



The Perma Project

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THE PERMA PROJECT

The *Louisiana Law Review* remains one of the few law reviews in the country to utilize the Perma.cc service in its publication.¹ Perma.cc is an online service that seeks to remedy the problem of link rot.² Link rot occurs when online sites referenced by authors in legal scholarship are later changed or removed after the article has been published.³ Indeed, 50% of the URLs cited by the U.S. Supreme Court no longer go to the source to which the Court originally cited.⁴ “Broken links in journal articles undermine the citation-based system of legal scholarship by obscuring the evidence underlying authors’ ideas. As Internet usage becomes more widespread and web citations in legal scholarship become more common, the problem of link rot will become increasingly important.”⁵

To remedy this problem, Perma.cc creates a new URL that hosts an unalterable archived version of the original online source that will exist regardless of whether the original link remains active.⁶ Readers of the *Louisiana Law Review* will see these unique permalinks paralleling the original URLs in the footnotes of this Issue and those to come. These permalinks can be accessed like an ordinary URL and offer the reader access to the original web source, as well as the archived version stored by Perma.cc.⁷ In certain circumstances, however, websites that require subscriptions may be incompatible with the freely accessible nature of the Perma.cc service. In those circumstances, readers will encounter a dark-archive message, which will require the reader to contact the LSU Paul M. Hebert Law Library for assistance.

1. See PERMA.CC, <http://perma.cc/> (last visited Mar. 24, 2014).

2. See *About Perma*, PERMA.CC, <http://perma.cc/about>, archived at <http://perma.cc/M98Q-R973>.

3. See *id.*

4. Jonathan Zittrain, Kendra Albert & Lawrence Lessig, *Perma: Scoping and Addressing the Problem of Link and Reference Rot in Legal Citations*, 127 HARV. L. REV. F. 176 (2014).

5. *About Perma*, *supra* note 2.

6. *Id.*

7. *Id.*