

# Law Libraries & FDLP:

## Still a winning partnership

### PURPOSE:

To support law library participation in the Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP) by highlighting the benefits of the program, identifying changes to the program that will enable law libraries to continue to participate, and working to facilitate a broader role for law librarians in the national conversation on the FDLP.

### CHARGE:

The Task Force will:

Engage in outreach to law libraries highlighting the advantages of participation in the FDLP, including working with the Public Relations Committee to develop a public relations campaign about the FDLP in law libraries.

Encourage and facilitate law library involvement in the Government Printing Office's efforts to document the changing needs of the FDLP.

Identify common concerns using focus groups, surveys, or other techniques to develop specific suggestions for what law libraries need to stay in the program and communicate these needs to the Government Printing Office.

Raise awareness about the FDLP and its efforts at modernization and understand the program's benefits and drawbacks from the perspective of law libraries and law librarians.

Work with the AALL Government Relations Office to collaborate with other library groups (non law) to promote the value of the FDLP and engage in meaningful discussion about needed changes to the program in an effort to work as a larger community toward an improved FDLP that will be mutually beneficial for all libraries.

### WHY:

Making each other stronger

The Task Force sees a natural and mutually beneficial alliance between the government documents community and law librarians of all kinds.

Law librarians were strong advocates for digital authentication at the federal and state levels, before many other groups.

The FDLP is the main provider of many primary source government documents

As citizens, goals of government transparency and efficient use of tax dollars benefits us all.

Selected Resources Concerning Law Libraries and Librarians as Participants in the Federal Depository Program, including articles, webinars, Annual Meeting programs, presentations at Depository Library Council Meetings & Federal Depository Library Conferences and AALL Testimony on the FDLP (beginning with the 104th Congress, 1995-96).

A Brief History of the Relationship of Law Libraries and the American Association of Law Libraries with Federal Depository Library Program.

List of all the law librarians who have served on the Federal Depository Library Council through the years since its beginning in 1972.

Ongoing analysis of the data reports from the GPO Forecast Study

The AALL Government Relations Office continue to convey AALL's support for funding of the GPO in the annual appropriations process.

GD-SIS to write an article for for JURISDOCS that is directed at younger/newer gov docs librarians and coordinators in law libraries.

GD-SIS to write an article about the history of law libraries for the "Community Insights" section of the FDLP Connection.

GD-SIS to write an article for AALL Spectrum encouraging law libraries of all types to reconsider and renew their commitment to the service, networking, and advocacy aspects of depository status.



### Explore:

Finding our future in the history of the FDLP

The Task Force has compiled several new resources including, and suggests mining the GPO Forecast study data reports for new information.

### Promote:

Promoting government information

Promoting the use of government information by law libraries is an ongoing responsibility that can be shared by many hands.

**Engage:** Establish a precedent of annual meetings of the current AALL President with the Public Printer.

Connecting law libraries with other stakeholders in the government documents community

Work with ALL-SIS and TS-SIS to highlight participation in FDLP in the 200 law library depositories' collection development policies

The Task Force strives to connect with librarians outside of the government documents community, emphasize to stakeholders law librarians' interest in the documents programs, and create more community among law depositories.

Create a roster of law library depositories with name and contact information for the depository coordinator in the library. Establish a Law Library Depository (LL-DEP) e-group

Plan an educational program or session for the 2014 AALL Annual Meeting in San Antonio.

Work with other library organizations, including the American Library Association and its Council on Legislation FDLP Task Force and Government Documents Round Table (GODORT), and the leadership of the Depository Library Council.



### Improve:

Improving the FDLP through more law library participation.

GD-SIS to encourage participation in the GRO's Print Resources Usage Log, which is shared with the GPO, the Committee on House Administration, the Senate Rules Committee and the Joint Committee on Printing.

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/PrintResourceLog>



The Task Force has identified several groups to carry on its work to continue improving law libraries' work with government documents.

GD-SIS to continue work on inclusion of references to FDLP participation in core policies and procedures of law libraries, including model language.

The AALL Government Relations Office to monitor and publicize digitization projects on the FDLP Digital Projects Registry, particularly in the Legal and Regulatory category. Encourage more law libraries to undertake such projects.

<http://registry.fdpl.gov/listings/legal-regulatory>



The AALL Government Relations Office to support the preservation of print versions of primary legal resources, in partnership with the Legal Information Preservation Alliance (LIPA) and the PalmPrint project.

