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Westlaw & Kindle – An Easy Way To Keep Current.

March 20, 2011

By James D. Crosby, Attorney at Law

My litigation practice subscribes to Westlaw, and recently upgraded to WestlawNext. I particularly like the California Update feature which summarizes new California cases and legislative updates on a daily basis. These updates are not only available online, they are also sent daily to my email account and, in turn, to my Blackberry. But, in the past, I have gotten bogged down actually reading new cases as they appear in the update. I would either print them and stuff them into my briefcase for later reading, or convert them to .pdf and move them to a “Stuff to Read” file on my laptop. Either way, the files grew and often times the cases went unread as I moved on to other things. For me, and I suspect for many others, the best way not to read something is to stick it into a file of stuff you plan to read.

But, now, I am keeping up with new case developments using a Kindle with WestlawNext. Cases and other content can be sent directly from WestlawNext to a Kindle. (You can also do it out of Westlaw with an extra step.) It really works great. I send new cases summarized in the California Update directly to my Kindle. I put the Kindle in my briefcase and read new cases over the course of my work day; for example, while waiting in court for a hearing or during a deposition lunch break. And, I take it to the gym and read cases while putting my time in on the stationary bike or elliptical. It's a simple and very efficient way to keep current. I find that I am now reading new cases shortly after they come out, rather than weeks or months later, or, sometimes, not at all. Give it a try.

About James D. Crosby, Attorney at Law



James D. Crosby is a civil trial attorney with 27 years experience. Mr. Crosby represents entities and individuals in general and complex business, commercial, intellectual property, unfair competition, securities, business tort and real property litigation in state and federal courts. Mr. Crosby is admitted to practice in all state and federal courts of the state of California, and has represented clients not only in



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California but also in state and federal courts in New York, Nevada, New Jersey, North Carolina and South Dakota. He has tried numerous jury and non-jury cases, and has represented clients in JAMS and AAA business arbitrations, as well as NAFTA arbitration under UNCITRAL Rules. Mr. Crosby is AV Preeminent peer review rated by Martindale-Hubbell for ethical standards and legal ability - the highest possible rating indicating that his peers rank Mr. Crosby at the highest level of professional excellence.

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