experience over theory. However, attorneys with client matters in this area would derive the most benefit from this publication.

— June MacLeod, Electronic Resources Reference Librarian, Thomas Jefferson School of Law, San Diego, CA

**INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY**

Licensing and Intellectual Property Law Desk Reference. Michael D. Scott. 2001. Aspen Law & Business. Softcover. 766p. ISBN: 0-7355-27717-1. $165. Licensing and Intellectual Property Law Desk Reference consists of an alphabetical listing of words and phrases that are relevant to the area of licensing and intellectual property. Author Scott notes in the foreword, “[a]s intellectual property law has become an increasingly important asset to businesses of all types, virtually any business attorney finds himself or herself being asked to become less conversant with the ‘lingo.’ At the same time, intellectual property lawyers have found their field expanding rapidly and have been hard-pressed to keep current on the latest concepts and buzzwords.” While it would probably be more appropriate to call the work a “glossary” rather than the more expansive term “desk reference,” Scott’s success in his task of providing readers with a comprehensive, easy-to-use, and relatively compact glossary of terms. The softcover edition may be easily carried with you or left on your desk for reference.

The greatest strength of the work is that terms are annotated to include case citations, in the manner of the familiar Words and Phrases compilation. Another strength is that each entry provides a cross-referencing to related terms. Entries include names of relevant cases, popular names of significant legislation, and technical computer-related terms that are likely to arise in a contemporary licensing and intellectual property practice. After each entry, there is a parenthetical field of a use identifier to indicate the particular area of law to which the term pertains. While the work is geared toward the practitioner, it would also be of great use to academics who are trying to complete footnotes for definitional purposes.

My concern about the work is whether publisher Aspen will provide updates in a reasonable manner. I hope it will not attempt to churn out new editions or adopt unreasonable prices. Also, an electronic version would also be useful to subscribers. Having the materials in electronic format would help practitioners take advantage of the work’s strengths by being able to search for specific terms included in it or to search across identifier fields. I would find this glossary to be a useful addition to any reference collection serving patrons with an interest in intellectual property or licensing law.

— Samuel E. Troso, Assistant Professor, University of Western Ontario, Faculty of Law/Faculty of Information and Media Studies, London, Ontario, Canada


In February 2002, Mealey’s added the copyright litigation report to its cadre of over 35 titles covering litigation areas from asbestos to insurance. Although Mealey’s was acquired in August 2000 by Lexis (which I hadn’t heard), thankfully the format remains the same.

For those not familiar with Mealey publications, its reports contain some valuable resources. For instance, Mealey’s not only reports on current cases in a very numberless format, it also includes decisions (albeit in that weird, landscape, three-column format). Another great thing about Mealey’s is that any document referenced in its publications is yours for the asking — and the payment of a fee.

Additionally, Mealey’s is more than fair with its copyright policy. The company gladly gives permission for fair use, and if a telephone call is a phonetic call to the managing editor. Lastly, the end-of-the-year indexing of each publication is invaluable. The reports are even available for free perusal at mealeys.com. One change that Lexis could provide, however, would be a more current index.

...[with] Mealey’s... any document referenced in its publications is yours for the asking — and the payment of a fee.

The most recent indexes (not for the copyright report, for January 2001. With a number of the electronic resources available to Lexis and its years of experience with providing content via the Internet, researchers may want to request this enhancement. I have found that Lexis is very user-driven and open to suggestions.

Subscriptions to the print version of Mealey’s Litigation Reports right run $700 a year (which translates to $58 per issue). An additional, second subscription for your office is available at half price. Internet version subscriptions are $480 a year (translating to $40 per issue). A combination subscription will cost you $1,050 per year. You can easily subscribe to any of the above combinations at Mealey’s web site (www.mealeys.com).

Lisa V. Bough, a stepchild of intellectual property, copyright law has increasingly important. With the growth of companies’ use of e-commerce, the brouhaha over “discarding the music, and all things Internet-related, this publication will certainly be a welcome addition to any intellectual property collection.

— Aloysius Danowski, Senior Legal Assistant, Collier, Shannon, Scott, Washington, DC

**INTERNET LAW**


BNA International’s World Internet Law Report is the type of publication you have to come to expect from BNA: an excellent resource with a relatively high price tag. Now in its third volume, this publication contains comprehensive, comprehensive, and international developments. If you have clients with an Internet presence (and who doesn’t these days), it’s imperative that you stay as informed as possible on the rapidly evolving areas of Internet law and e-commerce. As stated in a BNA promotional brochure, “[i]f you’re involved in electronic business, you’re involved in global business. Another country’s IP code can be invoked by your activities.”

This monthly journal contains succinct reports from all over the globe on issues affecting Internet law and e-commerce. The print issues I reviewed were 40 pages long in a two-column format. Articles ran anywhere from half a column to two or more columns. Reports on U.S. cases and news were

...an excellent resource...

the most abundant, but the rest of the world is also included: Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, Colombia, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Hungary, India, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Mexico, Russia, Singapore, South Korea, The Netherlands, and the U.K. Reports also include United Nations and European Union news.

One deficiency of the publication is that while it does provide case synopses and comprehensive overviews of the most salient points of the cases, there is no attempt to indicate whether the cases are in the public domain. Given the nature of the Internet, this deficiency appears particularly acute.

— Aloysius Danowski, Senior Legal Assistant, Collier, Shannon, Scott, Washington, DC

**LEGAL PROFESSION**


It is difficult to imagine anything more painful than being falsely accused of abusing one’s own children. Once accused there seems to be no effective reparation or release from the stigma associated with child abuse. To make matters worse, the system often does more harm to the very people for whom all the protections were put in place, namely, the children. In Evasive Innocence: Survival Guide for the Falsely Accused, author Dean Tong leads readers through a nightmarish world of veiled spouses, inept social workers, interpreters for the deaf, and proceedings, and mental illness. Directed to a wide audience from defense attorneys to teachers, this book is an excellent introduction to the problems created by accusations of child abuse, how the various parties and the legal system respond to these accusations, and also suggests ways of countering these accusations.

The author cites the stories of four men accused of sexually abusing their children. Tong provides enough details to give readers a glimpse of the frustration and helplessness experienced by these men as they have to have contact with their children, while defending themselves against the
New Sources

charges leveled against them.
Perhaps it is too easy for lawyers and other professionals to get bogged down in the procedural aspects of cases or the legal issues involved, while ignoring the gut-wrenching experience of the accused and the purported victims. You do not have to agree with all of Tong’s arguments to arrive at his conclusion that there must be a better way of handling child abuse accusations, while attempting to ensure the safety of the children.

Tong devotes chapters to each of the major players: the accused, the accusers, the agencies, and the courts. Readers will find a wealth of references to independent studies, cases, legal principles, and statutory law. There are 10 helpful appendixes detailing these resources. He provides a good, although brief, introduction to a number of the different psychological tests used to evaluate the accused, the victims, and the accusers. In one entire chapter, he focuses on the use of anatomical dolls and how they are typically misused during evaluations of the victims.

Tong believes that people accused of child abuse are considered guilty from the very beginning. He chronicles his repeated encounters with judges, social workers, and the general public whose minds were seemingly made up prior to any evidence being offered. Tong critiques, on the one hand, the reliance on shaky hearsay evidence in court proceedings to seal the fate of the accused, while, on the other hand, the exclusion of the results of professionally prepared psychological tests that suggest the incapacity of the accused to commit child abuse or question the mental soundness of the accusers. He discusses both the Frye and Daubert tests for the admissibility of scientific evidence and how the application of these tests has produced inconsistent results in the courts.

While reading this book, readers should keep in mind that Tong has gone through the harrowing experience of being accused of abusing his own children. At times, he appears to be unjustly harsh in his criticism of the legal system and the state agencies charged with protecting children. However, he does not claim to be a dispassionate observer, and his sense of outrage permeates the entire work. Legal professionals, social workers, legislators, and others dealing with these issues would do well to heed his plea for justice for the accused. Ruining the lives of the falsely accused is a heavy price to pay in order to further the goal of protecting children from harm. Elusive Innocence: Survival Guide for the Falsely Accused is not a perfect book, but it is a good starting point for investigation of false accusations.

— Christopher A. Vallandingham, Electronic Information and Reference Librarian, University of Florida, Levin College of Law, Gainesville, FL