

# FSM Supreme Court Law Libraries (FSMSCLL)

## ANNUAL REPORT 2019

**Kaselehlie, Ran Allim, Mogethin, and Len Wo!**



2019 was a busy year, and a year of solid effort with good results. The FSM Supreme Court Law Libraries (FSMSCLL) continue to use every resource at our disposal to ensure we provide the highest standards of service to those in need of legal support. Reading through this annual report you will find an array of programs, events, partnerships and initiatives that go to the heart of our mission: To ensure that the FSMSCLL provide current and comprehensive legal reference and information services to the judiciary, bar members and the general public throughout the four FSM States. In line with our mission to provide free access to all persons interested in legal information is our goal to provide the best resources possible, so everyone may have access to justice. “The first duty of society is justice.”

These all show that the law libraries have never been more invigorated and involved. During the year our two main priorities were: expanding and improving our services to our customers, and expanding and improving our division capability to develop and deliver those services effectively and efficiently. We believe that people need timely access to relevant legal information to make sound legal arguments and wise legal decisions.

The FSMSCLLs are more than a place to study and research. Throughout all of our four branches in Pohnpei, Chuuk, Yap and Kosrae, it creates a community center where people can find answers, and lawyers and business people can network with each other and their clients.

Navigating the complexity of legal information can be intimidating. The FSMSCLL can help guide you to the right resources for your specific need. We are available onsite as well as online through the law library email at [lawlibrary@fsm-supremecourt.org](mailto:lawlibrary@fsm-supremecourt.org) for document delivery and reference questions.



**We Love that:**

- #Law Libraries** are both trusted & radical.
- #Law Libraries** are adapting to community needs.
- #Law Libraries** are staffed by some pretty amazing people.
- #Law Libraries** are part of the solution.

# Advancing the strategic plan

The FSMSCLL is driven by its Strategic Plan for 2018-2022 as the navigational compass for its continuing voyage towards excellence with its five main goals that include:

1. *Goal: Develop the Library's Information Resources*
2. *Goal: Improve Access to Information Resources*
3. *Goal: Improve the Library Physical Facilities*
4. *Goal: Establish a Strong Presence and a Cooperative Relationship Within and With the Larger Community*
5. *Goal: Foster A Team-Based Workplace Environment*

## Goal #1: Develop the Library's Information Resources

### OBJECTIVE A: Select Information Resources in All Publication Formats.

The FSMSCLL's collections in all the four FSM states (Pohnpei, Chuuk, Yap and Kosrae) continued to expand its services to all by making sure all its publications are available both in print and electronic formats. The libraries also continue to update and post all the decisions from volume 1 to 22 of the FSM Reports on our court websites including the Pacific Islands Legal Information Institute's (PacLII) website at <http://www.pacii.org/countries/fm.html> for easy access.



This year the collections of the FSMSCLL are replenished with valuable donations. The donors are either natural and legal persons or institutions. We are always grateful to each of our supporters, because received donations give us an opportunity to enrich the collections of the FSMSCLL. The FSMSCLL gratefully acknowledges the generosity of its donors and benefactors who have supported our law libraries through the year.



### DONATIONS: Total volumes donated = 134

Title	#	DONORS
Fundamentals of Trials Techniques (2d Ed.)	1	Tammy Davis, Esq.
Hawaii Appellate Reports	10	U.S. Courts Library (Honolulu)
Federal Land Use and Litigation (2017)	1	U.S. Courts Library (Honolulu)
Dobbs on Remedies	1	U.S. Courts Library (Honolulu)
McCormick on Evidence, 2nd ed.	1	U.S. Courts Library (Honolulu)
Federal Rules of Evidence Manual by Saltzburg, 3rd ed.	1	U.S. Courts Library (Honolulu)
Legal Writing Style by Weihofen	1	U.S. Courts Library (Honolulu)
Gilbert Outline on Federal Courts	2	U.S. Courts Library (Honolulu)
Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary	1	U.S. Courts Library (Honolulu)
Physician's Desk Reference (2016)	1	U.S. Courts Library (Honolulu)
Public International Law in a Nutshell, 5th ed.	1	U.S. Courts Library (Honolulu)
Federal Disability Law in a Nutshell, 5th ed.	1	U.S. Courts Library (Honolulu)
Intellectual Property in a Nutshell	1	U.S. Courts Library (Honolulu)

Federal Reporter 3d – v.750-849 (FSMSCLL in Kosrae State)	99	U.S. Courts Library (Honolulu)
Proving Federal Crimes	1	U.S. Courts Library (Honolulu)
Economic Analysis for Lawyers	1	U.S. Courts Library (Honolulu)
Motion Practice (4 <sup>th</sup> Ed.)	1	U.S. Courts Library (Honolulu)
Plain English for Lawyers (5 <sup>th</sup> Ed.)	1	U.S. Courts Library (Honolulu)
Understanding Using Financial Data (2d Ed.)	1	U.S. Courts Library (Honolulu)
Emerging Problems Under the Federal Rules of Evidence (3d Ed.)	1	U.S. Courts Library (Honolulu)
Law of Federal Courts by Wright	1	U.S. Courts Library (Honolulu)
Law of Federal Courts by Wright & Kane (6 <sup>th</sup> Ed.)	1	U.S. Courts Library (Honolulu)
Pleading and Procedure (11 <sup>th</sup> Ed.)	1	U.S. Courts Library (Honolulu)
Pleading and Procedure (Teacher's Manual) 11 <sup>th</sup> Ed.	1	U.S. Courts Library (Honolulu)
Principles of Conflict of Laws (2d Ed.)	1	U.S. Courts Library (Honolulu)
Model Rules of Professional Conduct (2017 Ed.)	1	U.S. Courts Library (Honolulu)

## Goal #2: Improve Access to Information Resources

### OBJECTIVE A: Promote Library Resources.

**Outreach to PIALA & LAMP:** As a member of these two regional and local library associations, the FSMSCLL took advantage of its membership privileges



by doing outreach at all levels for the *Pacific Association of Libraries, Archives, and Museums* (PIALA) and the *Libraries, Archives, and Museums of Pohnpei* (LAMP) Association to share with the librarians how to use the information and resources available at the court libraries and on the FSMSCLL's website. Librarians, archivists, museum curators, and the legal communities can use the information to direct their users to

resources available to help them with their legal questions.

**Legislative Outreach:** Outreach to local and state government officials reminds them of the law library's existence and what a valuable resource it is to its constituents. Part of the outreach is a new website made for the Kosrae State Legislative Branches that is now linked on the FSMSCLL website. The Kosrae State Legislative Branch website was created by the FSMSCLL Chief Law Librarian & Publication Manager Mr. Helieisar with the intention for their laws to be available and accessible to everyone.

**Visitors:** The orientation focused on touring the law library and the legal website to locate print and electronic materials to find answers to real life reference questions. The FSMSCLL strives to provide a welcoming environment where users feel comfortable asking staff for assistance in finding materials that address their specific legal issues.

**Library Brochures:** The FSMSCLL continues to publish monthly brochures on its activities and make them available on its website.

**Website:** A series of website updates and back-end improvements to the FSMSCLL's website were made this year. This creates a more stable site, and

allows room for additional improvements to the existing system. A complete list of legal activities and new legal websites are now available on the website.

### *Goal #3: Improve the Library Physical Facilities*

#### **OBJECTIVE A: Construct a New Law Library**

**Library Dream Meaning:** What does a new library mean in your dream? Seeing a new law library for the FSM Supreme Court is associated with knowledge, investigations, but also with the past. The dream for a separate FSMSCLL building is still ongoing as the FSMSCLL is working with the FSM National Government to secure funding to make this dream library come true.

#### **OBJECTIVE B: Make Law Library More Hospitable**

The unique blend of services provided by the FSMSCLL include, without limitation, service support of education and providing inviting learning spaces for collaboration and legal research.

During the second quarter of FY2019, the FSMSCLL hosted the quarterly meeting for all staff of the FSM Supreme Court. The objective of the quarterly staff meeting is to provide updates, deliver announcements, solicit feedback, share information and participate in a team environment. The meetings also used for a variety of administrative purposes, from exchanging information to making announcements and conducting team-building exercises.



### *Goal #4: Establish a Strong Presence and a Cooperative Relationship Within and With the Larger Community*

#### **OBJECTIVE A: Increase Public Visibility-Locally, Regionally and Nationally**

The FSM Supreme Court Law Library was represented at several quarterly, annual and semi-annual events geared towards the legal community. The following events were attended:

- New FSM Bar Member Swearing in Ceremonies (June, October & December)
- The Pacific Islands Association of Libraries, Archives, and Museums Annual Conference (November)
- The 19<sup>th</sup> FSM Judicial Conference (August)
- National Law Day Activities (July)
- Libraries, Archives, and Museums of Pohnpei Quarterly Meetings (March, June, September)

These events provide opportunities to distribute information about the law libraries' services and resources to new members of the legal community. In

addition to attending these events, FSMSCLL regularly attends other events and monthly meetings sponsored by local library associations.

## *Goal #5: Foster A Team-Based Workplace Environment*

### **OBJECTIVE A: Provide Instruction and Professional Development For Staff**



The law library is open five days a week, Monday – Friday for a total of 40 hours a week with one full time and six supporting staff assisting. The law library continues to collaborate with the College of Micronesia-FSM Work Study Program to students who are interested in pursuing various careers within the legal field such as that of law librarian, attorney, or paralegal.

An orientation for new staff was devised to introduce them to the law library with the objective of helping them to help themselves as soon as possible. The orientation includes a tour of the law library, a review of library rules and practices and the FSMSCLL website.

For more details on the operation, accomplishments and other activities for the FSMSCLL, they will be included on the 2019 FSMSCLL Annual Report available on its website. I would like to thank the FSM Supreme Court staff, all users, and the legal community that made 2019 another successful year for the FSM Supreme Court Law Libraries (FSMSCLL). With all of their continued involvement and support, I look forward to another successful year in 2020.

## **FSMSCLL STRATEGIC PLAN**

### **Library Strategic Plan**

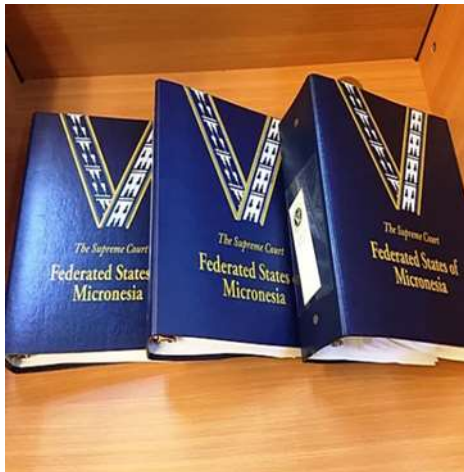


**Your Library + Your Opinion  
= A Better Library**



## FSM REPORTS

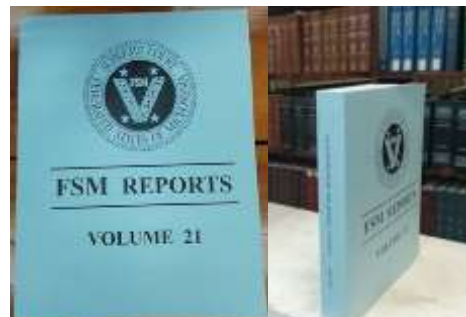
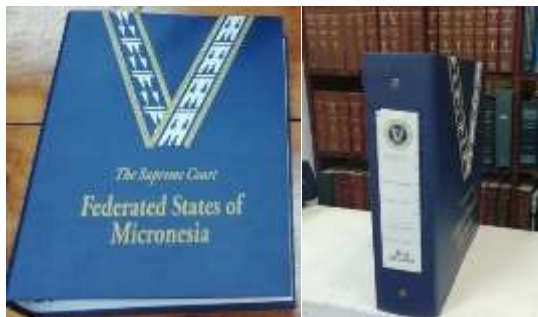
### Available in Prints and Electronics



[Volume 1 \(pages 1-596\) \(Including page 231a\)](#)  
[Volume 2 \(pages 1-293\)](#)  
[Volume 3 \(pages 1-586\)](#)  
[Volume 4 \(pages 1-387\)](#)  
[Volume 5 \(pages 1-456\) \(including pages 67A-67F\)](#)  
[Volume 6 \(pages 1-629\)](#)  
[Volume 7 \(pages 1-674\)](#)  
[Volume 8 \(pages 1-603\) \(including pages 300a-300p\)](#)  
[Volume 9 \(pages 1-614\) \(including pages 278a-h & 470a-b\)](#)  
[Volume 10 \(pages 1-675\)](#)  
[Volume 11 \(pages 1-653\) \(including pages 262a-262L\)](#)  
[Volume 12 \(pages 1-650\)](#)  
[Volume 13 \(pages 1-578\) \(including pages 99a-99f\)](#)  
[Volume 14 \(pages 1-626\)](#)  
[Volume 15 \(pages 1-667\) \(including pages 540a-540c\)](#)  
[Volume 16 \(pages 1-664\) \(including pages 228a-228f\)](#)  
[Volume 17 \(pages 1-660\)](#)  
[Volume 18 \(pages 1-659\)](#)  
[Volume 19 \(pages 1-660\)](#)  
[Volume 20 \(pages 1-668\) \(including pages 41a-41d and 372a-372d\)](#)  
[Volume 21 \(pages 1-649\)](#)  
[Volume 22 \(pages 1-???\) \(As of now, pages 1-315 and available in hard copies but most of the Volume are available in electronic version\)](#)

## FSM REPORTS

### BEFORE & AFTER



Since 1981, the Supreme Court of the Federated States of Micronesia started to bind its own decisions including other selected decisions from the state courts of Chuuk, Kosrae, Pohnpei and Yap into a ring-binder (loose-leaf) and assigned as a volume with the give name “FSM Interim Reporter”. In 2019, a General Court Order (GCO) 2014-03 was issued to amends the GCO 1983-4, § 2 to be cited as in either FSM Intrm. or FSM R. as now can be also called FSM Reports. After 39<sup>th</sup> years, the FSM Supreme Court Law Library (FSMSCLL) is now republishing the FSM Reports

into a booklet that makes more secure, easy to carry around while more safe spaces will be available on the library shelves.

The FSM Interim Reporters and now can be called FSM Reports is a series of bound case reporters that are the official reports of decisions for the Supreme Court of the Federated States of Micronesia.

## FSMSCLL Collections

### FSMSCLL, Pohnpei Office



### FSMSCLL, Chuuk Office



### FSMSCLL, Kosrae Office



**FSMSCLL, Yap Office**





## FSM Supreme Court Law Libraries:

MAIN OFFICE  
PALIKIR, POHNPEI STATE

Address and Phone:  
P.O. Box PS J  
Pohnpei, FM 96941  
Phone: (691) 320-2763/64



Operating Hours:  
Monday - Friday  
8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Weekends & Holidays  
Closed

Email: [lawlibrary@fsm-supremecourt.org](mailto:lawlibrary@fsm-supremecourt.org)

FSM Supreme Court Office  
P.O. Box 601  
Weno, Chuuk FM 96942  
Phone: (691) 330-2396

FSM Supreme Court Office  
P.O. Box 546  
Colonia, Yap FM 96943  
Phone: (691) 350-2159

FSM Supreme Court Office  
P.O. Box J  
Tofol, Kosrae FM 96944  
Phone: (691) 370-3185