1993

Book Review of How to Research the Supreme Court

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Repository Citation
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Although not the definitive manual for Supreme Court researchers (one does not yet exist), this new book offers a basic introduction to researching the Court. Included are lists of both primary and secondary materials that will assist Court watchers. Bibliographic information and brief abstracts follow entries of biographical and encyclopedic works; bibliographies; and major print, online, and CD-ROM indexing and abstracting services. Important periodicals and newspapers containing articles on the Court are listed, as are selected articles and books on the Court and its justices. A chronological list of nominations to the Court, brief biographies of the justices, and a glossary are included as appendixes.

Although the authors acknowledge the selectivity of the entries, some important source materials have been omitted. Furthermore, many sources cited in the text cannot be found in the author or title indexes. Nevertheless, this is a useful handbook for Supreme Court researchers. It will certainly get them started in the right direction, which is no small feat. At its modest price, the book is recommended for most academic and law libraries. [R: Choice, Oct 92, p. 276; RBB, 1 Sept 92, pp. 85-86; WLB, Oct 92, p. 110] —James S. Heller