

LEADER PROFILE STAYING ON THE CUTTING EDGE

Steve Lastres is a technology enthusiast. His law firm is at the cutting edge of legal technology innovations, having created mobile apps and intelligence dashboards. They also publish curated newsletters and develop other tools that help lawyers practice more efficiently and the organization at large provide enhanced client services. "We distribute more than 2,000 alerts to nine offices globally to meet the organization's information demands in North America,





he earned his MLS from Pratt Institute and a JD from New York Law School. Lastres has spent his entire career working in law firms, except for serving as a page for one day at the Association of the Bar of the City of New York. He has been in his director role at Debevoise & Plimpton LLP for the last 12 years. In addition, he has been a member of the American Association of Law Libraries (AALL) since 1986, serving on a number of association projects and groups, including as the Chair of the Private Law Librarians and Information Professionals (PLLIP) Special Interest Section (SIS), the Council of SIS Chairs, as an author on the AALL Digital White Paper, “Defining ROI: Law Library Best Practices,” and as a frequent presenter at AALL Annual Meetings. Here, he talks about the essential technology and business skills all librarians should possess, the skills law students need to onboard quicker, and how technology has changed—and continues to change—the legal landscape.

[How has your job changed over the years?](#)

an article that I recently posted to *On Firmer Ground*, which is a blog I co-founded with another PLLIP-SIS member, about content aggregation tools and how we need to work smarter and deliver actionable content to the right people at the right time. He planned to teach his students about current awareness aggregation tools and I was able to provide him with samples for his corporate research class.

What's the benefit of AALL?

While a primary focus of AALL is professional development, there is no question that the opportunity to collaborate and network with others has been critical to my success and many of my colleagues. In my *On Firmer Ground* anecdote above, you have someone in technical services at an academic institution in Texas who

