

To: Robert Rendall, chair
ALA/ALCTS/CaMMS Committee on Cataloging: Description and Access

From: Robert Bratton, representative, American Association of Law Libraries (AALL)

Subject: Revision proposal for RDA instructions for laws, etc.

Background

Cataloging rules have attempted to identify laws in the catalog in various ways over the years. Before AACR2 there was the form subheading *Laws, statutes, etc.* It was used for individual laws as well as compilations of laws from a single jurisdiction. It was even used in added entries to indicate that a publication contained some legislation, which was often not identified. AACR2 introduced the uniform title *Laws, etc.* This was used only for general compilations of laws from a jurisdiction, but not for subject compilations and not for individual laws. Under LC/PCC practice, the uniform title was always qualified by the title proper of the compilation or some other distinguishing feature.

Laws, etc. was carried over into RDA as a conventional collective title. The law cataloging community has come to the conclusion that it is no longer useful. There are several reasons for this:

- Conventional collective titles are more appropriate for card catalogs. When most catalog searching is done by keyword, the conventional collective title can no longer serve the grouping function that it did in linear browse searching.
- *Laws, etc.* is hard to apply because it applies only to compilations of laws, but not to all compilations, just those that are not subject compilations. It is not used for individual laws. This is not well understood by users or reference librarians or even some catalogers.
- *Laws, etc.* does not by itself facilitate the FRBR user tasks of find, identify, select, and obtain. Qualifiers must be added to the conventional collective title to “identify” the work being described.
- Conventional collective titles function partially as genre access, for which we now have better tools. For instance, an extensive vocabulary for law materials was recently added to the Library of Congress Genre/Form Terms.

Recommendation

The American Association of Law Libraries recommends that the conventional collective title *Laws, etc.* be eliminated from RDA and that the preferred titles for compilations of laws follow the other instructions for legal works.

There are a number of cases where RDA uses the phrase “laws, etc.” not as a conventional collective title but in the generic sense meaning laws and similar legal works. AALL is not proposing to change this usage.

The proposal is based on the text in the RDA Toolkit as of November 2014.

Proposal

6.2.1.9 Abbreviations

Use only ~~the following~~ abbreviations that are integral parts of the title in titles of works:

- ~~a) those that are integral parts of the title~~
- ~~b) etc. in the title Laws, etc. (see 6.19.2.5).~~

[examples unchanged]

6.2.2.10.3 Other Compilations of Two or More Works

Record the preferred title for each of the works in a compilation that consists of:

a) two or more but not all the works of one person, family, or corporate body, in a particular form

or

b) two or more but not all the works of one person, family, or corporate body, in various forms.

Apply the basic instructions on recording titles of works at 6.2.1.

EXAMPLE

Dirk Gently’s Holistic Detective Agency

First work in a compilation also containing Douglas Adams’s Long dark tea-time of the soul

Long dark tea-time of the soul

Second work by Douglas Adams in the same compilation

Alternative

When identifying two or more works in a compilation, identify the parts collectively by recording a conventional collective title (see 6.2.2.10.1 or 6.2.2.10.2, as applicable), followed by Selections. Apply this instruction instead of or in addition to recording the preferred title for each of the works in the compilation.

EXAMPLE

Novels. Selections

Exceptions

For compilations of musical works by a single composer, apply instead the instructions at 6.14.2.8.

For compilations of laws, etc., apply instead the instructions at 6.19.2.5.1 and 6.19.2.6.

6.19.2.5 Modern Laws, Etc.

Record the preferred title for a law or laws by applying these instructions, as applicable:

compilations of laws, etc. (see 6.19.2.5.1)

single laws, etc. (see 6.19.2.5.2).

6.19.2.5.1 Compilations of Laws, Etc.

~~Record Laws, etc. as the preferred title for:~~

~~a complete or partial compilation of legislative enactments of a jurisdiction~~

~~**not**~~

~~a compilation of laws on a particular subject.~~

~~If a compilation of laws on a particular subject has a citation title, record that as the preferred title. Otherwise, apply the instructions at 6.2.2.3–6.2.2.8.~~

For a compilation of laws, etc., record (in this order of preference):

a) the official short title or citation title of the compilation

b) an unofficial short title or citation title used in legal literature

c) the official title of the compilation

d) any other designation by which the compilation is known.

EXAMPLE

Labor Code

~~Resource described:~~ California Labor Code. ~~Citation title:~~ Labor Code

Paterson's Licensing acts

Resource described: Paterson's licensing acts

Constitution and By-laws of the Catawba Indian Tribe of South Carolina

Resource described: Constitution and By-laws of the Catawba Indian Tribe of South Carolina

The narcotic laws of Mexico and the United States of America

Resource described: The narcotic laws of Mexico and the United States of America

6.19.3.6 ~~Conventional Collective Titles~~

~~When a conventional collective title is used as the preferred title for a compilation of legal works (see 6.19.2.5.1), record as a variant title:~~

~~the title proper of the resource being described~~

~~**or**~~

~~the title found in a reference source.~~

~~Do not record a variant title if it is the same as, or very similar to, the conventional collective title.~~

EXAMPLE

~~Acts of the Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia~~

~~**Preferred title recorded as:** Laws, etc.~~

~~Revised ordinances of Newton, Massachusetts, 2001~~

~~**Preferred title recorded as:** Laws, etc.~~

~~Bermuda laws online~~

~~**Preferred title recorded as:** Laws, etc.~~

6.29.1.2 **Laws Governing One Jurisdiction**

For laws governing one jurisdiction, construct the authorized access point representing the work by combining (in this order):

- a) the authorized access point representing the jurisdiction governed by the laws (see 11.13.1)
- b) the preferred title for the law or laws (see 6.19.2).

EXAMPLE

[other examples unchanged]

Australia. ~~Laws, etc.~~ Acts of the Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia

Authorized access point for: Acts of the Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia

United States. ~~Laws, etc.~~ United States code

Authorized access point for: United States code

6.29.1.3 Laws Governing More Than One Jurisdiction

For a compilation of laws governing more than one jurisdiction, apply the instructions at 6.27.1.4.

EXAMPLE

The Narcotic laws of Mexico and the United States of America

Authorized access point for: The narcotic laws of Mexico and the United States of America. **Cover title:** Drugs and the law : compilation of laws on narcotics and dangerous drugs from the United States of America, the United States of Mexico, the state of California, and the state of Baja California

6.29.1.4 Administrative Regulations, Etc., That Are Laws

In certain jurisdictions, administrative regulations, rules, etc., are treated as laws (as is the case in the United Kingdom and Canada). For administrative regulations, etc., from such jurisdictions, construct the authorized access point by applying the instructions appropriate for the regulations as laws (see 6.29.1.2 and 6.29.1.3).

EXAMPLE

Canada. The Queen's regulations and orders for the Canadian Forces (1994 revision)

Authorized access point for: The Queen's regulations and orders for the Canadian Forces (1994 revision) : issued under the authority of the National Defence Act = Ordonnances et règlements royaux applicables aux Forces canadiennes (révision de 1994) : publiés en vertu de l'autorité conférée par la Loi sur la défense nationale

New Brunswick. ~~Laws, etc.~~ Regulations of New Brunswick

Authorized access point for: Regulations of New Brunswick

If a law or laws are published together with the regulations, etc., made pursuant to the law or laws, construct the authorized access point representing the work

by applying the instructions appropriate for the law or laws (see 6.29.1.2 or 6.29.1.3, as applicable).

EXAMPLE

New Brunswick. ~~Laws, etc.~~ N.B. acts and regulations

Authorized access point for: N.B. acts and regulations

Appendix

B.3 Titles of Works

For titles of works, use only ~~the following~~ abbreviations that are integral parts of the title:

- a) ~~those that are integral parts of the title~~
- b) ~~etc. in the title~~ Laws, etc. (see 6.19.2.5).

B.7 Latin Alphabet Abbreviations

et cetera etc.²

² Use only ~~in the title~~ Laws, etc. and in the term *Protocols, etc.*

Clean text

6.2.1.9 Abbreviations

Use only abbreviations that are integral parts of the title in titles of works.

[examples unchanged]

6.2.2.10.3 Other Compilations of Two or More Works

Record the preferred title for each of the works in a compilation that consists of:

a) two or more but not all the works of one person, family, or corporate body, in a particular form

or

b) two or more but not all the works of one person, family, or corporate body, in various forms.

Apply the basic instructions on recording titles of works at 6.2.1.

EXAMPLE

Dirk Gently's Holistic Detective Agency

First work in a compilation also containing Douglas Adams's Long dark tea-time of the soul

Long dark tea-time of the soul

Second work by Douglas Adams in the same compilation

Alternative

When identifying two or more works in a compilation, identify the parts collectively by recording a conventional collective title (see 6.2.2.10.1 or 6.2.2.10.2, as applicable), followed by Selections. Apply this instruction instead of or in addition to recording the preferred title for each of the works in the compilation.

EXAMPLE

Novels. Selections

Exceptions

For compilations of musical works by a single composer, apply instead the instructions at 6.14.2.8.

For compilations of laws, etc., apply instead the instructions at 6.19.2.5.1 and 6.19.2.6.

6.19.2.5 Modern Laws, Etc.

Record the preferred title for a law or laws by applying these instructions, as applicable:

compilations of laws, etc. (see 6.19.2.5.1)

single laws, etc. (see 6.19.2.5.2).

6.19.2.5.1 Compilations of Laws, Etc.

For a compilation of laws, etc., record (in this order of preference):

- a) the official short title or citation title of the compilation
- b) an unofficial short title or citation title used in legal literature
- c) the official title of the compilation
- d) any other designation by which the compilation is known.

EXAMPLE

Paterson's licensing acts

Resource described: Paterson's licensing acts

Constitution and By-laws of the Catawba Indian Tribe of South Carolina

Resource described: Constitution and By-laws of the Catawba Indian Tribe of South Carolina

The narcotic laws of Mexico and the United States of America

Resource described: The narcotic laws of Mexico and the United States of America

6.29.1.2 Laws Governing One Jurisdiction

For laws governing one jurisdiction, construct the authorized access point representing the work by combining (in this order):

- a) the authorized access point representing the jurisdiction governed by the laws (see 11.13.1)

b) the preferred title for the law or laws (see 6.19.2).

EXAMPLE

[other examples unchanged]

Australia. Acts of the Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia

Authorized access point for: Acts of the Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia

United States. United States code

Authorized access point for: United States code

6.29.1.3 Laws Governing More Than One Jurisdiction

For a compilation of laws governing more than one jurisdiction, apply the instructions at 6.27.1.4.

EXAMPLE

The narcotic laws of Mexico and the United States of America

Authorized access point for: The narcotic laws of Mexico and the United States of America. **Cover title:** Drugs and the law : compilation of laws on narcotics and dangerous drugs from the United States of America, the United States of Mexico, the state of California, and the state of Baja California

6.29.1.4 Administrative Regulations, Etc., That Are Laws

In certain jurisdictions, administrative regulations, rules, etc., are treated as laws (as is the case in the United Kingdom and Canada). For administrative regulations, etc., from such jurisdictions, construct the authorized access point by applying the instructions appropriate for the regulations as laws (see 6.29.1.2 and 6.29.1.3).

EXAMPLE

Canada. The Queen's regulations and orders for the Canadian Forces (1994 revision)

Authorized access point for: The Queen's regulations and orders for the Canadian Forces (1994 revision) : issued under the authority of the National Defence Act = Ordonnances et règlements royaux applicables aux Forces canadiennes (révision de 1994) : publiés en vertu de l'autorité conférée par la Loi sur la défense nationale

New Brunswick. Regulations of New Brunswick

Authorized access point for: Regulations of New Brunswick

If a law or laws are published together with the regulations, etc., made pursuant to the law or laws, construct the authorized access point representing the work by applying the instructions appropriate for the law or laws (see 6.29.1.2 or 6.29.1.3, as applicable).

EXAMPLE

New Brunswick. N.B. acts and regulations

Authorized access point for: N.B. acts and regulations

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B.7 Latin Alphabet Abbreviations

et cetera etc.²

² Use only in the term *Protocols, etc.*