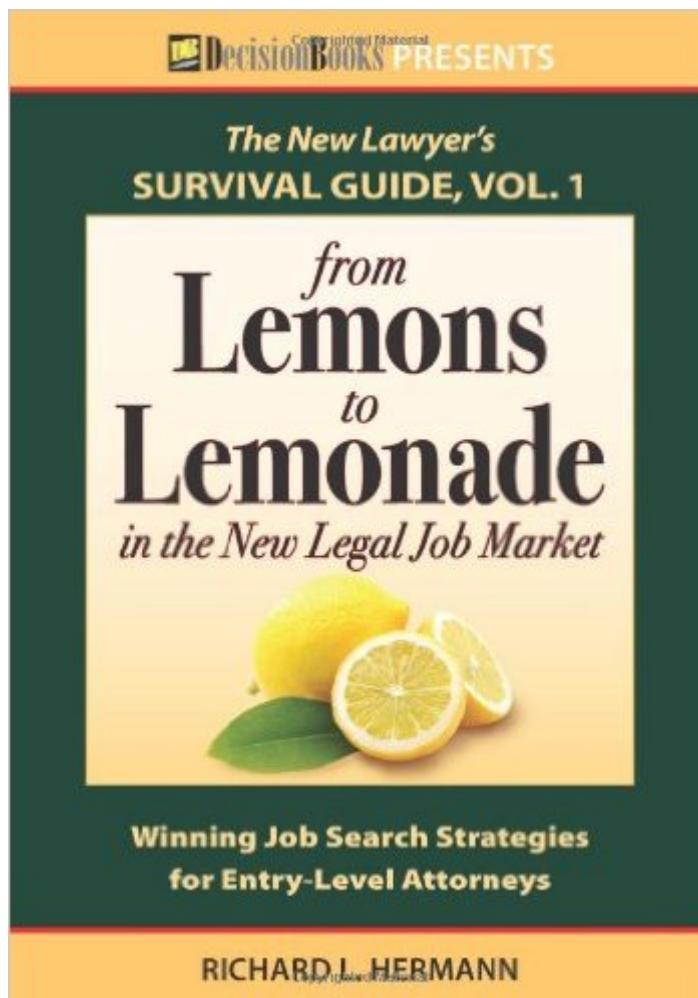


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The New Lawyer Survival Guide, Vol. 1: From Lemons To Lemonade In The New Legal Job Market



Synopsis

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Customer Reviews

I run a website for law students (The Girl's Guide to Law School), so I get a lot of questions from distressed 3Ls and recent law grads about how to find work in this rather dreadful legal economy. Frankly, I didn't have a lot of good advice to give them. It's no secret the job market is really difficult, and most standard advice - "network," "do some informational interviews," "think outside the box" - isn't all that satisfying. Luckily, I got a review copy of From Lemons to Lemonade, so now I just refer them to this book, or hand out ideas from it! It starts with about 90 pages of information on less obvious places to look for legal-related work, then moves into the nuts-and-bolts of a legal job search, with ideas specifically for young lawyers on how to enhance their credentials, quickly and cost-effectively. Finally, it includes a huge appendix section, which alone is probably worth the cost of the book. Some very useful stuff is included. I'll be frank - there's a lot of tough love in here. The author appears to have little patience for job hunters who prefer complaining over action, so this book isn't for everyone. That being said, I think most entry-level law job hunters who are serious about their job search, and willing to consider and implement new ideas, would benefit from having a copy nearby as they look for work. If you'd like more details, take a look at my website, which has a longer review of the book, and interview with the author, and a post on one of his most compelling

ideas (a "contacts roadmap"). Best of luck in your job hunt!

Attorney and longtime legal career counselor Richard Hermann has done it again. He has used his unsurpassed knowledge of the legal employment market and focused his sights on effective job-search strategies and resources for the entry-level lawyer. "Lemons to Lemonade" is essential reading for any new or reentering lawyer seeking creative ideas and effective tactics for navigating the choppy waters of today's legal job market. It is also a great resource for law school career offices.

The book contains easy to follow (and seemingly effective) tips for the application and job-search process, suggestions for prospective legal and law-related employers, information about current legal market trends, and a much needed reality check for new and aspiring lawyers. Mr. Hermann says things that many recent grads and law students may not want to hear but need to hear to in order to get their job searches back on track for success. This book isn't selling an easy solution; rather, the author focuses on the steps to take to complete a successful job search.

There is so much information packed into this book I suggest giving it a quick skim first, looking for the narrative sections, and then going back to study more carefully the resource information provided. The narrative sections made me really re-think how to go about doing a job search, if I were doing one. In full disclosure, I am not a new lawyer and I am not currently job searching but I believe it's important to stay aware of what's required to job search in today's market. The ideas for re-thinking job search are valuable for any experience level and not just new lawyers. Even experienced lawyers may need to re-invent themselves into a new field of practice or a new career.

This is a terrific overview of the legal job market. As an HR professional who has done interviewing and hiring in non-legal environments, this book was spot on in describing the best ways to prepare for interviews, to write your resume, and to find the hidden jobs available in the grey markets. I especially appreciate the book warning people to avoid items that are traditionally considered essential (but really aren't!) like incredibly generic objective statements or hobbies sections-- things I've been saying to students for years. The real benefit of this book, though, is the tremendous amount of information and research in it. There is an incredibly substantial amount of information related to organizations and agencies that hire Attorneys in all sorts of unexpected areas of the law, and in concrete tips to find jobs that may not be advertised traditionally. This, all in a package that is

easy to read (I did in two sittings). I'd highly recommend this work if you're in law school, recently graduated, or plan to go back into the job market. The tips, of course, are designed for entry-level attorneys, but many of the skills are applicable in non-legal or legal support positions as well.

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