Collection Development Statement

The Documents Department accepts the responsibility for which it was established: to be a government information bank of legal materials relating to the teaching, study, research, and practice of law for residents in the 19th Congressional District. As such, the Documents Department follows the suggested core collections for law libraries published online by the Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP) at http://www.fdlp.gov/requirements-guidance-2/collections-and-databases/267-suggested-core-collections. In addition, the Documents Department does not collect agency publications which merely duplicate statutes or regulations available in the United States Code or Code of Federal Regulations.

The Law Library can sensibly restrict its collection to mostly legal materials as a Regional Depository stands within the campus of the Law Library and the internet permits access to several non-legal documents.

The majority of titles received via the FDLP program are incorporated into the general collection, using Library of Congress classification. There are some exceptions. Most of the House and Senate Reports and Hearings that the Law Library receives in print are housed in the government document collection using the Superintendent of Documents classification. The documents available in microfiche are located in the microfiche collection in the lower basement area. A Law Library user may find the location of separately shelved materials by consulting OneSearch, the Law Library online public access catalog.