Fastcase Legal Research

The *Smarter* Solution for Legal Research

Keyword (Boolean) Search for Lawyers| 2012

#fcwebinar

Full Text Search	Index
Words	Concepts

Keyword	Subject
Google Fastcase	Keys (West) Headnotes (Lexis)

Synonymy	Ambiguity
Two words that mean the same thing.	Words that mean more than one thing.

Plurals	Order of Operations
Potato Potatoes	→

What Am I Searching?

Fastcase is a *Primary Law* Database.

Case Law	Federal and state case law back to 1950**
Statutes	U.S. Code & official state statutes for D.C. plus 44 states
Other Regulations	Links to state and federal administrative regulations and codes (some are searchable)
Court Rules	Links to state and federal courts rules (some are searchable)
Constitutions	Links to state and federal constitutions (a few are searchable)

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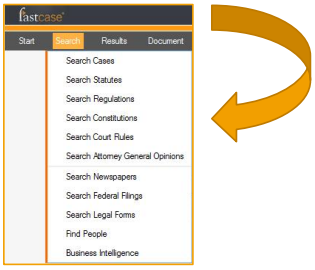
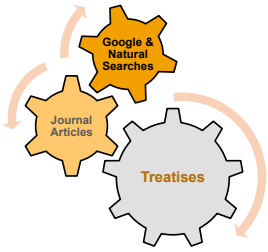


Concept → Keyword Search

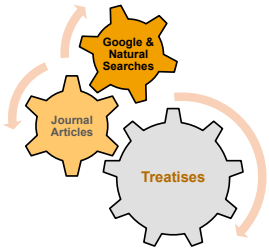
Getting Started | Do Your Homework



Question:

Constitutionality of searching garbage left at the curb?

Getting Started | Do Your Homework



Legal Principles

- ✓Fourth Amendment
- ✓Search and seizure
- ✓Expectation of privacy

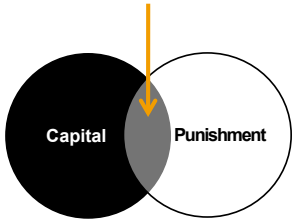
Additional Search Terms

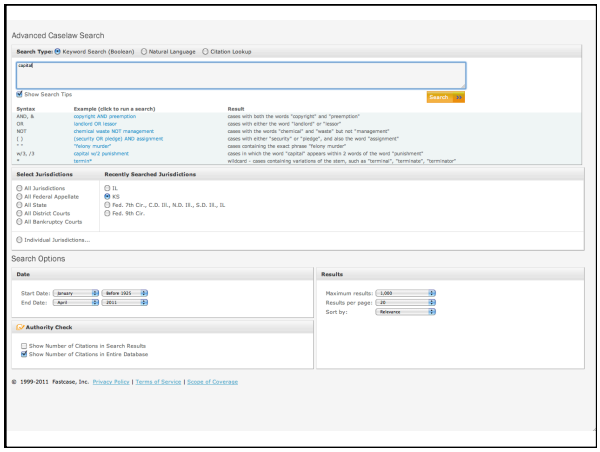
- ✓Garbage, trash
- ✓Curb, curbside

OPERATOR	EXAMPLE	DESCRIPTION
AND, &	Copyright AND Preemption	Results must contain *both* the words "Copyright" and "Preemption"
OR	Landlord OR Lessor	Results must contain *either* the word "Landlord" *or* the word "Lessor." (They may contain both words).
NOT	Vehicle NOT Car	Results *must contain* the word "Vehicle" but *must not contain* the word "Car."
w/3, /3	Capital w/3 Punishment	Results must contain the word "Capital" within 3 words of the word "Punishment". Any integer between 2 and 50 can be used with this operator.
*	Litig*	Results must contain some variation of the stem "Litig" such as Litigation, Litigated, Litigator, etc.
" "	"Felony Murder"	Results must contain the precise phrase "Felony Murder."
( )	(Security OR Pledge) AND Assignment	Parentheses are used to define the order of operations when you use multiple Boolean operators. This example search will yield results that contain the word "Assignment" as well as either the word "Security" or the word "Pledge".

AND Operator

Capital AND Punishment → Cases containing both words

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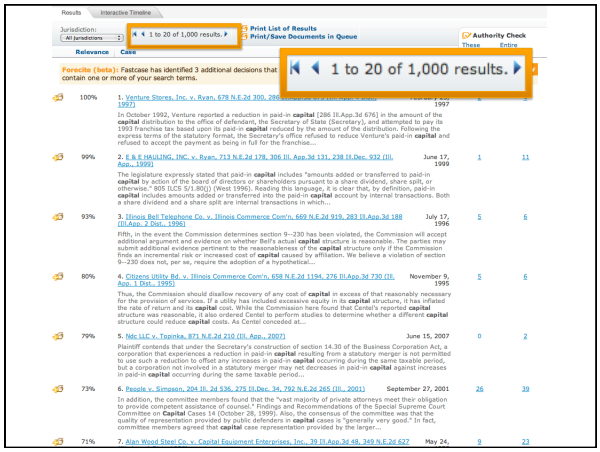
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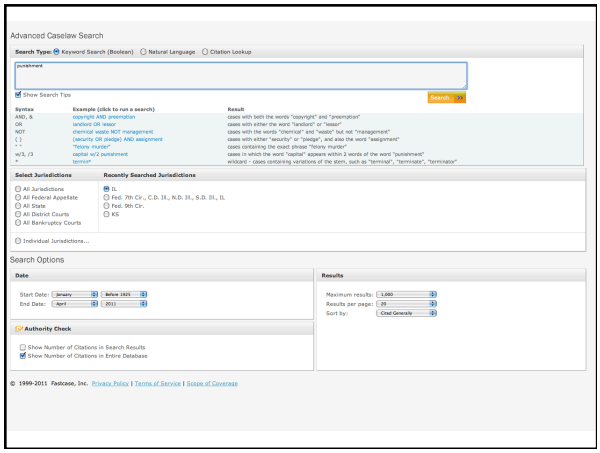
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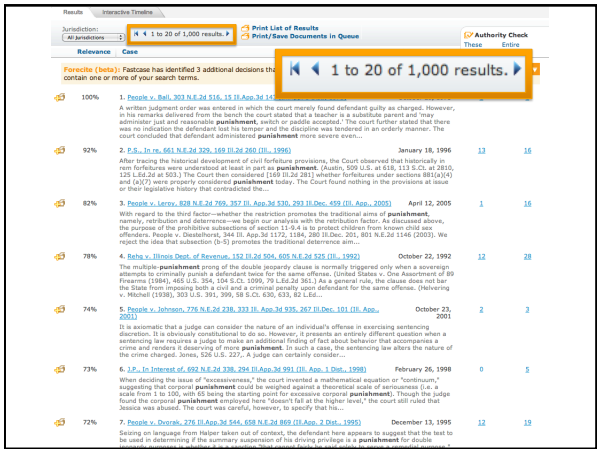
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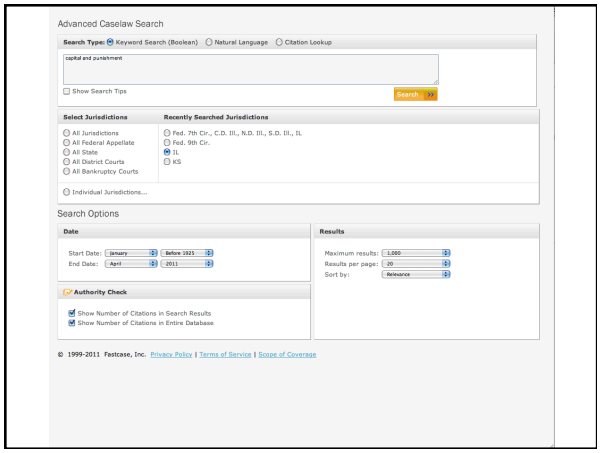
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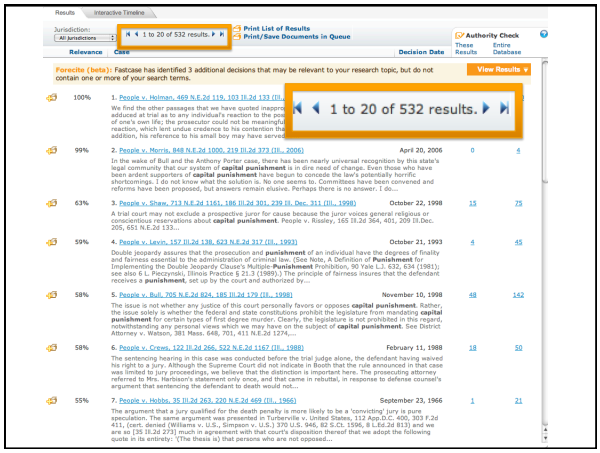
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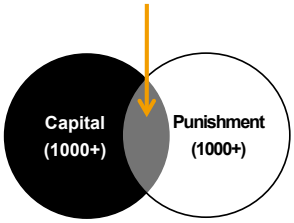
AND Operator

Capital AND Punishment → 523 Cases

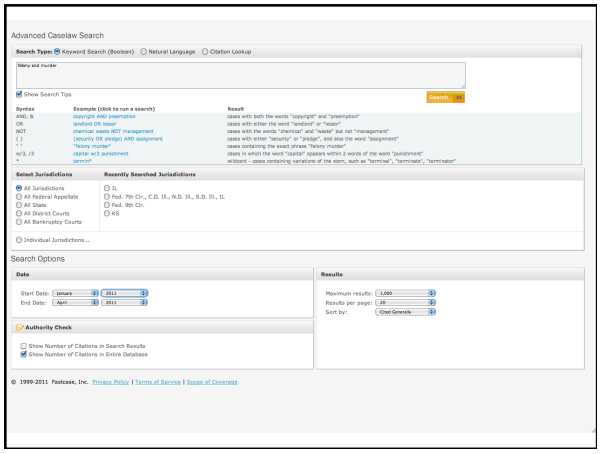


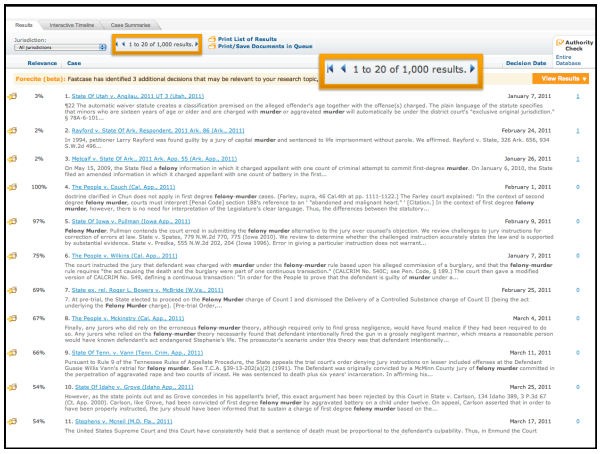
"Quotes" Operator

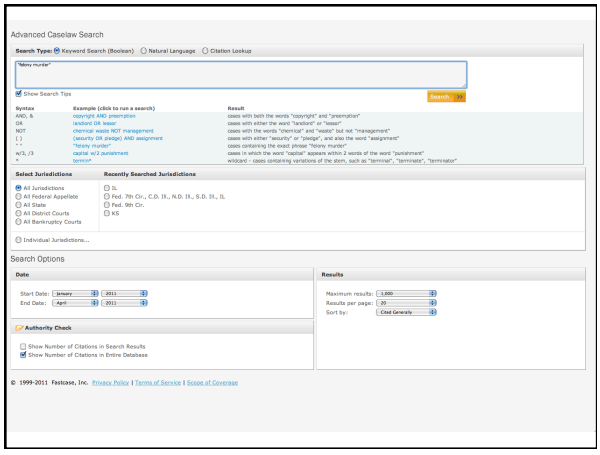
"Felony Murder" → Cases containing the phrase "felony murder"

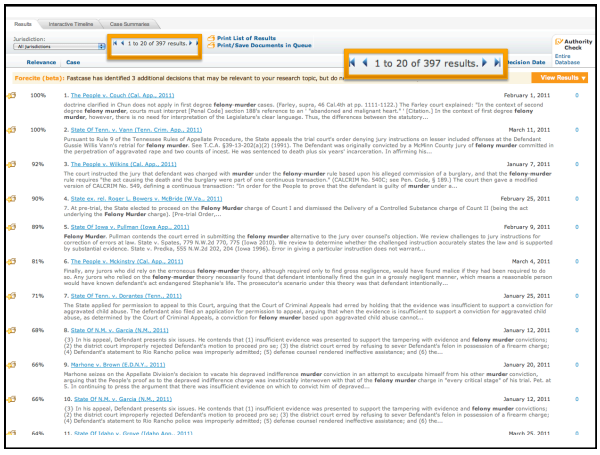
Not in results:
murder resulting from felony
convict of felony and murder

In results:
charged with felony murder





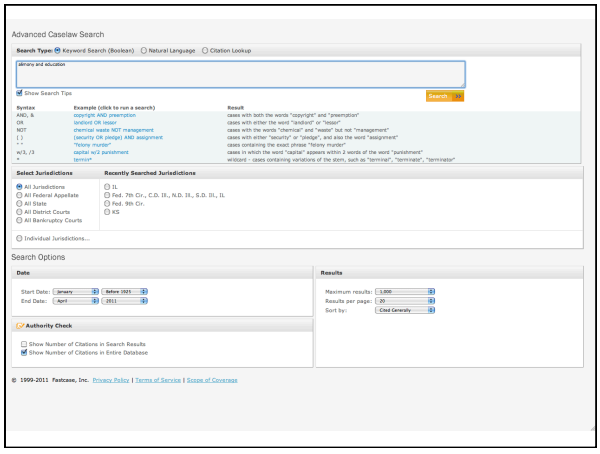


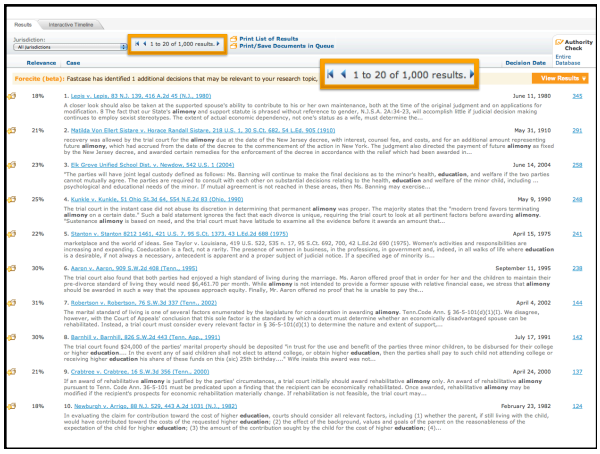


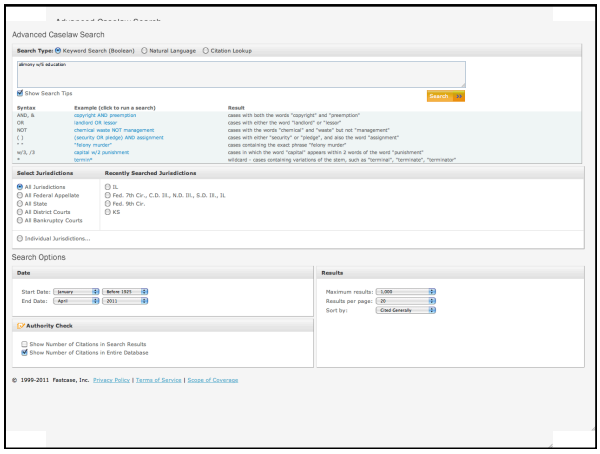
"Within" Operator

Alimony w/5 Education → The word alimony within 5 words of the word education

. . . education, alimony . . .
. . . alimony and education. . .
. . . alimony to gain sufficient education . . .
. . . alimony and the care, custody, education . . .

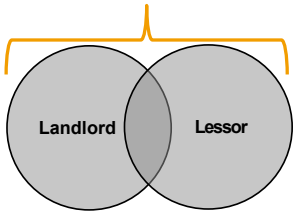


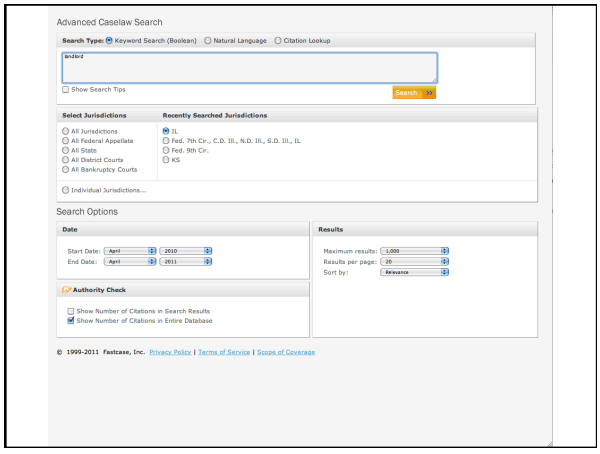




OR Operator

Landlord OR Lessor→ Cases containing at least one of the two words

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All District Courts
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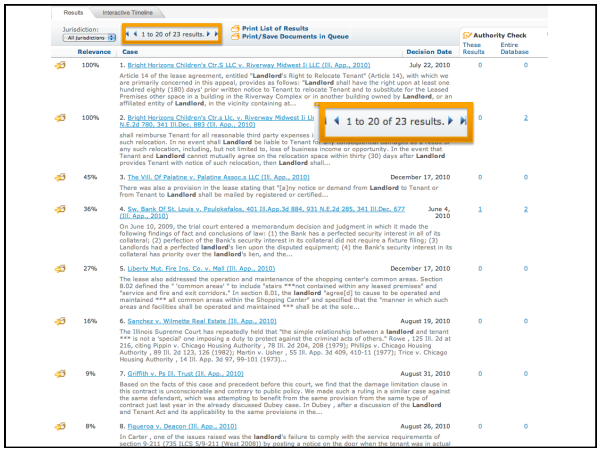
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27% 5. Liberty Mut. Fire Ins. Co. v. Mall (Ill. App., 2010) December 17, 2010
16% 6. Sanchez v. Wilmette Real Estate (Ill. App., 2010) August 19, 2010
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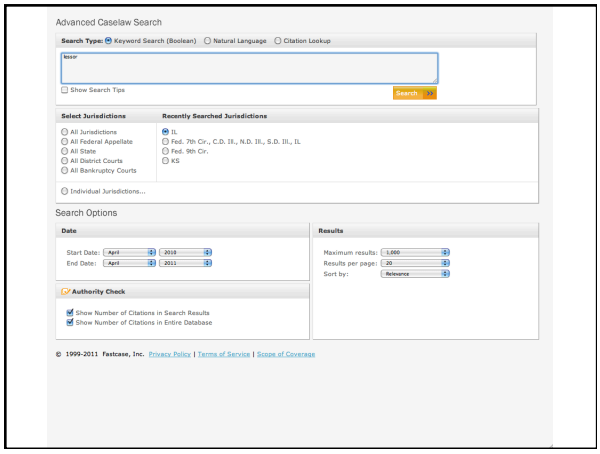
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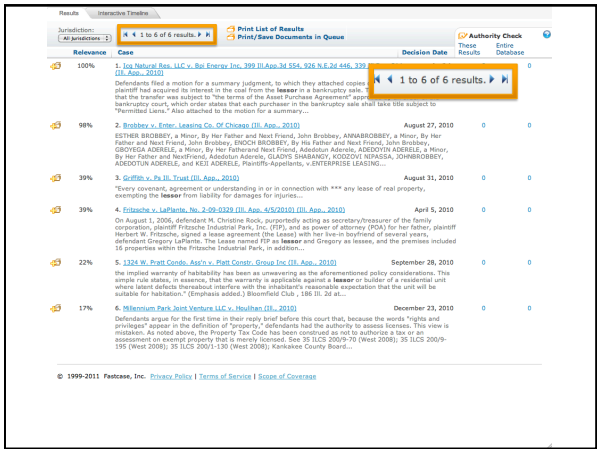
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22% 5. 1324 W. Pratt Condo. Ass'n v. Platt Constr. Group Inc (Ill. App., 2010) September 28, 2010
17% 6. Millennium Park Joint Venture LLC v. Houlihan (Ill., 2010) December 23, 2010
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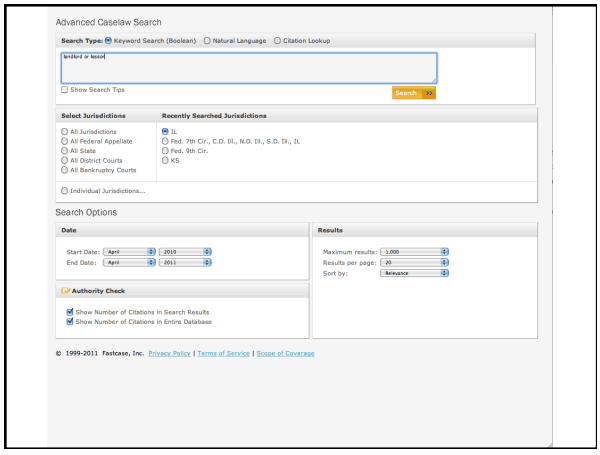
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landlord or lessor
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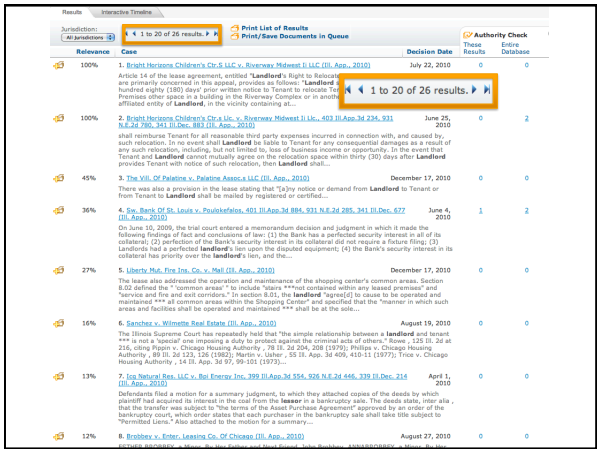
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13% 7. Icg Natural Res. LLC v. Bpi Energy Inc, 399 Ill.App.3d 554, 926 N.E.2d 446, 339 Ill.Dec. 214 (Ill. App., 2010) April 1, 2010
12% 8. Brobbey v. Enter. Leasing Co. Of Chicago (Ill. App., 2010) August 27, 2010
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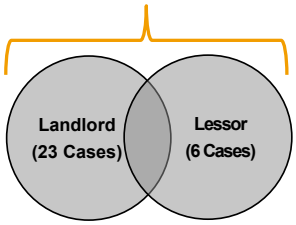
OR Operator

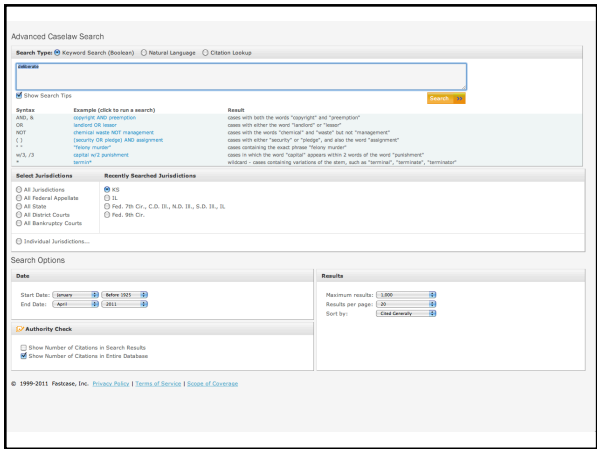
Landlord OR Lessor→ 26 Cases

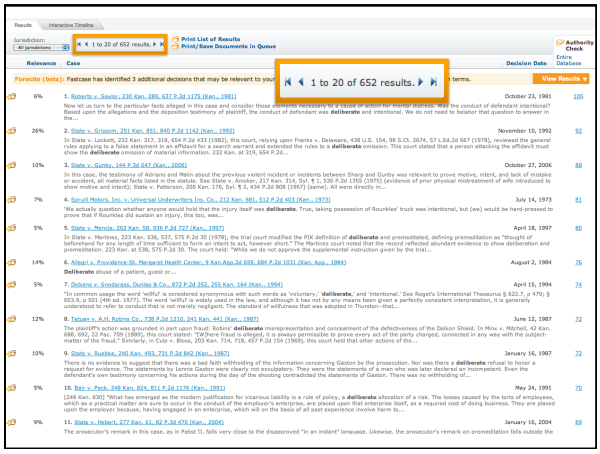


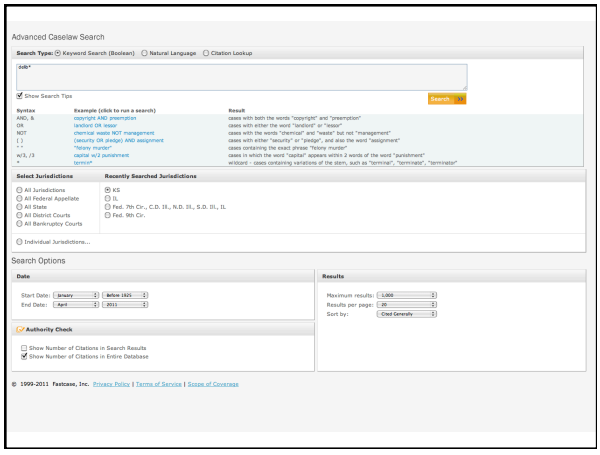
Wildcard Operator

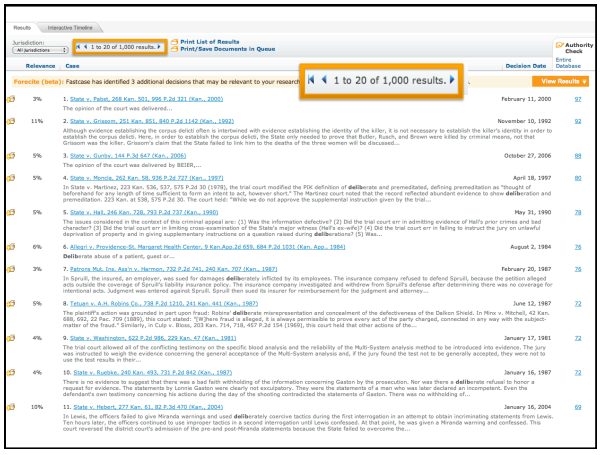
Delib* → Cases containing any word that begins with "delib"

deliberate
deliberation
deliberator
deliberately



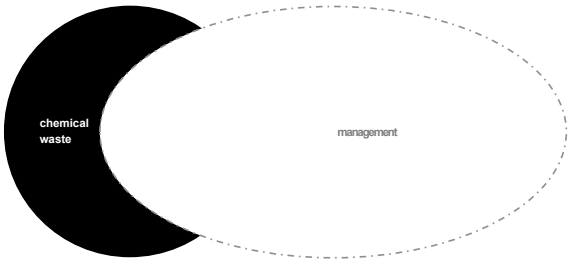


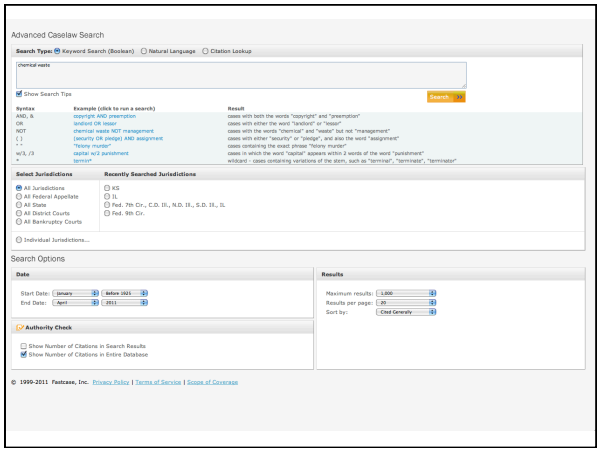


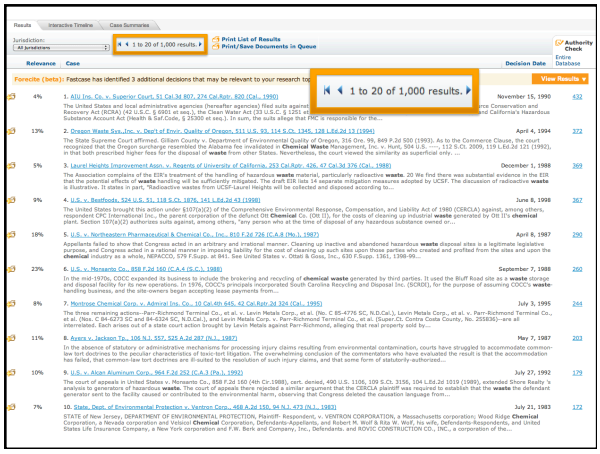


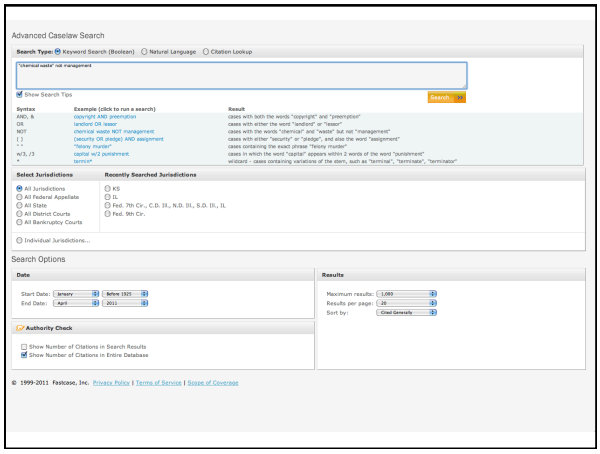
NOT Operator

"chemical waste" NOT management→ Cases containing the phrase chemical waste but not the word management









(Parentheses) Operator

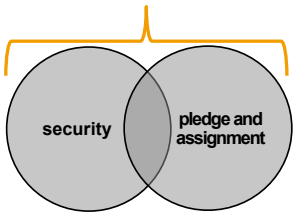
Correct:

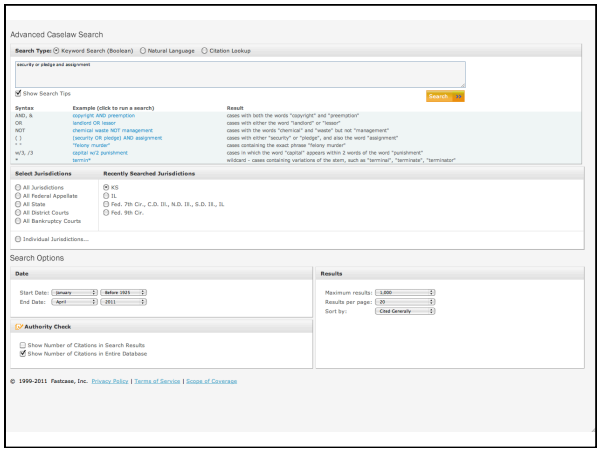
(Security OR Pledge) AND Assignment

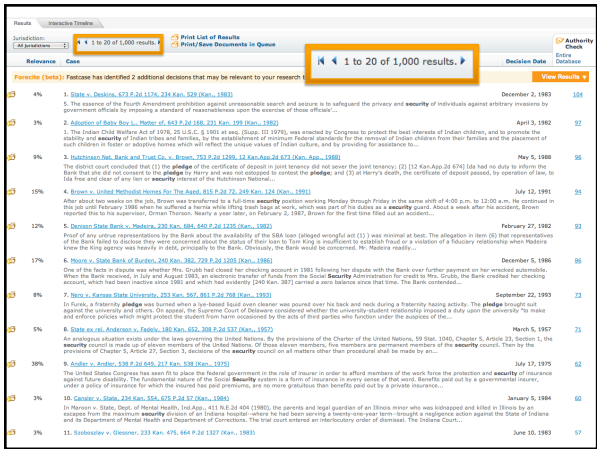
Incorrect:

security or pledge and assignment

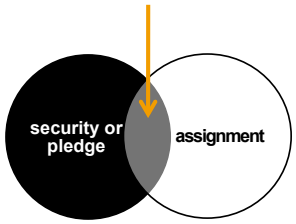
Without Parentheses

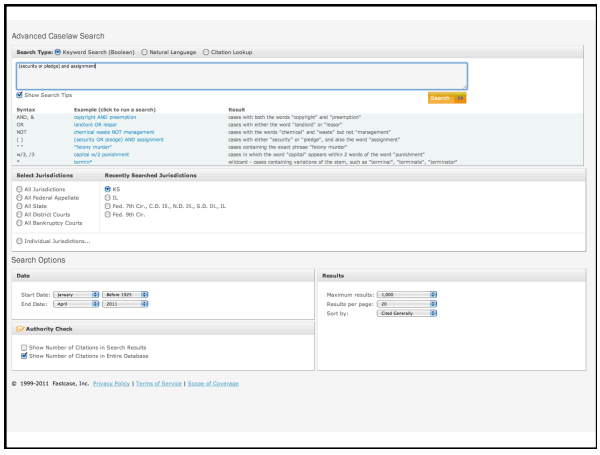


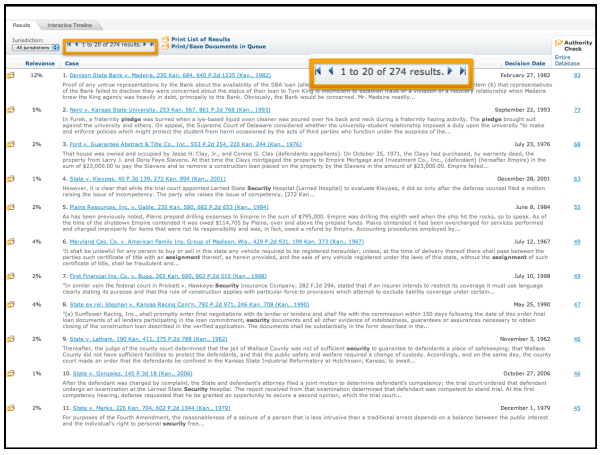




With Parentheses



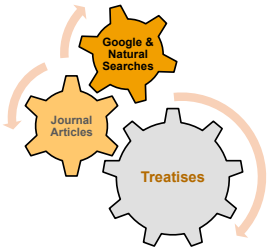




When you're not sure…

or	w/5
(landlord or lessor)	(alimony w/5 education)

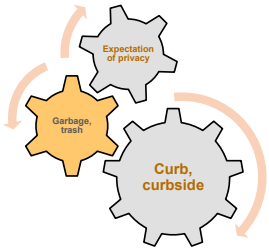
Getting Started| Do Your Homework



Question:

Constitutionality of searching garbage left at the curb?

Getting Started| Do Your Homework



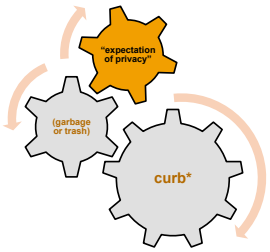
Legal Principles

- ✓Fourth Amendment
- ✓Search and seizure
- ✓Expectation of privacy

Additional Search Terms

- ✓Garbage, trash
- ✓Curb, curbside

Getting Started| Do Your Homework



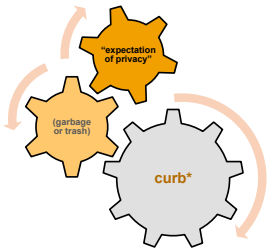
Legal Principles

- ✓Fourth Amendment = "Fourth Amendment"
- ✓Search and seizure = search
- ✓Expectation of privacy = "expectation of privacy"

Additional Search Terms

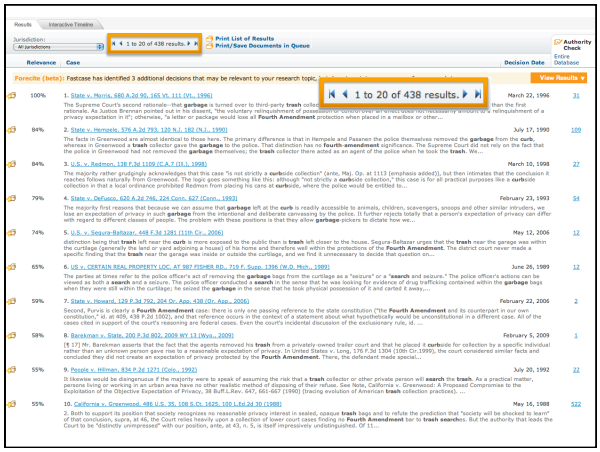
- ✓Garbage, trash = (garbage or trash)
- ✓Curb, curbside = curb*

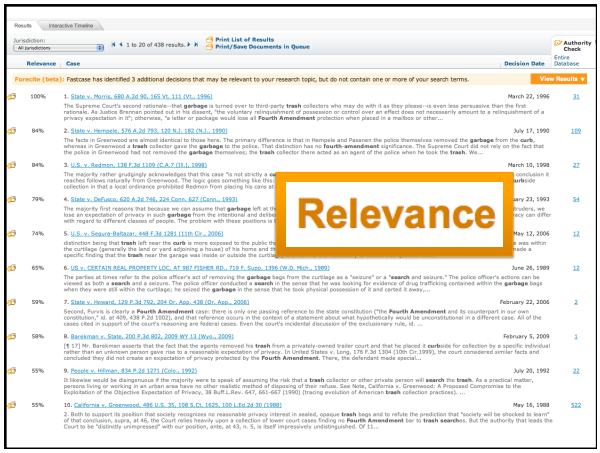
Getting Started| Do Your Homework

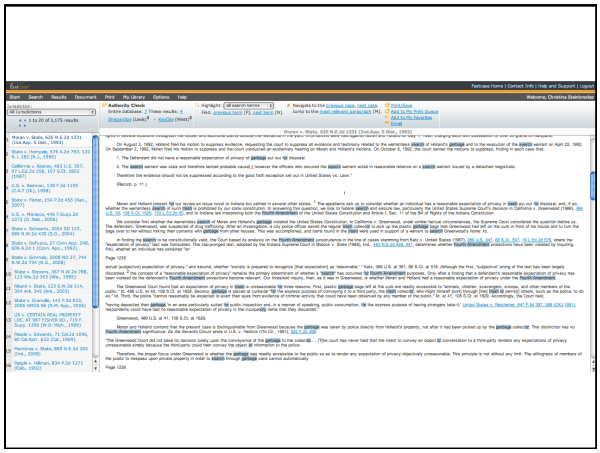


- **"Fourth Amendment" and**
- **"Expectation of Privacy" and**
- **Search and**
- **(garbage or trash) and**
- **Curb***

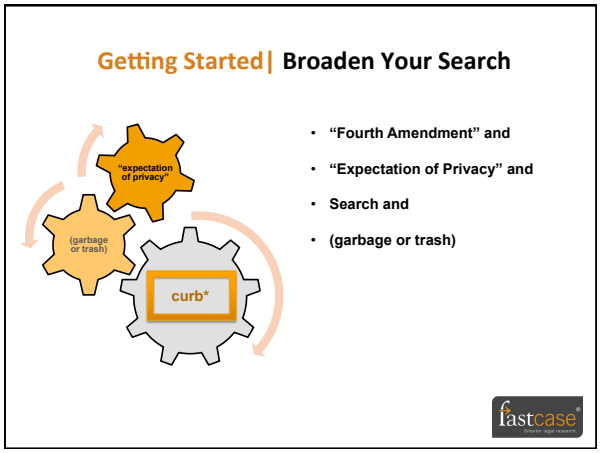
"fourth amendment" and search and "expectation of privacy" (garbage or trash) and curb*
Show Search Tips
Search
fastcase

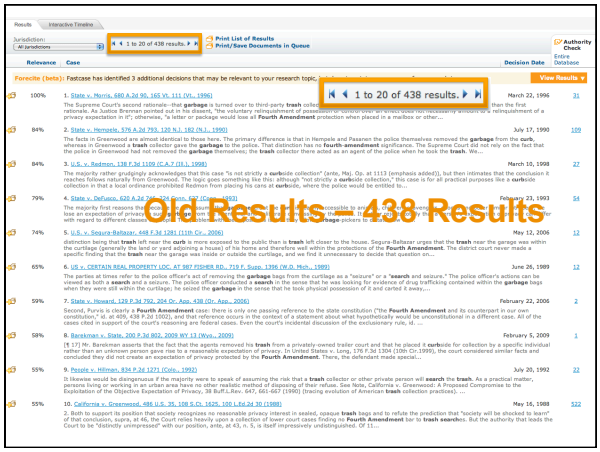

1 to 20 of 438 results.
Print List of Results
Print/Save Documents in Queue
Relevance
Case
Decision Date
Forecite (beta): Fastcase has identified 3 additional decisions that may be relevant to your research topic.
View Results


Relevance

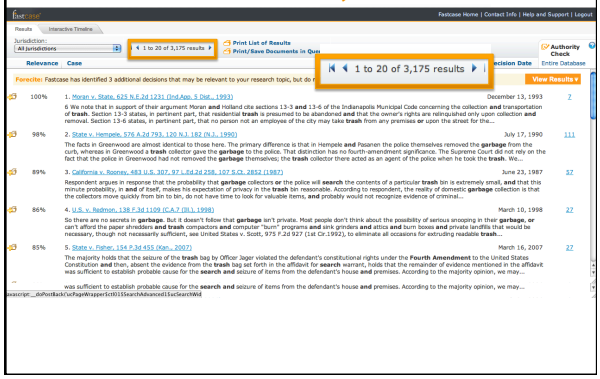


"fourth amendment" and search and "expectation of privacy" (garbage or trash) and curb*
Show Search Tips
Search
fastcase


Getting Started | Broaden Your Search
"expectation of privacy"
(garbage or trash)
curb*
"Fourth Amendment" and
"Expectation of Privacy" and
Search and
(garbage or trash)
fastcase



New Results – 3,195 Results



Identifying Keywords in a Google-like Search

fastcase

Searches of garbage are allowed under the Fourth Amendment

The constitutionality of search depends on expectation of privacy

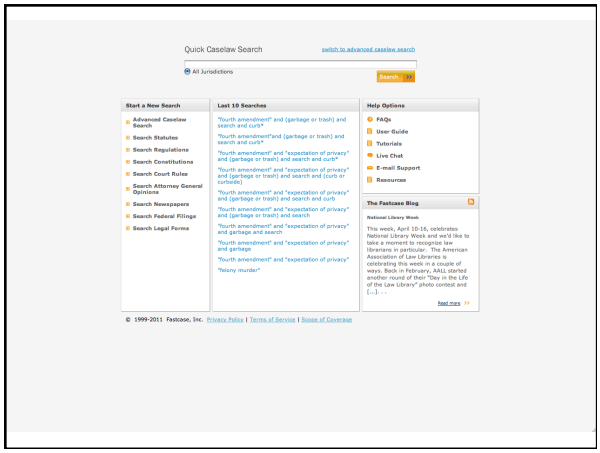
fastcase

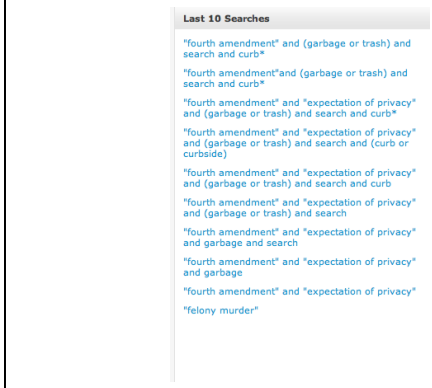
Searches of garbage are allowed under the Fourth Amendment

The constitutionality of search depends on expectation of privacy

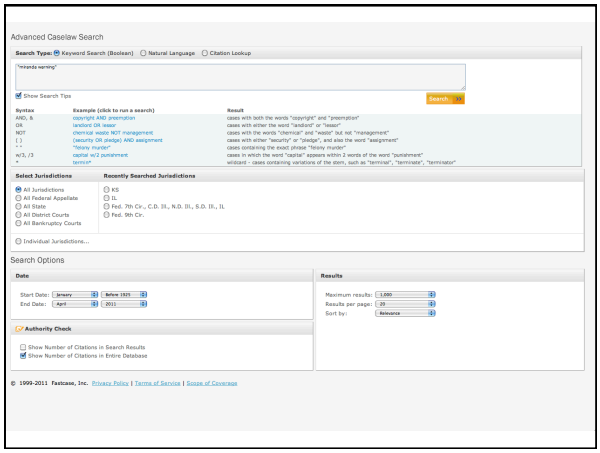
fastcase

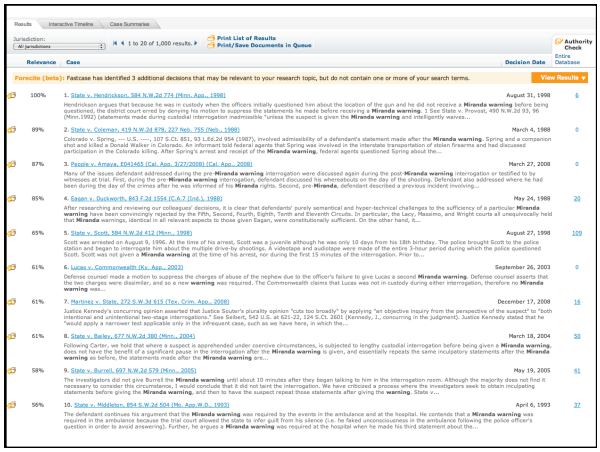
Last Ten Searches

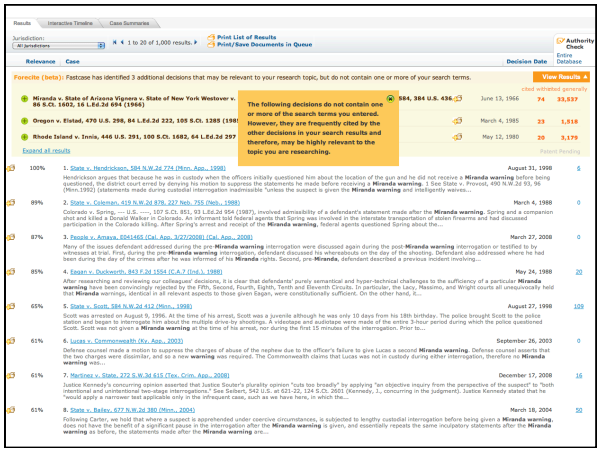




Forecite







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