

## Disposing of Old Law Books

Happy Saturday!

I have three giant boxes of old law books that were relevant for about 45 minutes after I paid full price for them, about 15 years ago. Aside from recycling them or holding a ceremonial cathartic bonfire, what have you done to get rid of these things?

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Many photographers and interior decorators will pay a little for them. They look great in photographs and in interior designs.

Robert "Robby" W. Hughes, Jr., Georgia

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I recycled ours.

Marilou Auer, Virginia (not a lawyer)

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"With but a single stroke of the legislative pen, entire libraries turn to pulp."

-- Friedrich K. Juenger (1930-2001) (my conflicts professor)

L. Maxwell Taylor, Vermont

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If you have a Half Price Books store, they'll take them. They take everything. You probably won't get more than a couple of dollars for them, and they might end up recycling them in the end. Downside is, you have to drag them in to the store and you have to stay in the store while they review your stuff and make you an offer. You cannot leave and come back later. You have to stay. Of course, they're hoping you'll find something to buy while hanging around in there. They'll make you an offer for your whole "lot" of stuff — no breakdown value of individual items. If you accept the offer, they give you a receipt that can be used as store credit, or you can take it to the cashier and cash it out. I do it because I just can't bring myself to put an actual book in my recycling bin. Even though they may ultimately recycle it, I don't have to see it. And, I can pretend that my books made it into the shelves and found new homes with some curious person, or, at least, as Robby said, as decor somewhere.

Meg Tebo, Illinois

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A friend of mine took them to a shooting range and put a bunch of bullet holes in them. But I probably wouldn't recommend that in general.

Eugene Lee, California

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Local library or Salvation Army for a tax deductible donation.

Roger Rosen, California

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Watch the movie "the day after tomorrow." It's been on HBO a lot lately.

Save them so you can do what they did to the books in the library....including the IRS Code.....when the time comes.

Joseph G. Bonanno, Massachusetts

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I just donated mine to a non-profit that tries to resell them, but if they can't, they recycle them. Good luck!

Jennifer D. Norris, Indiana

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A friend of mine who decorates Hollywood sets says there's a FB group called "union art department" - give them a shout-out.

Amy Breyer, California

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Donate them to your local library. You may be able to write it off and the library can make a few dollars. I buy used legal books from our library all the time.

J. Calhoun

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I love the idea of donating to a local library.

I also have seen 6 or 8 stacked up, glued and used for an end table.

They're very impressive looking that way.

Reta McKannan, Alabama

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A totally politically incorrect approach First dig a 4 ft by 6 foot 2 ft deep pit As you carefully place each book sprinkling with a liberal amount of odorless mineral spirits some on the pages some on the cover repeat till all the books are in the pit. Now go take a shower and change your clothes (Safety first, now om the upwind side using the longest matches you can get, light it up. Time to roast the marshmallows if the quantity of books is large perhaps a suckling pig. It's unlikely you have enough to roast an ox.

John Davidson, Pennsylvania

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You could always send them to me. I know different institutions that will use them depending on what kind of books they are.

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Jordan Rosenberg (a paralegal)

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Take them to your / a nearby law school. For distro to new grads.

Larry A. Frost, Minnesota

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I recycled the ones I don't use. Our local library does not take out of date textbooks, so check your library's donation requirements before heading over. If you have a local arts college, you might also reach out to them or put them on freecycle to see if anyone is interested.

Corrine Bielejeski, California

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