

Code of Federal Regulations: Tracking Updated Regulations - Transcript

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I

Good afternoon and welcome to the -- Webinar. Federal regulation tracking updated regulations. My name is -- -- At the University of Denver. You can take it from here.

All right. Thank you, Kathy. Everybody hear me okay? Okay. I want to talk today about federal regulations -- As you can see on the screen or those -- We are going to talk about tracking regulations and how to keep track of these things. This is the summary of what we are going to do. The Code of Federal Regulations is the codification of the general and permanent rules published in the Federal Register. It is getting easier to use all the time with recent technology advances. Today we will review the function of the seal of our in the relationship with the Federal Register in the context of the federal role making a look at the traditional way of tracking changes, the old way with the new electronics -- This is a graphic I made it several years ago for classes that I was teaching about government information that kind of helps me put all these resources into relationship with one another. -- The official site -- But there are also other sites and it could be confusing. Regulations.gov -- This helps me understand the relationship -- Reg info.gov is the place to go to for the regular -- In other words, what is the process? What is the process by which -- Unified agenda what is the unified agenda that comes up twice a year? We are not going to -- Even though --.gov is the official place for the authenticated version -- Court of law for all these things, I want to think of the Federal Register the main switchboard. The easiest place in way to access the Federal Register. The Federal Register.gov -- To these other sites. Starting with Federal Register.gov when necessary we can link out the PDF version for -- And we want to comment on something or see how other people have commented on the regulations. We can link out to the registration suck off. I hope this helps put all the sites into perspective. -- General background information. This chart comes from --.gov. Is actually some cracked it out -- To produce this this shows the steps in the rulemaking process and I have yet to use this in a location be that a student or a -- Because they never ask these questions. This is in fact the way it is none -- It is the way the sausage is made if you will. Even though it is usually not the question people have it is informative to see how the process is done. The reason I point this out is where the arrow is pointing. One talk about regulations -- That is what this chart is pointing to. How do we track regulations from their Genesis, from the start to the codification, code -- As you probably know the CFR is published annually but it is not published all at once. It is -- Quarterly -- That is because it is such a big set. The title sometimes usually cannot be -- The full set of CFR about 200 -- They are chunked like this. Titles one through 16, January 1st and then we have another chunk comes out April 1st and then July 1st and October 1st. As you can see there. The bottoms are chunked up not logically because the brakes are chunked up so they could be printed. Sometimes the brakes -- But in any event they come out about 200 physical volumes which is why many libraries have a knack to get them electronically. A little bit about the cold and federal relations history, this is coming from the law library for in Washington, DC. You can see the citation there. The Federal Register faithfully prepared and published every workday since 1936 and an annual federal regulations -- Are considered to be the core document in the executive branch of the U.S. government. -- Government operations and communications -- I am not trying to put what we are looking at today in a historical perspective. Back to the colored box again. These colors are chosen by the staff at the office of the Federal Register. They try to make the colors different so when they are on the shelf they can easily distinguish one from the next. Sometimes it fails. When the pickle yellow colored yellow will fade in the

daylight or for worse and lights and come out as a white cover. They are no longer doing yellow or light pastels. They want to make it the colors last years. Many of them that is the reason for the covers. We use the colors when we go to online versions. And because if you are a special person like I am, you kind of lose the fun of the color. We need to have a way to crosswalk between the federal registry where the legal rules are promulgated and how to get there to the patient. With the federal regulations. This is what happens in the legislature. When a public law passes both houses of Congress and the get signed into law by the president. But then the office of Law revision counseling have to copy and paste that into the U.S. code. And then there has to be a cross walking system to link between the public law in the -- In this case we have to have a way to crosswalk from to flip if you will. So the permanent version of regulations. That is where LSA comes in. LSA is the abbreviation. It should be longer if you wanted to be -- It is the list of sections and more properly CSR sections. All CFR? No. -- It is just the changes from the Federal Register and we will look at how this is been in relief and show how tedious it is. So to really see the current code and if there been changes we have to check a number of services. The first thing to do is check the current CFI. It comes up orderly. If you are looking at title eight, immigration, that comes out in January. So you need to look up the last January provocation in 2001 or depending on what year. And then you want to check in the -- Because if you check the accumulation of all the monthly ones. They don't publish the accumulations and have not since 2022. But I put that in there for -- Basically we will check the monthly list to see if the section we are interested in has been affected. Has updates in the federal registry. And then after we have done at there will be a link between the most recent monthly LSA in the Federal Register issuance. So we will need to check the Federal Register indexes that are accumulated or daily -- Wow. Very tiring and time-consuming. Let's just walk through this electronically. If we wanted to check doing title eight here. The first thing to do is check the most recent CFR to see -- I did this original presentation a little while ago. We are looking at January 2020. But that would be the most recent. We need to check that. And then we need to check LSA compilations. There haven't been any compilations since April 2002. This is from --.gov. So that roots out the advantage of that. So we checked monthly. We go to government for.gov and we go at that time the most recent was December. You can see on the far right panel how the changes read. Title eight aliens and nationality and the chapter and it is really small and it will walk you through the specifics. The far right column you have the page to the Federal Register. Then you need to check the Federal Register indexes. Which we are showing here. This is, okay, this is -- Section. Anyway. That is time-consuming. By the time you have done all of those steps you are all very tired. I make students do this when they take a class from me because I want them to understand how to do it. And because it is necessary to know the process. It is really unnecessary. These are the two we will talk about today. That is you CFI. This is not the current E CFR. We don't call it current version. The beta you see we will look at today. This one is going away with and probably less than a year. Maybe a couple of months. This will go away. The new version, the beta version will become the official version. You can see in the black box here it says we invite you to try out the new beta site. Don't let beta put you off. It's really a fully functional site and it is one they are really putting a lot of time and effort into. This is the beta E CFR version that we will look at today. We are spending time on this older version and it doesn't have all the features and it will go away in less than a year. Don't bother you -- Even though -- A simpler in the Federal Register.gov. Nevertheless this is the beta in which you will see it being a real live version. That is what we will talk about today. A few features. We will do a live demo at the end of the slides and walk you through some of the features because it is really difficult to go slide by slide what is going on. It's much easier to do it in a live demo. But in the beta you CFR version you can use any changes. Think about that. Daily changes. You have the total for relational 50 titles and if there is a change it will get updated usually by the next government business day. And then you can compare changes on or before a certain date. You can browse the CFR by title and by agency. They have a point in time system. Which means not only with the CFR update daily, but you can go back in time. This is important for attorneys and other people that want to see

what regulations were enforced on a specific date. What would they have known about it -- On the date? We are not responsible for -- That come in after certain point. This point in time system is extremely important. And then we can subscribe to changes. Two fashions you want to trap. You can do changes in entire CFR titles or you can do changes to a -- Keyword search. These features make the -- Federal regulations much more accessible and much more fun. It's hard to say fun and regulations in the same sentence. But I just did. The descriptions to notify you of changes, if you want to know if your CFR was changed for COVID-19 you can run your search and then hit the subscribe button. With that doses Google alerts or other kinds of alerting systems where we have five databases where when there is a change you will get a notification. That is a really cool feature especially for researchers, students, who are monitoring the topic for their research. Notice it does take data and the yellow banner. But this is an example of changes over time. If you are ever comparing the title for the content from September 29th, 2017, with a previous date, September 28th, 2017. You will see the pink -- And then the green editions or something was added. You can see the difference between the two days. In real time with Mark at. There are three basic views. The table of contents for you, agency view, and the changes you. It's a little different than from what they say on the offscreen. But -- Make sense to me. We don't -- And the live demo. Here is the table of contents. You can see you have the basic 50 titles laid out here. Less than half of it. The data was last updated. In other words the most recent change to the title. And then you can view the changes. Recent changes. -- It is one of the two browse functions. Under the browse command in the top navigation bar you have two options. You can browse by title which is essentially the table of contents or you can browse by agency. This is really helpful especially for agencies that show up in various titles. For example you will see in marketing service mostly shows up in the agriculture seven CFR but also has a section of nine CSR. You can also see other ones here. There are some agencies -- Okay. You can also look at the changes view from the table of contents. When you are at the table of contents you can see few changes. This is what you get over on the side. It starts with the most recent changes. This being June 4th, June 3rd. And then there's a little gap in May 26th. It shows you the changes in the hierarchy of where you can see different sections of subjective. And you click on it and get the changes from there. At the top navigation part there is a tab that says recent changes. This will give you day by day breakdown. Just an easier way to get to the same thing we were just showing. Okay. This is the point in time feature. -- You can see here on the screen. Title eight -- To a 4.6. If you look at the navigation bar under this content you can see a timeline. This is a great way to note when certain sections will change. Something that is really changing a lot especially between presidential ministrations when there is a lot of changes going back and forth between getting rid of regulations and any regulations and changing deadlines. You can see the timeline change. Where you can view the CFR on a particular day. But even more importantly you can view the change that has been introduced and compare to the most recent with all the pink strikethrough and green initiatives. And markup like that. You can subscribe at several points within the interface. You can subscribe to the whole title to get notifications or subscribe to a particular subsection. -- Title and section any place with electronic vehicle comes up in the search. You will get a notification at that change. Okay. So now we have gone through that we're going to do some live demos. I'm going to share. Okay. You will be able to do chat right now. But hold your questions and put them in chat. You should be seeing the screen of the data -- By the way this is the one that is considered the life version. Which has many features. But just not as many as the new one. My recommendation is to just bypass this and spend your time here. Because the old one is going away. They start out with all the reader is what you can get to hear. Reader answer your help screens. Very helpful. I recommend -- But if you don't want all of this stuff at the top you can just browse titles. And that gets rid of the reader -- Here we are. Let's just go into title eight. She could see the breakdown. I choose title VIII because it is one of the shorter titles of the CFR contained in one volume. So it's a little easier to navigate. So to go through you can click that. And go in. And then if you click on timeline, in this case no changes for this section. Let me see if I get to a section. Okay. Here is a

section that has some modifications. You can view content on the particular date. And it will tell you exactly what date you are doing. Just to make it clear. Or you can compare to the -- Here we have content can see a section in the earlier days it appeared one way and then there is a strikethrough word differs from today's version. If you are doing research overtime this is extremely helpful. You can also compare to the experience. It confused me the first time I did. You have to put these older dates here. In this reverse way you would normally -- So if I was going to compare, let's see this. And then I have to put something. Yeah. And then you can compare the versions. I won't take the time to go through all of the so that is home. One of the ways -- This is where it gets interesting especially if you're trying to track -- They have things in title to 44 and 50. And then -- Other agencies. This is a very wonderful function away of navigating the CFR if you want to track -- Useful things in this set. Different things to do in the print version. Other things to make changes. You can hit recent changes. And this will give you some recent things. But you can keep going back in time. You will notice you can do changes. One thing I did not say is next. Previous. One thing I do not mention Mrs. currently goes back to 2017. The office of the Federal Register is interested in adding the previous time into this but as the president they have not come back for 2017. The CFR has been around for quite some time. 2014 or 2010. I'm not sure when. They have all of this metadata. These are technical corrections where the agency made an error -- Didn't necessarily make an error. But it was corrected. That was probably not too interesting to us. I want to show if you parts of this. We will browse by title. We will go to title VI. If we want to go to the timeline, let's see. I'm getting the results for my search. Anyway, you can go in there and compare two different dates. Let's browse by agency. In time you can go to the -- Addition and notice what happens here. The published edition. Problem detected. I won't worry about problems detected. To you can do the timeline. There was a change in 2020 and this whole section was added. That is kind of fun. Let us do a search. There are two ways to search. You can click the search button here or you can search the box. This is in the header bar and you can do more control over updates. So let's search for COVID-19. Obviously you will only get recent things here. COVID-19. But if you want to be notified you have to sign up for the system. I have heard it done that. I'm going to subscribe to this. Okay. These are my current subscriptions. I have a subscription to student visas. I have a subscription to changes in title eight. And now changes to COVID-19. So I will get an email anytime I test for those things. Let's do another search. Search for electronic bicycles. Here we have a section on electronic bicycles. The National Park Service. And I can subscribe to -- From the. All right. That is not such an interesting section. All right. That is pretty much what I wanted to show. Let me stop sharing for a second. We have lots of time for questions.

Chris. We do have one question. Jose wants to know -- I don't know if they are archived. -- Are tied there. And the changes are in the -- So in that sense -- But in terms all point and time, change service archive, I do not know the answer to that. There was a webinar on, let me show you. If you go to this webpage. -- You will see -- Training. And this one right here. This is an introduction to the ECF are beta website. Two gentlemen from the office of the federal register John Martinez and Steve -- They talk about the ECF are from their perspective is the publisher of the electronic code of regulations. I am not sure that talking there about archiving funds -- But they would be the ones to ask the question of. I'm sorry I cannot answer that. I just don't know the answer to that.

Okay. Another question. -- CFR is so far -- Is there any reason to keep --

Yes. It depends on what you want to do. If you are in the law library you want to get, you just have to ask yourself who are your users and what do you want? If you have users that really want the paper and rely on it, then you will have to decide what you want to teach. If you are a law library you do not want to toss -- If you are an academic library you want to always keep -- You always want to keep title III. Title III is a place where presidential issuances permanently, originally with the executive order and

proclamations and memoranda and determinations. All of those special issues kept in title III. Some libraries will keep the whole thing going all the time. Other libraries will decide to supersede and keep all of the -- Other libraries will maybe ask to not get into anymore and have a record in their catalog for the lot, version of -- It is just a matter of what your users want and how much acreage you have in your library for keeping it there.

Okay. Next question. We get lots of -- About including documents. Is that out of -- Presentation?

Supporting documents. Supporting documents I'm assuming -- That would probably be out of scope. Everything in the codified federal registry. Not everything appears if I get into the -- There's a lot of things of the Federal Register. In terms of

Okay. Did you say that the CFI only goes back to chapter 17? Is that word chooses all of which are in the back.

That is correct. You can only track it and affect it with the CFA on the two 2017. Let me see. If we try to go like this, food and drugs. Okay. If we try to go to a date, you can go back in time. And you can see these are all flat. Here you go September 27th. Here's 2016. I cannot select anything there. You see that. Generator it is as far as you were to go back. You will need to do the old-fashioned way if you want to track something. That's further than that. I hope that helps.

Okay next question what you see to a patron who wants an interpretation in a section of the CFR title especially something very technical?

We have your attorney. Finding information appointed to the section. We as librarians can help all day long with the information. In terms of interpreting things that is a nonstarter for me. I might refer them to our law library and -- Across the street. Yeah.

Next question. We are a law library -- Our users like to have a combination of -- An online video --

I concur with that. When they didn't know what else to do there were so desperate -- I know the law librarians go to. And the different needs the users have so I can relate to that.

-- And they have read literary insight. Not so intuitive that usually do subscribe to it -- We still have time for questions. Please type them in

And LSA crosswalk from CF RFR. Nobody wants to see that happen. So I will do it.

About researching --

Okay. The whole regulatory process -- Administration in the mid-1930s. We did have regulations of the country before the current process. It is just very difficult. Many say the first for literary agency -- And these should a lot of issues they just went through a process -- The first government agency to issue -- You'll find them published. Several things I pointed to when searching pre-1935 -- Is to look at -- That is to say -- Government publications -- Some of you may subscribe to this great resource. They will give you various regulatory classifications -- There's the searching of the -- -- Yes. Such as in the case of the -- The reason I seem to know so much -- University of Denver 1995. There were 10 -- From Washington DC

to Denver and guess who was the one who processed the whole things? Was me. -- Regulations from the interstate commerce commission predate 1935 and -- Familiar with those regulations -- A

Okay. -- It looks like we don't have any questions. I'm going to think Chris very much thank you guys.

Thank you, everybody. [Event concluded]