

Westlaw Users Beware of Westlaw Next "Pay Trial"

A seemingly innocent ad that appears on regular Westlaw screens could prove very costly. The ads contain this message:

"Improve your research efficiency by 64% with WestlawNext. Your organization has access to the advanced search engine and improved design of Westlaw Next. Go there now and begin increasing your productivity!"

The ads are placed without the subscriber's consent, and they fail to tell users that additional charges will be accrued if they ignore the "this service is not included in your Westlaw subscription; additional charges will apply" warning. That warning does appear after the ad is clicked on, but is easily overlooked. The price for overlooking the warning could be high: one law firm estimated an excursion into Westlaw Next could run as high as

Fake Facebook Accounts on the Rise

You wouldn't send your bank information to a stranger in Nigeria and you delete email announcements that you won the British lottery. There's a new online scam to watch out for, and it involves Facebook. Hackers are creating fake accounts for nonexistent individuals, and they're hijacking real accounts for resale. The solution is simple: if you don't know the person who sent you the friend invitation, hit "ignore."

P.S. There's no threat to becoming a friend of the Lyon County Law Library on Facebook. Start by clicking on the Facebook link on the law library website.



\$3,400 per hour.

If your firm subscribes to Westlaw and these ads appear, contact your representative to have the ads removed. Or let the law librarian know. She'd be happy to have a chat with Thomson-West on your behalf.

Sources: law.com legal blog watch;
lawprofessors.typepad.blog.com/law_librarian_blog;
law-lib listserv

On a Related Note...

The law librarian will attend the AALL conference this year in Denver, CO with the primary purpose of contacting database and print vendors regarding subscription pricing. The LCLL had to cancel much of its Westlaw contract in April due to pricing concerns; specifically, their proposed increase would have consumed all of the 2010 line item for online databases. The LCLL's mission is to provide the most accurate and authoritative materials for our law library members. Unfortunately, we have to do that within a budget, and our revenue has reduced dramatically the past two years.

No Public Hours June 2 & 3

It's time for the law librarian's biennial vacation. Subsequently, there will not be any public library hours June 2 or 3. Normal hours will resume Wed, June 9 – although the law librarian will probably begin digging through her backlog on June 7.