

REPORT OF THE MLHP FOR 2009

BY

DOUGLAS A. HEDIN

A. Who Cares?

In mid 2009, on one of the many blogs devoted to academia, a law professor posted an account of a paper he had given to a faculty workshop. Afterward, he fielded questions from colleagues, one of whom surprised him with the simple question, “Who cares?” It was not, he assured his readers, asked sarcastically. It forced him to reexamine and discuss the purpose of writing articles on esoteric subjects of great interest to a few fellow scholars, but with little popular appeal. The ensuing debate led me to ask the same question about the Minnesota Legal History Project. The answer I knew immediately: Not many.

A website such as the MLHP can be justified on several grounds. Foremost: Any endeavor that increases our knowledge of the law is worth the effort. It may encourage future research and writings on the state’s legal past (less than ten top notch articles have been written on the subject so far). The articles posted here also serve a utilitarian purpose in that they satisfy our curiosity, as does, though on a grander scale, a biography of Napoleon or a history of Pompeii. And a few articles recall and resurrect individuals—usually lawyers or judges—who have been forgotten.

B. Statistics

The MLHP, like other websites, has a function that keeps statistics of its viewers—where they are located, what articles are most popular, and so on. For an educational website like the MLHP, the number of “viewers” is more important than the number of “hits” which is valuable to commercial users of the internet. However, the gross number of “viewers” is misleading because it includes each time search engines (now called web robots or “bots”) such as

Yahoo, Google or Microsoft which sweep the internet for new postings, and in the process “view” the MLHP. This happens several times a day, resulting in an inflated number of “viewers.” I estimate that over 50% of the “viewers” of the MLHP are bots, not real people. Because most bots are located in California, or Colorado where Qwest is situated, exceptionally large numbers of “viewers” in those states are recorded. Table I lists visitors at the beginning of each month for 2009.

The statistics maintained for the MLHP are for a thirty day period. The following tables cover two 30 day periods, which can be compared:

Table II covers May 31 to June 30, 2009.

Table III covers November 28 to December 27, 2009.

Table I
(2009 VISITORS)

DATE (2009)	TOTAL VISITORS	AVERAGE VISITORS PER DAY OVER PREVIOUS 30 DAYS	UNIQUE IPs*
Jan 5	1505	50	382
Feb 1	1597	53	368
Mar 1	1469	48	413
Apr 1	1382	46	430
May 1	1566	52	515
July 1	1736	57	474
July 27	1882	62	481
Sept 1	2617	87	562
Oct 1	1863	62	655
Dec 1	2000	66	579
Dec 27	1940	64	603

* “Unique IPs” stands for Internet Protocol. It is an “address” for a computer or network of computers, like the physical address for a building or an apartment. Often times, in an area where there are multiple PC’s there may only be one IP address (EX: a library may have 20 computers, but only one IP address for the building). This column lists the number of unique IP addresses that have accessed the MLHP website. This function is designed to separate IP addresses from PC’s.

Table II

(Reporting Period: May 31 to June 30, 2009)

A. Most Active Countries

	Country	Hits	Visitors	% of Total Visitors	Bandwidth (KB)
1	United States	5,914	1,428	82.35%	0
2	China	334	176	10.15%	0
3	Unknown	124	58	3.34%	0
4	France	66	29	1.67%	0
5	Canada	28	9	0.52%	0
6	Greece	6	6	0.35%	0
7	United Kingdom	74	5	0.29%	0
8	Italy	7	5	0.29%	0
9	Japan	3	3	0.17%	0
10	Dominican Republic	10	2	0.12%	0
11	Germany	6	2	0.12%	0
12	Norway	1	1	0.06%	0
13	Uruguay	13	1	0.06%	0
14	Taiwan	4	1	0.06%	0
15	Sweden	1	1	0.06%	0
16	Netherlands	1	1	0.06%	0
17	Hong Kong	1	1	0.06%	0
18	Ghana	1	1	0.06%	0
19	Australia	1	1	0.06%	0
20	Nigeria	7	1	0.06%	0
21	India	4	1	0.06%	0
22	Ireland	1	1	0.06%	0
	Total	6,607	1,734	100.00%	0

B. Most Active U. S. States

(May 31 to June 30, 2009)

	State	Hits	Visitors	Bandwidth (KB)
1	California	2,185	847	0
2	District of Columbia	168	86	0
3	Minnesota	352	75	0
4	Colorado	1,582	51	0
5	Washington	125	37	0
6	Maryland	33	22	0
7	New York	380	19	0
8	Wisconsin	22	9	0
9	Pennsylvania	93	7	0
10	Arizona	7	7	0

11	Florida	14	7	0
12	Michigan	22	6	0
13	New Jersey	332	6	0
14	Missouri	62	6	0
15	Illinois	22	6	0
16	Georgia	7	5	0
17	Oregon	8	4	0
18	North Dakota	12	3	0
19	Texas	11	3	0
20	Iowa	6	3	0
21	Connecticut	32	3	0
22	Virginia	3	2	0
23	Tennessee	17	2	0
24	Arkansas	2	2	0
25	Indiana	5	2	0
26	Massachusetts	3	2	0
27	North Carolina	14	2	0
28	Wyoming	14	1	0
29	Alabama	1	1	0
30	Idaho	8	1	0
31	Kansas	1	1	0
32	Ohio	1	1	0
33	South Carolina	9	1	0
34	Oklahoma	1	1	0
	Total	5,554	1,231	0

C. Most Active Cities (May 31 to June 30, 2009)

	City	Hits	Visitors	Bandwidth (KB)
1	Mountain View, California, United States	1,234	444	0
2	Sunnyvale, California, United States	661	269	0
3	Oakland, California, United States	206	104	0
4	Guangzhou, China	178	104	0
5	Washington, District of Columbia, United States	168	86	0
6	Beijing, China	130	61	0
7	Denver, Colorado, United States	1,581	50	0
8	Minneapolis, Minnesota, United States	155	30	0
9	Seattle, Washington, United States	112	28	0
10	Paris, France	65	28	0
11	Baltimore, Maryland, United States	33	22	0
12	Saint Paul, Minnesota, United States	106	20	0
13	New York, New York, United States	55	9	0
14	Clifton Park, New York, United States	180	6	0
15	Heraklion, Greece	6	6	0
16	San Francisco, California, United States	12	6	0

17	Hebei, China	10	5	0
18	Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, United States	49	4	0
19	Bellevue, Washington, United States	7	4	0
20	Rome, Italy	5	4	0
21	Duluth, Minnesota, United States	31	3	0
22	Los Angeles, California, United States	5	3	0
23	Tucson, Arizona, United States	3	3	0
24	Catford, United Kingdom	72	3	0
25	Saint Cloud, Minnesota, United States	5	3	0
26	Waterloo, Canada	18	3	0
27	Cupertino, California, United States	3	3	0
28	Fort Lauderdale, Florida, United States	7	2	0
29	Fargo, North Dakota, United States	11	2	0
30	Duisburg, Germany	6	2	0
31	Winona, Minnesota, United States	2	2	0
32	Wayne, Pennsylvania, United States	43	2	0
33	Durham, North Carolina, United States	14	2	0
34	Fremont, California, United States	2	2	0
35	Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic	10	2	0
36	Simi Valley, California, United States	2	2	0
37	Saint Louis, Missouri, United States	2	2	0
38	Owatonna, Minnesota, United States	3	2	0
39	Vacaville, California, United States	19	2	0
40	Verona, Wisconsin, United States	2	2	0
41	Titusville, Florida, United States	4	2	0
42	Lawrenceville, Georgia, United States	4	2	0
43	Belleville, Illinois, United States	7	2	0
44	Ashland, Missouri, United States	56	2	0
45	Chicago, Illinois, United States	12	2	0
46	Reston, Virginia, United States	1	1	0
47	Roanoke, Virginia, United States	2	1	0
48	Prior Lake, Minnesota, United States	13	1	0
49	Regina, Canada	1	1	0
50	Redmond, Oregon, United States	1	1	0
	Subtotal	5,314	1,352	0
	Total	6,096	1,468	0

D. Most Downloaded Files

(May 31 to June 30, 2009)

	File	Hits	Incomplete Requests	Visitors	Bandwidth (KB)
1	Bench & Bar Duluth (1910).pdf	38	0	31	0
2	Briggs & Morgan.pdf	28	4	23	0
3	C. K.Davis Cross.pdf	27	1	21	0
4	FILLMORE COUNTY BENCH AND BAR.pdf	19	0	18	0
5	The Otter Tail County Bar.pdf	21	1	17	0

6	LeSueur County.pdf	16	0	16	0
7	Morrison County.pdf	16	0	16	0
8	Brown Cty -1935.pdf	17	2	15	0
9	Nicollet County B.pdf	15	0	15	0
10	Sheep in Nite.pdf	15	0	15	0
11	Chippewa Cnty.pdf	16	1	15	0
12	Collins Bench and Bar.pdf	17	1	15	0
13	Brown Cty B& B.pdf	16	0	15	0
14	Renville Cty B& B.pdf	15	0	15	0
15	jury sequestration.pdf	19	2	15	0
16	Rogers on Severance.pdf	25	10	15	0
17	Caution to Frontier Lawyers.pdf	15	0	14	0
18	Lass..pdf	23	9	14	0
19	Lac Qui Parle.pdf	14	0	14	0
20	BenchBar Ramsey Cty I.pdf	22	8	14	0
21	17th Dist.pdf	14	0	14	0
22	Court Calendars 1879.pdf	15	1	13	0
23	The First Lawsuit in Birch Cooley Township.pdf	14	0	13	0
24	DUNN.pdf	14	0	13	0
25	Perkins.pdf	14	0	13	0
26	Melville & Mason.pdf	14	0	13	0
27	O'Brien attys & jurymen.pdf	15	0	13	0
28	Sen. Hoar.pdf	21	9	12	0
29	THE MEEKER DAM.pdf	12	0	12	0
30	Cudmore's Ter. Bar.pdf	13	0	12	0
31	Polk County.pdf	16	0	12	0
32	Hedin_Pine_River.pdf	14	1	12	0
33	Becker County.pdf	13	0	12	0
34	WRIGHT CTY B & B.pdf	22	8	12	0
35	Waseca Cty B& B.pdf	13	1	12	0
36	John Harrison Brown.pdf	11	0	11	0
37	Steele Cty B& B.pdf	12	1	11	0
38	Bench Bar Duluth.pdf	25	13	11	0
39	And Justice for None book rev..pdf	11	0	11	0
40	Lincoln County.pdf	12	0	11	0
41	Kittson Cnty.pdf	12	0	11	0
42	Lake Superior Lawyer.pdf	12	0	11	0
43	Big Stone Cty.pdf	12	1	11	0
44	Norman Cty B& B.pdf	13	1	11	0
45	Watsonwan County.pdf	12	1	11	0
46	Page Play.pdf	19	8	11	0
47	Chatfield.pdf	13	1	11	0
48	Constitutional Right to Graden .pdf	13	1	11	0
49	Houston Cty.pdf	11	0	11	0
50	Organic Act.pdf	10	0	10	0
	Subtotal	816	86	N/A	0
	Total	1,258	147	N/A	0

TABLE III

(November 28 to December 27, 2009)

A. Most Active Countries

	Country	Hits	Visitors	% of Total Visitors	Bandwidth (KB)
1	United States	5,153	1,303	67.16%	0
2	Unknown	764	360	18.56%	0
3	France	180	109	5.62%	0
4	China	79	70	3.61%	0
5	Russian Federation	138	52	2.68%	0
6	Japan	12	10	0.52%	0
7	Netherlands	17	9	0.46%	0
8	Canada	17	7	0.36%	0
9	Germany	131	5	0.26%	0
10	United Kingdom	6	3	0.15%	0
11	India	7	2	0.10%	0
12	Romania	12	2	0.10%	0
13	Korea, Republic of	4	2	0.10%	0
14	Venezuela	1	1	0.05%	0
15	Ukraine	1	1	0.05%	0
16	Lithuania	5	1	0.05%	0
17	Australia	1	1	0.05%	0
18	Malta	1	1	0.05%	0
19	Morocco	1	1	0.05%	0
	Total	6,530	1,940	100.00%	0

B. Most Active U. S. States

(November 28 to December 27, 2009)

	State	Hits	Visitors	Bandwidth (KB)
1	California	1,588	738	0
2	Minnesota	574	78	0
3	Colorado	1,707	58	0
4	Washington	122	35	0
5	New York	54	19	0
6	Ohio	191	8	0
7	Texas	12	8	0
8	Illinois	13	8	0
9	Virginia	13	7	0
10	Wisconsin	18	7	0
11	Oregon	12	6	0
12	Missouri	34	6	0
13	District of Columbia	107	6	0

14	Kansas	27	5	0
15	Florida	8	4	0
16	Nebraska	3	3	0
17	Michigan	6	3	0
18	South Dakota	3	3	0
19	Indiana	4	3	0
20	New Mexico	33	2	0
21	New Jersey	2	2	0
22	North Carolina	2	2	0
23	North Dakota	2	2	0
24	Oklahoma	18	2	0
25	New Hampshire	8	2	0
26	Idaho	3	2	0
27	Georgia	3	2	0
28	Arkansas	2	2	0
29	Louisiana	11	2	0
30	Nevada	2	2	0
31	Tennessee	4	2	0
32	Utah	8	2	0
33	Wyoming	1	1	0
34	West Virginia	14	1	0
35	Rhode Island	1	1	0
36	Connecticut	1	1	0
37	Iowa	10	1	0
38	Alabama	1	1	0
39	Arizona	4	1	0
40	Kentucky	1	1	0
41	Montana	10	1	0
42	Pennsylvania	11	1	0
43	Maine	1	1	0
44	Maryland	5	1	0
	Total	4,654	1,043	0

B. Most Active Cities

(November 28 to December 27, 2009)

	City	Hits	Visitors	Bandwidth (KB)
1	Sunnyvale, California, United States	772	347	0
2	Mountain View, California, United States	579	258	0
3	Beijing, China	79	70	0
4	Denver, Colorado, United States	1,691	56	0
5	Oakland, California, United States	92	52	0
6	Moscow, Russian Federation	138	52	0
7	Clichy, France	90	41	0
8	Paris, France	60	38	0
9	Minneapolis, Minnesota, United States	396	35	0
10	Marseille, France	30	30	0

11	Seattle, Washington, United States	99	24	0
12	Santa Clara, California, United States	24	23	0
13	Saint Paul, Minnesota, United States	104	16	0
14	San Diego, California, United States	15	14	0
15	Los Angeles, California, United States	35	13	0
16	White Plains, New York, United States	9	7	0
17	San Francisco, California, United States	7	7	0
18	Cupertino, California, United States	7	7	0
19	Washington, District of Columbia, United States	107	6	0
20	La Jolla, California, United States	8	4	0
21	Chicago, Illinois, United States	3	3	0
22	Saint Louis, Missouri, United States	19	3	0
23	Rochester, New York, United States	14	3	0
24	Bellevue, Washington, United States	6	3	0
25	Bellevue, Nebraska, United States	3	3	0
26	Dallas, Texas, United States	4	3	0
27	Rochester, Minnesota, United States	8	3	0
28	Longview, Washington, United States	6	3	0
29	Dayton, Ohio, United States	2	2	0
30	San Bernardino, California, United States	2	2	0
31	Greeley, Colorado, United States	16	2	0
32	Norman, Oklahoma, United States	18	2	0
33	Portland, Oregon, United States	3	2	0
34	Albuquerque, New Mexico, United States	33	2	0
35	Rothschild, Wisconsin, United States	10	2	0
36	Durham, North Carolina, United States	2	2	0
37	Salt Lake City, Utah, United States	8	2	0
38	Hastings, Minnesota, United States	3	2	0
39	Winona, Minnesota, United States	5	2	0
40	Marshall, Minnesota, United States	9	2	0
41	Sioux Falls, South Dakota, United States	2	2	0
42	Las Vegas, Nevada, United States	2	2	0
43	Brooklyn, New York, United States	6	2	0
44	Bucharest, Romania	12	2	0
45	Urbana, Illinois, United States	4	2	0
46	Little Rock, Arkansas, United States	2	2	0
47	Cincinnati, Ohio, United States	12	2	0
48	Beaverton, Oregon, United States	7	2	0
49	Chaska, Minnesota, United States	2	2	0
50	Melita, Malta	1	1	0
	Subtotal	4,566	1,167	0
	Total	5,118	1,289	0

C. Most Downloaded Files (November 28 to December 27, 2009)

	File	Hits	Incomplete Requests	Visitors	Bandwidth (KB)
1	Constitutional Right to Garden .pdf	38	3	34	0
2	Fillmore County B AND Bar.pdf	28	3	25	0
3	Bench & Bar Duluth (1910).pdf	27	3	22	0
4	Presidents MSBA 1901-2010.pdf	24	3	20	0
5	LeSueur County.pdf	21	1	20	0
6	The Otter Tail County Bar.pdf	26	6	19	0
7	Chippewa Cnty.pdf	20	0	19	0
8	Rogers on Severance.pdf	19	0	19	0
9	DUNN.pdf	20	1	18	0
10	Wabasha B & B.pdf	18	0	18	0
11	Minn. Const. in Dakota Language .pdf	40	23	18	0
12	Rogers on Kellogg.pdf	20	2	17	0
13	Watsonwan County.pdf	20	2	17	0
14	William Mitchell.pdf	17	0	17	0
15	Brown Cty B& B.pdf	18	1	17	0
16	Mower Cty Legal History.pdf	16	0	16	0
17	Renville Cty B& B.pdf	19	3	16	0
18	Freeborn Cty B& B.pdf	17	1	16	0
19	Austin H. Young.pdf	16	0	16	0
20	WRIGHT CTY B & B.pdf	16	0	16	0
21	Waseca Cty B& B.pdf	18	2	16	0
22	jury sequestration.pdf	16	0	16	0
23	Preemption Act of 1841.pdf	18	3	15	0
24	Nicollet County B.pdf	15	0	15	0
25	Kittson Cnty.pdf	15	0	15	0
26	Homestead Act (1862).pdf	16	1	15	0
27	McLeod County.pdf	16	1	15	0
28	Dakota Cty B & B.pdf	14	0	14	0
29	Court Calendars 1879.pdf	14	0	14	0
30	Collins Bench and Bar.pdf	16	2	14	0
31	Bench Bar Duluth.pdf	15	1	14	0
32	Houston Cty.pdf	14	0	14	0
33	Bench Bar Ramsey Cty .pdf	14	0	14	0
34	Big Stone Cty.pdf	15	1	14	0
35	Kennedy on Kellogg.pdf	19	5	13	0
36	Lake Superior Lawyer.pdf	13	0	13	0
37	Steele Cty B& B.pdf	13	0	13	0
38	Chatfield.pdf	14	1	13	0
39	Presidents of HCBA.pdf	13	0	13	0
40	Briggs & Morgan.pdf	14	0	13	0
41	Becker County.pdf	14	1	13	0
42	Cottonwood B.pdf	14	1	13	0

43	Pres. Ramsey CBA. pdf	13	0	13	0
44	Clay Cty B & B.pdf	12	0	12	0
45	John Harrison Brown. pdf	12	0	12	0
46	Page Play.pdf	12	0	12	0
47	Killing and Transfiguration .pdf	13	0	12	0
48	Lac Qui Parle.pdf	11	0	11	0
49	Morrison County.pdf	11	0	11	0
50	Melville & Mason.pdf	12	1	11	0
	Subtotal	866	72	N/A	0
	Total	1,391	105	N/A	0

III.

The types of articles posted in 2010 will not vary much from those posted last year—there will be a few original articles, a few book reviews, and more postings of previously published newspaper and magazine articles with “Forewards.” Many bar memorials, which have been deposited with the Minnesota Historical Society, will also be posted.

June 7, 2010.

Douglas A. Hedin
Editor