

Lipinski, Thomas A. **The Librarian's Legal Companion for Licensing Information Resources and Services**. Chicago, IL: Neal-Schuman, 2013. 734 pp. \$130.00 USD (paper). ISBN-13: 978-1-55570-610-4 (paper); 978-1-55570-919-8 (PDF).

Whether you are an expert or a novice librarian involved in licensing e-resources, Lipinski's book provides a foundation for understanding the legal issues and contexts surrounding the intersection between licensing and copyright law. Dr. Lipinski (JD, LL.M, PhD), a faculty member at the School of Library and Information Science, Indiana University-Purdue University, is a prolific author and well-known leader and expert in the areas of copyright, licensing, and privacy. In his analysis, the author touches on issues related to other library initiatives also, including digitization, preservation, implied licenses, and the first-sale principle in relation to review copies and their use in library reserves. Although discussions about the law and cases presented have a U.S. focus, Canadian librarians will still gain an understanding of what laws govern these types of negotiations, and how we comply with and use them to our advantage.

The book is organized into three sections. Part I, "Before You Read the License: Essential Background Concepts," discusses the basic concepts of contract law on which licensing is based, application of these concepts as they are applied in offers, enforceability of contracts, and determination of the validity of license agreements in a variety of scenarios. In Part II, "The Range and Nature of Information Resource Licenses that Libraries Encounter," containing nine sections, Lipinski offers a general understanding of a variety of contracts—negotiated and non-negotiated—that libraries encounter on a daily basis (for example, shrink-wrap, click-wrap, and browse-wrap contracts, end-user license agreements, creative commons and open-source agreements, general public licenses, music and media licenses, and implied licenses), as well discussing the legality or enforceability of these license situations. This section may also be useful to library staff working in the areas of copyright and author rights or to those who assist students, faculty, and staff in understanding the use of content posted on the Internet.

Finally, Part III, "A Licensing Reference Toolkit for Everyday Use," provides resources for evaluating license terms and provisions. Chapter 14 offers a glossary of licensing terms and provisions with examples drawn from actual licenses, and discussions (in some cases lengthy) from library and user perspectives, including applicable legal contexts for each. Not covered however are new and emerging provisions, for example, text and data mining, accessible formats, and local loading and hosting of content. In the next chapter, Lipinski reviews four actual license agreements in the context of earlier discussions and highlights variations, inconsistencies, and legal issues. In Chapter 16, he draws

attention to key clauses that are often excluded or problematic, and advocates a proactive approach for negotiating improvements. The 126 questions and answers in Chapter 17 work as a checklist tool for evaluating licenses.

For the avid reader of the law, Lipinski ends each chapter with “Summary Points” and “Learning Examples” with legal analysis showcasing actual scenarios. “Endnotes” detail the legal basis supporting his arguments and interpretations. The comprehensive “Case Index” and “Subject Index” allow individuals to zero in on selected areas of interest. This book is a valuable resource for anyone researching a variety of library operations. Easy to read, it offers a quick way to become up to date on a number of issues—a great off-the-shelf reference tool.

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