Book Review of National Directory of Legal Services

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Directories


This work is essentially a subject listing of persons and businesses offering services to law firms. Although "designed to serve the many needs of the practicing attorney and the modern-day law office" (p. v), the National Directory of Legal Services (NDLS) also may prove helpful to other organizations with legal departments.

This directory is divided into four parts: a glossary of abbreviations and acronyms, discovery key indexes, a general services listing, and a computer services listing. The most valuable part of the glossary lists abbreviations and acronyms of approximately 1,100 associations, societies, and government
agencies that appear later in the service listings. The discovery key indexes are divided into general services and computer services sections. The general services section lists more than 500 services, specializations, or products available to lawyers. Following each topic, arranged by state, is the name of the provider of the particular service or product. The computer services section is a topical listing of hardware, peripherals, and services related to law office activities, as well as computer software either specific to or adaptable to law practice or law office management. The general services portion is a detailed directory of the persons or firms listed in the discovery key sections. Included is the provider’s name, address, telephone number, contact person and staff size, the services offered by the company, and some brief background information about the company.

The information included in the directory was derived from a combination of a questionnaire survey and by studying advertisements. Although not comprehensive (IBM is not listed in the “Discovery Key Computer Hardware and Peripherals” section), at less than $80, NDLS is an inexpensive but valuable source of information for attorneys and legal administrators. It is recommended for larger law offices, organizations with large legal departments, and law libraries. [R: Choice, Dec 89, p. 614; RBB, 1 Nov 89, p. 610; WLB, Oct 89, p. 139]—JAMES S. HELLER