category 5: Legal Practitioner Guides/Legal Magazines/Legal Newspapers

The periodicals to be categorized here differ from legal journals (Category 1&2) in that the articles in them generally do not contain abstract, analytic pieces. Rather, they are more likely to contain practical guides for those who work within the legal system. They may also be trade newspapers or publications that report concrete happenings that are targeted to actors in the legal system. In contrast to legal digests (Category 3&4), their focus is not solely targeted to the compilation or summary of legal developments. These periodicals are similar to legal digests but they go beyond them. The titles often contain terms that suggest that they are more general trade publications rather than simply tools to help legal actors keep on top of legal developments. These periodicals are more easily differentiated from those in categories 6-8 in that they are not official publications of the state.

Category 6: Published Statutes/Codes/Ordinances

The materials to be categorized here are simply published laws enacted by the legislature. Sometimes these are compilations of laws that also include decrees, edicts and orders. Where decrees, edicts and orders are published separately, they fall within Category 7.

Category 7: Published Decrees, Edicts, Orders

The materials to be categorized here are compilations of decrees, edicts and orders. Where decrees, edicts and orders are published in conjunction with law they fall within Category 6.

Category 8: Official Gazettes

The materials to be categorized here are the official government registries that are often called national gazettes.

Category 9: Judicial Decisions

Periodicals categorized here should have a title that suggests that they contain reports of court decisions or actions. The titles will often have words in the title such as: decisions, judgments, court reports, etc. The titles will also frequently contain the name of the court that the reports came from. Both of these are good indicators of the fact that a periodical should be placed under Category 5. The Descriptor will often contain terms such as law reports or law digests.

Category 10: Miscellaneous Government Proceedings, Ruling, Reports

This category includes a variety of government-published periodicals that relate to the products of *law-making bodies, budgetary and administrative processes*. This distinguishes them from government-published periodicals dealing with the products and actions of *judicial bodies and processes*, which should be categorized under Category 9. Included in Category 10 are the following:

- Reports or proceedings of law-making (legislative and executive) bodies, including administrative regulations (but not statutory laws or compilations thereof)
- Government issued safety regulations and procedural codes of administrative proceedings
- Colombia, Budget Project
- Budget Law for the economic year
- Fiscal Report

Category 11: User Handbooks for the Lay Person/ Consumer Guides

The periodicals to be categorized here are distinguished by the fact that they are “how to” guides targeted at consumers. They could be tax, divorce, will guides or something similar. Unless their title clearly indicates that they are targeted to citizens, they should not be categorized here.

Category 12: Legal Registries/Directories/Bibliographies

The periodicals to be categorized here are simply registries of legal actors or institutions. They would include listings of lawyers, judges, legislators, law schools, etc. – or indexes to legal periodicals. Bibliographies of periodicals are also included in this category.

Category 13: Irregular Reports

The materials to be categorized here are not periodicals but ad hoc proceedings, special reports and other irregular materials. This irregularity is especially important for distinguishing these reports from legal digest materials otherwise to be categorized in Categories 3 & 4.