

legally SPEAKING



THE STARK COUNTY LAW LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

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Class Action Litigation Looming in Stark County

Aultman Health System has begun notifying patients of a data security incident involving a third-party vendor that may have exposed sensitive personal and medical information. According to Aultman, the incident occurred within a system operated by Cerner Corporation, Aultman's electronic medical records provider.

Cerner identified unauthorized access in late February and launched an investigation with the help of external cybersecurity experts, notifying law enforcement. At law enforcement's request, patient notifications were delayed. Cerner later determined the unauthorized access may have begun as early as January 22. Potentially affected information includes patient names, Social Security numbers, medical record numbers, physician details, diagnoses, medications, test results, medical images, and treatment records.

Cerner is offering affected individuals two years of free credit monitoring and identity protection services through Experian, along with internet surveillance monitoring.

Separately, a class action lawsuit has been filed in Stark County Court of Common Pleas on behalf of New Philadelphia resident Jack Oliver and others similarly situated. The lawsuit alleges that the breach exposed the personal and medical information of patients and employees and seeks class certification, court-ordered improvements to data security practices, and monetary damages. The case has been assigned to Judge Natalie Haupt.

The complaint alleges Aultman failed to implement reasonable data safeguards and delayed notifying affected individuals. Aultman has stated that the incident occurred solely within Cerner's system and that notification timing followed guidance from law enforcement. The lawsuit further claims the exposed information could be used for identity theft or sold on illicit marketplaces.

For more information, check out the Canton Repository online.



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STARK COUNTY LAW LIBRARY
WILL BE CLOSED FOR
PRESIDENT'S
FEB DAY 16



CLE: A Handy Primer on Drafting and Updating Employee Handbooks

When:
February 12, 2026
11:45am - 1:00pm ET

Where:
LexisNexis University

Price:
Free

Register here:
<https://www.lexisnexis.com/university/login.aspx?returnurl=Course.aspx?classInfo=Crs~686~68177>

Law Library Access to Lexis+ and AI-Enabled Research Tools

LexisNexis has announced a significant expansion of its legal artificial intelligence offerings with the next-generation release of Protégé General AI, a unified platform that integrates authoritative LexisNexis legal content, customer documents, and open web data within the secure Lexis+ AI environment. The enhanced platform strengthens legal analysis, drafting, and reasoning capabilities and enables users to select between Protégé Legal AI, optimized for core legal workflows, and Protégé General AI, designed for broader research and productivity tasks. A new “Best Fit” capability automatically identifies the most suitable AI model from leading providers, while Shepard’s Citation Agent supports drafting with verified, authoritative citations. The redesigned interface consolidates questions, sources, citations, and drafts into a single workspace, streamlining the legal research and writing process.

The platform is built on a new agentic infrastructure that orchestrates multiple specialized AI agents to interpret user intent, plan research strategies, and retrieve relevant information from both legal and nonlegal sources. Using an Agentic Retrieval-Augmented Generation framework, the system is engineered to deliver more reliable and contextually grounded results for complex legal matters. LexisNexis reports that Protégé’s development aligns with the RELX Responsible AI Principles and is supported by a multi-cloud technology architecture incorporating innovations from AWS, Anthropic, Microsoft, Mistral, and OpenAI. The platform supports a wide range of use cases, including document summarization, issue identification, strategic analysis, and audience-specific formatting.

The Stark County Law Library provides access to Lexis+, which includes AI-powered document analysis tools to support legal research and drafting. Users may analyze briefs or individual passages to validate research, strengthen arguments, identify weaknesses in opposing briefs, locate adverse authority, and verify the accuracy of individual citations or citation lists. Lexis+ also enables side-by-side analysis of multiple briefs, allowing users to compare arguments and authorities across parties to enhance advocacy. For transactional matters, users can upload agreements to review provisions, explore alternative clauses, and access drafting guidance. LexisNexis employs robust security measures to protect user privacy: documents uploaded for analysis are encrypted, accessible only during the active session, and not retained after use.

<https://www.lexisnexis.com/community/pressroom/b/news/posts/lexisnexis-unveils-global-launch-of-protege-ai-workflows-for-legal-professionals>

Did You Know...Ohio Fireworks Rules for Lunar New Year

Lunar New Year (Chinese New Year) is Tuesday, February 17 - and in Ohio, it’s one of the special days when consumer fireworks are legally allowed.

Residents may legally set off 1.4G consumer fireworks between 4:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m., similar to July 4th, New Year’s Eve, and Diwali. Fireworks such as firecrackers, Roman candles, and bottle rockets must be purchased from licensed Ohio sellers, and users must be 18 or older and sober.

Also, maintain a safe distance from people, buildings, and flammable materials - at least 150 feet for aerial fireworks and 50 feet for non-aerial fireworks. Fireworks may only be used on your own property or with permission.

Because **local municipalities may impose stricter rules or bans**, be sure to check local ordinances or the Ohio Department of Commerce before celebrating.

<https://codes.ohio.gov/ohio-revised-code/section-3743.45>

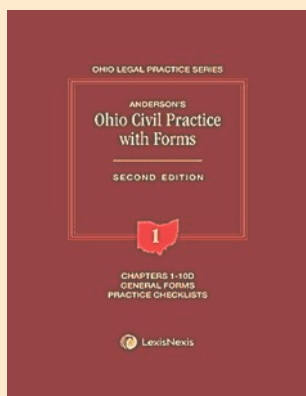


Awareness That Empowers Grieving Families

Observed each year on February 17, Wrongful Death Awareness Day is a meaningful effort to support families who have lost loved ones due to negligence - and to remind them they are not alone. Founded in 2024 by Maison Law, a law firm in California, the day was created to address a critical gap in awareness: many families are never informed they may be legally entitled to compensation after a fatal incident.

The observance shines a light on wrongful death claims - civil actions that may arise from tragedies such as car crashes, medical malpractice, or workplace accidents. In that spirit, [Anderson's Ohio Civil Practice with Forms](#) is available remotely to Stark County Law Library members.

Check it out today!



February 20th is World Social Justice Day

World Day of Social Justice highlights the global need to promote fair labor practices and protect workers' rights as a foundation of economic and social equality. Observed each year on February 20, the day draws attention to critical issues such as unsafe working conditions, wage theft, discrimination, child labor, and the exploitation of vulnerable workers across industries. It underscores the importance of fair wages, the right to organize, equal treatment in the workplace, and access to legal protections that ensure dignity and security for all workers.

The Stark County Law Library offers a wide range of employment law tools and resources to members through VitalLaw. Available content includes employment law news, expert commentary, treatises, state laws, regulations, and summaries. VitalLaw also features SmartTasks—guided workflow tools, supported by expert content, designed to help users complete specific employment law tasks efficiently.

[https://my-vitalaw-com.starklawresearch.idm.oclc.org/#/home/Labor](https://my-vitalaw.com.starklawresearch.idm.oclc.org/#/home/Labor)



new eBooks

[Civil Procedure in a Nutshell](#)

Authors: Miller, Arthur R. / Steinman, Adam N.

Edition: 10th

Copyright Date: 2026

[Corporate Law](#)

Author: Bainbridge, Stephen M.

Edition: 5th

Copyright Date: 2026

[Family Law in Perspective](#)

Authors: Wadlington, Walter / O'Brien, Raymond C. / Wilson, Robin Fretwell

Edition: 6th

Copyright Date: 2026

[McCormick on Evidence](#)

Authors: Mosteller, Robert P. / Broun, Kenneth S. / Harris, Jasmine E. / Imwinkelried, Edward J. / Kaye, David H. / Kinports, Kit

Edition: 9th

Copyright Date: 2026

[Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, and the Law](#) in a Nutshell

Author: Colker, Ruth

Edition: 4th

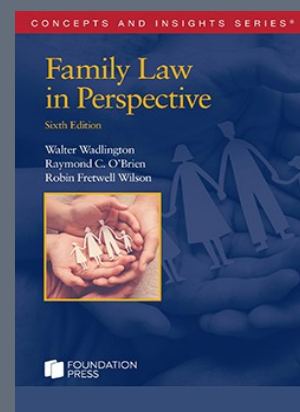
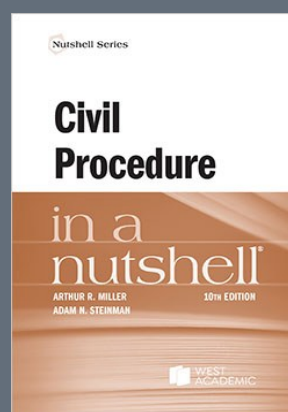
Copyright Date: 2026

[Water Law in a Nutshell](#)

Authors: Zellmer, Sandra B. / Amos, Adell L. / Scanlan, Melissa K.

Edition: 7th

Copyright Date: 2026





THE STARK COUNTY LAW LIBRARY

**110 Central Plaza South Suite 401
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Hours: Mon - Fri, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm

Phone: (330) 451-7380

Fax: (330)-451-7381

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E-mail: inform@starkcountyohio.gov

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