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*Information seeking behavior of lawyers from Public Attorney's Office (PAO) and the Prosecutor's Office of Pasig City**

This study focused on the information seeking behavior of lawyers from the prosecutor's office and Public Attorney's Office of Pasig City. It aimed to find out the information searching strategies of lawyers; the types of materials lawyers use in searching; the format of materials they prefer; the feelings, behaviors and thoughts of lawyers during the search process, and, the issues and concerns of lawyers in the information seeking process. The research methodologies used were the survey method and interview. Forty (40) questionnaires were distributed out of which 22 were returned. Informal interview was conducted with some of the lawyers who returned the questionnaires for clarifications and elaboration of some of their answers. The results of the study showed that lawyers engage in several different activities to keep abreast of the current development in their field. Among these activities are scanning journals and index tools, attending conferences, checking e-mail and personal communication. But 21 (95.45) were found out to rely heavily on personal communication since many resources are not available. It also found out that only 10 (45.45) use the Internet. Most lawyers consider conferring with experts and colleagues, discussion lists and scanning of journal articles and citations important to their research work. Seventeen (17) or 77.27 of the lawyers feel that they do not have enough time for research. The prosecutor's office has no library while PAO has a small collection of legal materials but there is no librarian assigned to it. Hence, majority were found out to do research outside the library without hiring research assistants since both of them are public offices. The

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findings of the study also revealed that lawyers use several materials like textbooks, statutory reports and codes, administrative code, newspaper, legal encyclopedia and dictionary, case reports and digests, reviewers and electronic materials. It is also found out that majority of the lawyers prefer print materials and 68.18 percent consult foreign materials for easier persuasion of judges and comparison. It also found out that most of them spend only 1-2 days in researching because of deadlines. The results of the study also revealed that most of the lawyers have experienced confusion in researching. Most of them are also optimistic, confident, enthusiastic and proud when given a topic to research. They are also found out to be relieved and satisfied when they found the information, but frustrated and disappointed when they are unable to find the information. The major concerns of the lawyers are the availability of materials and time constraints. After the data analysis, the following recommendation were made: (1) materials should be provided to both offices; (2) free training on the use of electronic materials should be given to both lawyers and librarians; (3) librarians should be trained too, to be able to help the lawyers in the search process; and (4) a feasibility study of establishing a library to both offices should be conducted.