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## Great Expectations

Patricia Kutza

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Is one of your New Year's resolutions to exercise more during your work week in 2014? Add tech education to your New Year's resolutions and you will be well on your way to meeting that goal. Sound far-fetched?

Consider this fact: Exercising at least half of our suggested resolutions will free up time for you to get to the gym more often. Still skeptical?

Recently Law Technology News did some heavy-lifting, dipping into the rich treasure trove of YouTube videos, and uncovered a few nuggets that can help attorneys save time and money.

### 1) Start using digital signatures: [How to Sign a Pleading with an Android Device.](#)

*Producer:* The Droid Lawyer, Published on January 30, 2014.

*Viewing time:* Seven minutes.

*Style:* Oklahoma-based attorney [Jeffrey Taylor](#) has created a timely niche for himself by focusing on tips for Android users.

*Takeaway:* Taylor gives you a two in this video, illustrating not only how to digitally sign pleadings on a mobile device, but also showing how to manipulate Android apps for Dropbox, Adobe CreatePDF, exPDF Reader and SignMyPad—all of which are available from the Google Play Store.

### 2) Add some muscle to your Excel skills: [Excel Power Tips: Useful Techniques for Excel Lists, Drop Downs and Data Validation.](#)

*Producer:* [Launch Excel](#), Published on April 18, 2012.

*Viewing time:* Twenty-one minutes.

*Style:* [Victor Chan](#), chief teaching officer at Launch Excel, excels at offering shortcuts. In fact, folks who sign up for his email list can get a [free Excel keyboard shortcuts ebook](#).

*Takeaway:* Chan offers a helpful table of contents (with time stamps) for this video so that viewers can fast-forward to the topics they are most interested in learning. He also provides a [sample workbook](#) as a study aid.

### 3) Develop your PDF chops: [Adobe Acrobat X: PDF Basics.](#)

*Producer:* [ABA Law Practice Division](#), Published on May 31, 2012

*Viewing time:* Eleven minutes

*Style:* While there are many YouTube PDF tutorials to choose from, this video from the ABA's Law Practice Tips series, focuses more on tasks that lawyers frequently use.

*Takeaway:* There are lots of smart techniques packed into this short presentation. Even attorneys who already feel proficient using Adobe Acrobat will likely find ways to use it more efficiently.

**4) Boost your Google Scholar searching skills: [3 Google Scholar Tips for Case Law Research](#).**

*Producer:* [Lawgorithms](#), Published on March 4, 2012.

*Viewing time:* Seven minutes.

*Style:* This channel is dedicated to helping attorneys adopt 21st Century law management practices.

*Takeaway:* It's no secret that Google Scholar is making inroads into the more traditional (and far more pricier) case law research market. In this brief video, viewers learn more robust ways to use keywords and filter their searches.

Save time and money and exercise more: Sounds like three great New Year resolutions worth keeping. And best wishes for your teched-up 2014!

[Patricia Kutza](#) is a business and technology journalist based in the San Francisco Bay Area. Email: [pkutza@pacbell.net](mailto:pkutza@pacbell.net).

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