Introduction to Fastcase Legal Research
The Smarter Solution for Legal Research

The Fastcase Difference:
Find the Cases You Want Without Wading Through a Sea of Results

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS
How do I login?
How do I Shepardize?
What do you cover?
How do I login?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Retail Subscribers</th>
<th>Bar Association Members</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Go to <a href="http://www.fastcase.com">www.fastcase.com</a> and click the Login button at the top right hand side of the screen</td>
<td>Go to your bar association's website and look for the Fastcase logo or link.</td>
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How do I “Shepardize”?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fastcase Authority Check®</th>
<th>Other Citators</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Free list of later citing cases in the Fastcase database</td>
<td>For treatment information, try a third party citator such as Shepard’s (LexisNexis) or Keycite (Westlaw).</td>
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<tr>
<td>Does not contain treatment information</td>
<td>These services charge between $7 - $15 per case.</td>
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What Do You Cover?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fastcase is a Primary Law Database.</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Case Law</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Statutes</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Other Regulations</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Court Rules</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Constitutions</strong></td>
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Searching for Case Law

Quick Caselaw Search
- Simple Keyword Search
- Citation Lookup

Advanced Caselaw Search
- Keyword Search (with Boolean Operators)
- Natural Language Search
- Citation Lookup

Search Types

Keyword (Boolean)
- Most powerful, precise and flexible way to search

Natural Language
- Best for non-legal professionals or brand-new to online legal research
- Less precise than Keyword search

Citation Lookup
- Pull up cases by reporter citation

AND Operator
Capital AND Punishment → Cases containing both words
**OR Operator**

Capital OR Punishment → Cases containing at least one of the two words

**NOT Operator**

Chemical Waste NOT Management → Cases containing the words chemical waste but not the word management

**“Within” Operator**

Jury w/3 Trial → Cases containing the word jury within 3 words of the word trial

. . . jury trial . . .
. . . trial by jury . . .
. . . jury for the trial . . .
. . . jury. Moreover, trial . . .
. . . jury question, the trial . . .
**Wildcard Operator**

Delib* → Cases containing any word that begins with "delib"

- deliberate
- deliberation
- deliberator
- deliberately

**Advanced Tools**

- Authority Check
- Interactive Timeline
- Forecite

**Select Document Type**

- [Search Dropdown]
  - Advanced Calendar Search
  - Search Statistics
  - Search Regulations
  - Search Constitution
  - Search Court Cases
  - Search Attorney General Opinions
  - Search Memorandums
  - Search Federal Filings
  - Search Legal Notices
Click on the hyperlinked case caption to view the full text of the case.

Click the blue hyperlinked number (5,973) to load the Authority Check Report.
The Authority Check Report lists and links to later citing cases in the Fastcase database. It does not provide treatment information or tell you if a case is good law.

Use the Print/Save link to download a case to your computer so that you can print, save, or email it. Choose from three file formats. WordPerfect users should select “Microsoft Word (RTF).”
Use the Email link to email a case as rich text within the body of an email.

Choose your recipient. This field is auto-filled with the email address associated with your account – but you can change it to any email address you want.

Add a case to your library of (up to 10) favorites by clicking Add to My Favorites.
Select Go to Favorite Documents from the My Library Menu to retrieve the documents you have saved.

Keyword Search Tips

- Troubleshoot your proximity searches using our FAQ and User Guide.
- Use quotation marks around numerical search terms.
- Use parentheses to specify the order of operations.
- Unsupported Patterns:
  - w/3 OR w/3 AND w/3
- Supported Patterns:
  - A w/3 OR (B w/3 C) OR (A w/3 AND (B w/3 C))
- Comes up when searching for case law citing a statute
  - Incorrect: 111.2 OR 111.4
  - Correct: "111.2" OR "111.4"
- Confusing: Cat AND Mouse OR Rabbit NOT Dog
  - Better:
    - (((Cat AND Mouse) OR Rabbit) NOT Dog)
    - Cat AND (Mouse OR Rabbit) NOT Dog
- Use parentheses to specify the order of operations.

Use quotation marks around numerical search terms.
The Relevance percentage tells you how likely each case is to contain a substantive discussion of your search terms. In the Case column we list the caption and show you the most relevant paragraph of the case with your search terms in bold. In the Decision Date column we list the date the opinion was issued. In the Authority Check column, we display the number of later citing cases.
In the Authority Check column, we display the number of later citing cases. Click on either category - Entire Database or These Results - to sort your search results according to this number.

Each case is represented as a series of concentric circles. The larger the diameter, the more frequently a case has been cited.
Save Searches By Bookmarking

Fastcase always uses static urls, allowing you to access prior searches. Save as many searches as you would like for later use by bookmarking the results page.

Perform a search. Press Ctrl + D from the Results screen. Name and save your bookmark or favorite. To return to your saved results, reload the bookmark or favorite.

Statutes

Search Statutes by State

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<td>Wyoming</td>
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Search State Websites

Some states and commonwealths can only be searched in their official state collections. The tabs to the right determine the one or more state collections that are available for each state.

If there are historical versions of particular statutes, they will be listed here. Check the ones that you want to include in your search.

Search using Keyword Search, Natural Language or Citation Lookup.

-OR-

Browse using Outline View.

You can also pull up a specific statute section by citation. The key is to make sure that you format your query according to the search tips under the search box.
Statutes: Outline View

Browse statutes using outline view.
"Annotate" a Statute with a Creative Case Law Search

Search for cases citing a specific statute section by constructing an Advanced Caselaw keyword search with the statute section in quotation marks.

Example:
42 U.S.C. § 1983

Suggested Search:
Customer Support

CALL
1-866-773-2782

EMAIL
support@fastcase.com

LIVE CHAT
Help → Live Help

Available 8 am - 8 pm Eastern, Monday through Friday
(excluding holidays)
dlauretti@fastcase.com

Additional Training Resources:

www.fastcase.com Help & Training Documentation & Downloads

fastcase
Smarter legal research.