Introduction to Boolean (Keyword) Searches (2013)



### Before you get started

Know how your database is organized

### Indexed databases

- Search based on subject matter or concept
- · Like digest searches
- Go to "Landlords" section, then look up case
- Information already presorted into categories
- If information isn't in the category, you would miss it

### Full-text databases

- Search based on individual words
- · Like a Google search
- Type in landlord
- User specifies search terms
- Search not limited to someone else's categorization

### Before you get started

Know how your database treats



 Fastcase does not automatically look for plurals in Boolean searches

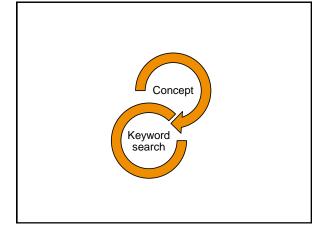
Order of operations

 Parentheticals, "within" (proximity), AND, OR, NOT

### Before you get started Know what information is in your database Case Law Federal and state case law back to 1950\*\* Statutes U.S. Code & official state statutes for D.C. plus 47 states Links to state and federal administrative regulations 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) www.fastcase.com What is Fastcase ?

## Before you get started Know which database you're searching Start a New Search B Advanced Caselaw Search Search Statutes Search Regulations Search Constitutions Search Court Rules Search Attorney General Opinions Search Newspapers Search Federal Fillings Search Legal Forms

# Two things to keep in mind Synonymy • Words that can mean the same thing • Use synonyms for better results • Ex: Firearm, gun, weapon Two things to keep in mind Ambiguity • Words that can mean more than one thing • Avoid ambiguity by adding terms or the "not" operator • Ex: Negligence (could be tort or criminal law)



### **Getting Started | Narrow down your issue**



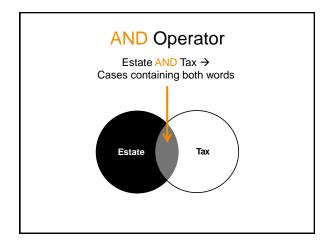


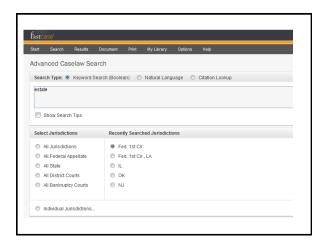


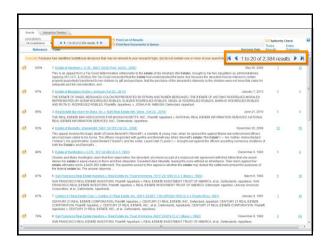
Question: Whether it's constitutional for a police dog to sniff at the door of someone's home

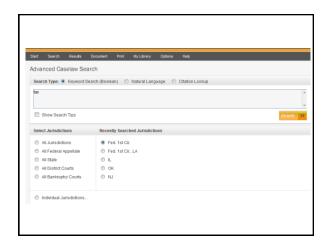
- What legal principles are involved?
- Fourth Amendment
- Search
- Expectation of privacy
- Warrant
- · What facts are relevant to the search?
- Door
- Dog
- Sniff

| Operator | Example                                | Description  |
|----------|--|--|
| AND, &   | Copyright AND Preemption               | Results must contain both the words "Copyright" and "Preemption."  |
| OR       | Landlord OR Lessor                     | Results must contain either "Landlord" or "Lessor."  |
| NOT      | Vehicle NOT Car                        | Results must contain "Vehicle" but must not contain "Car."   |
| w/3, /3  | Capital w/3 Punishment                 | Results must contain "Capital" within 3 words of "Punishment." Use any number between 2 and 50.              |
| *        | Litig*                                 | Results must contain some variation of<br>the stem "Litig" such as Litigation,<br>Litigated, Litigator, etc. |
| ?        | Less?r                                 | Results must contain some I-e-s-s- and – r. The ? acts as a single-character wildcard.                       |
| u n      | "Felony Murder"                        | Results must contain the precise phrase "Felony Murder"  |
| ( )      | (Security OR Pledge) AND<br>Assignment | Parentheses define the order of operations   |

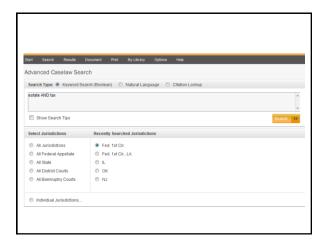




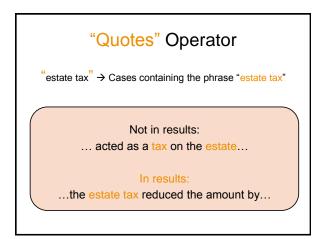


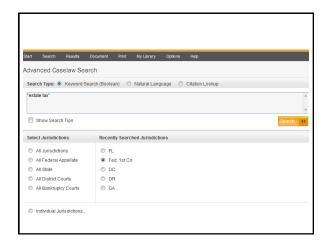






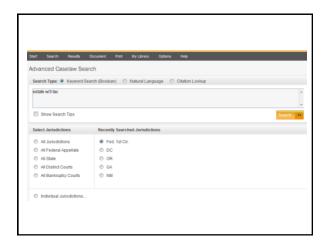








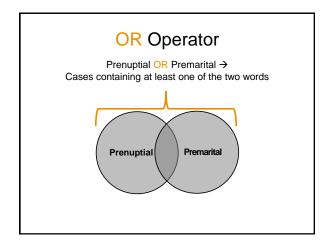
### (Proximity) Within Operator Estate w/3 Tax → Cases containing the word estate within 3 words of the word tax ...estate after tax... ...tax on the estate... ...estate after deducting for tax...

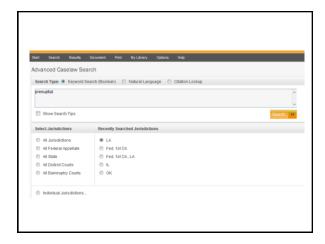




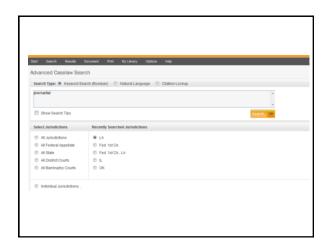
### Comparing the operators

- AND
  - estate = 2,384 cases
  - $-\tan = 2,353$  cases
  - estate AND tax = 754 cases
- QUOTES
  - "estate tax" = 123 cases
- WITHIN
  - estate w/3 tax = 159 cases

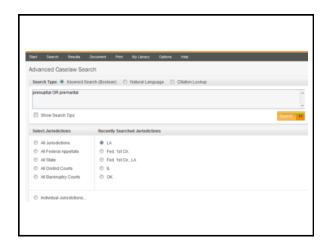




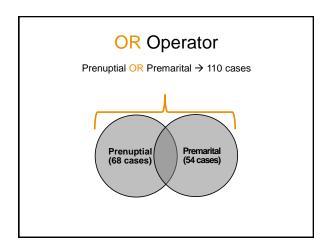


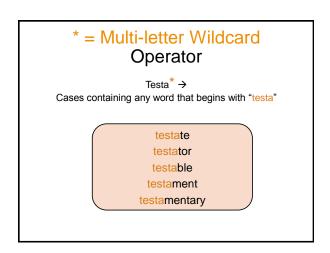


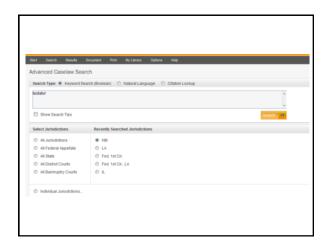




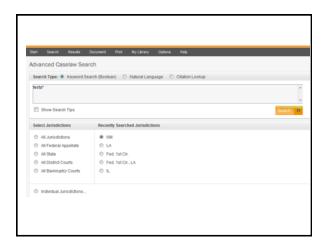












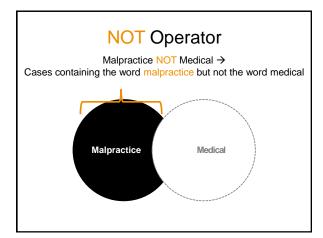
|   | isdiction:<br>Liuradictions • |  |                          |
|---|-------------------------------|--|--------------------------|
|   | Relevance                     | Case   | Decision Date            |
| 5 | 100%                          | 1. Hillion's Estate, Matter of, 549 P.2d 488, 98 N.M. 420 JUM. App. 1983   | 1 results                |
|   |                               | Applying the above rationals to the instant case, we conclude that the Life.  Applying the property of the property of the property of the property of the sestator efficiency generated by the instant case, which is a property of the sestator for the sestator is not had predictated from the will. Since sestator's son had predictated from, and was not living when testator made his will, it was not necessary! I min to spready memoriation has so in his will another decreased as must an dat an expension. |                          |
| B | 83%                           | 2. McEthinner v. Kelly. 356 P.2d 113, 67 N.M. 399 (N.M., 1960)   | October 18, 1968         |
|   |                               | Applicat say there is not a scrittle of existence that better here the nature and extent of the property. It is conceeded that it consists of personal property on, it is unabsoluted extensions in that betterand as the head sawd one money from a setterent as the results and an advanceble accident and from social security payments, and that he write all checks for liking expenses. He told proponent he had bough a moder for his loss which the could not foll for and could no longer pay her salary.       |                          |
| 9 | 69%                           | 3. Williams' Will. in re. 376 P 2d 3: 71 N.M. 38 (N.M., 1962)  | November 2, 1962         |
|   |                               | A bearing was held by the court and the residuary legate, the Trustees of Dartmouth College, and the co-executo<br>who testified to conversations with the deceased reparting the bequests advancements and regarding the grifts to<br>increas, including the objectors. The residuary legates also introduced 20 documents as extince, coasisting of lett<br>decedent concerning his gifts to the nephews and nieces and their families, letters to his former.   | o his nephews and        |
| B | 69%                           | 4. In re Roeder's Estate, 44 N.M. 578, 106 P.2d 847 (N.M., 1940)   | September 17, 1948       |
|   |                               | Various Various, \$7 Mo Age, \$3.4 is a case very much like the one before us. The feetfor desired for make a cottain change in the precision flower of the size. When the desire date will be the earlier extra well print of unswinceship, the estal should go to testator's bother and sixter in equal shares. The change desired was to have the whole estate go to his trother all the confinence manned. The testator is desired to accommish the change by re-enting the  |                          |
| 9 | 67%                           | 5. Oftzens' Nat. Bank of Albuquerque v. First Nat. Bank of Albuquerque, 29 N.M. 273, 222 P. 935 (N.M., 1924)   | January 21, 1924         |
|   |                               | The terms of the trust could not be carried out without the power to sell the land and to transfer the title thereto. The trustee for that purpose it is the established doctrine that trustees take exactly that quantity of interest which the require: 2 January Willis (9th 6d.) 30.5N to particular from of words is necessary in order to create a trust of this purpose to create it may be gathered from the language of the   | he purposes of the trust |
| 3 | 59%                           | 6. Torres v Abevta, 42 N.M. 685, 84 P.2d 592 (N.M., 1938)  | November 18, 1938        |
|   |                               | [5] it is generally held that where a condition is imposed under a will, the performance of which does not necessary of the estale, but may accompany of follow it, and if the act may as well be done after as before the vesting of the continue of the schad the time required for its performance it is evident that the intention of the paties was that the  | estate, or if from the   |

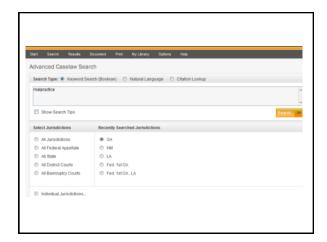
### ? = Single Letter Wildcard Operator

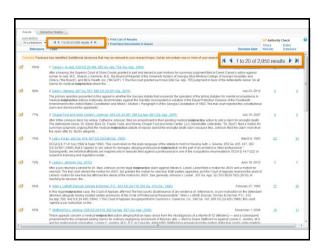
Less?r →
Cases containing any word that has "less\_r"

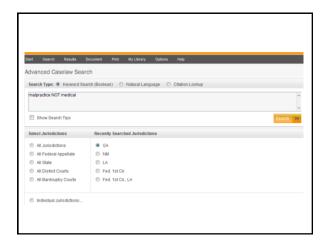
lessor lesser

| 1. Jackson v. State (Nev. 2012)   | 1. Jackson v. State (Nev. 2012) December 6, 2012  |   |  |  |
|---|---|---|--|--|
| <ol> <li>Barlon was convicted of second-degree murder, he claimed that, on the<br/>causing substantial bodily harm was a <u>lesser</u> included offense and that of<br/>a <u>lesser-included-offense instruction to that effect.</u></li> </ol>   |   |   |  |  |
| 2 Tore Ltd. v. M.L. Rothschild Management Corp., 793 P.2d 1316, 106 No.   | ev. 359 (Nev., 1990)                              | June 8, 1990                            |  |  |
| The trial court, after a review of the evidence presented by both sides, fou<br>accepting and holding the letters of credit, was estopped to deny that a no<br>reached in spite of the evidence Rothschild presented at trial that there wa<br>wear contract had never been assigned. Although the trial court conclude<br>agreement, it nevertheless invoked the                   | vation had occurred. T<br>as no novation and tha  | his finding was<br>t the original men's |  |  |
| 3. American Federal Sav. Bank v. County of Washoe, 802 P.2d 1270, 106   | Nev. 869 (Nev., 1990)                             | December 7, 1990                        |  |  |
| <ol><li>Nothing in this section prevents an owner or <u>lessor</u> of real property fron<br/>real property from agreeing to insure the owner or <u>lessor</u> of the property a<br/>of the premises.</li></ol>  |   |   |  |  |
| 4. Co-Operators Ins. Co. v. Alistate Rent-A-Car, 804 P.2d 1050, 107 Nev. 1  | 17 (Nev., 1991)                                   | February 1, 1991                        |  |  |
| Customer represents and warrants that customer has a policy of automo<br>insurance shall provide primary liability insurance coverage Lessor ago<br>482 295 to evidence its ability to respond for damages. Lessor's duly to ri<br>that covered by the customer's liability coverage.   | ees it has complied w                             | ith NRS Section                         |  |  |
| 5. Craigo v. Circus-Circus Enterprises, Inc., 786 P.2d 22, 106 Nev. 1 (Nev.   | 1990)   | January 23, 1990                        |  |  |
| 2 in defining the malice of unintended harm the trial court used the words<br>deliberately disregards known safety measures in recidess disregard of it<br>didrectly from Leslie v. Jones Chemical Co., 92 Nev. 391, 393, 551 P.2d 23<br>perpetuating the use of the term "recidess" because it is ambiguous and<br>other terms the relate to the risk inherent in behavior rather. | oossible results," Thes<br>4, 235 (1976). I would | se words are taken<br>be leery of       |  |  |
|   |   |   |  |  |





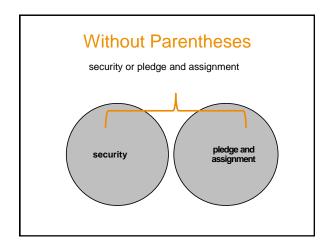


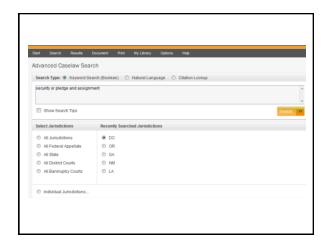




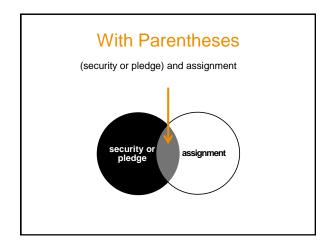
### (Parentheses)

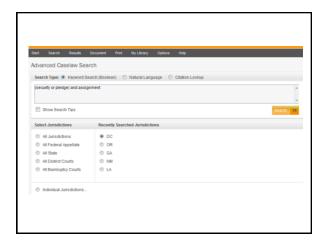
- Example: security or pledge and assignment
- How it could be read:
  - (security or pledge) and assignment
  - security or (pledge and assignment)
- Use parentheses for more precise results:
  - -(Security OR Pledge) AND Assignment













Tip: Generally helpful to use parentheses with "or" or proximity searches

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

**Question:** Whether it's constitutional for a police dog to sniff at the door of someone's home

### What legal principles are involved?

Fourth Amendment

Search

Expectation of privacy

Warrant

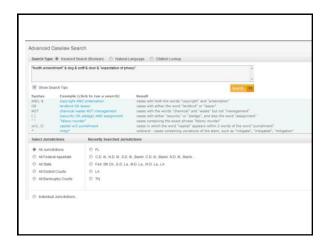
### What facts are relevant to the search?

Door

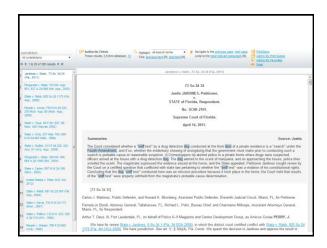
Dog

Sniff

| Concept                |               | Keyword and operator     |
|------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|
| Fourth Amendment       | $\rightarrow$ | "Fourth Amendment"       |
| Dog                    | $\rightarrow$ | Dog                      |
| Sniff                  | $\rightarrow$ | Sniff                    |
| Door                   | $\rightarrow$ | Door                     |
| Expectation of privacy | $\rightarrow$ | "expectation of privacy" |



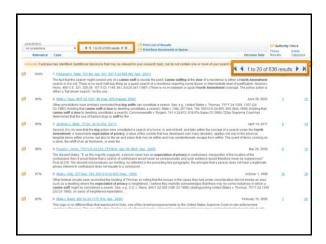


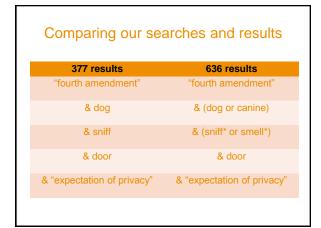


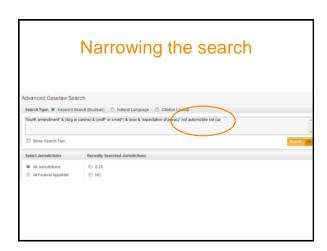


## Broadening the search Concept Keyword and operator Fourth Amendment → "Fourth Amendment" Dog → (dog or canine) Sniff → (sniff\* or smell\*) Door → Door Expectation of privacy"



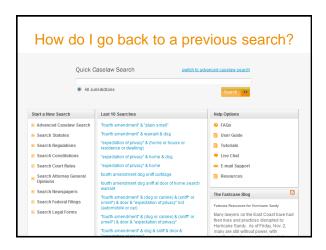








### Identifying your keywords Whether it's constitutional for a police dog to sniff at the door of someone's home depends on if the person has a right to an expectation of privacy



### Use Forecite to enhance your results

