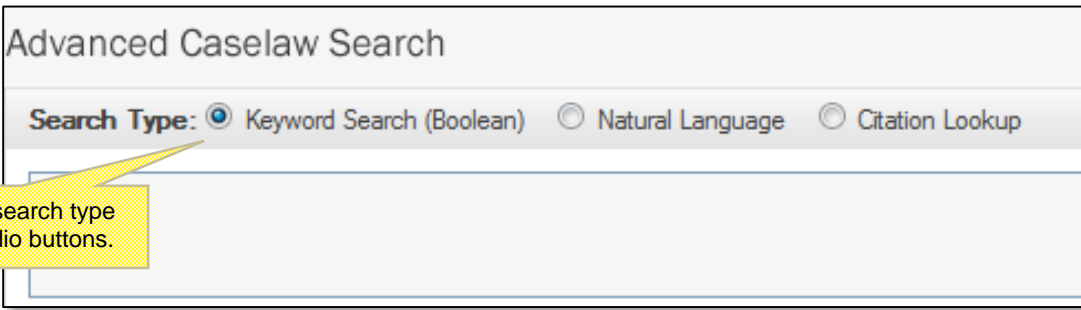


2|SEARCH FOR DOCUMENTS

Searching for Caselaw

There are three ways to search for cases on Fastcase: by **Keyword**, **Natural Language** or **Citation Lookup**.



Advanced Caselaw Search

Search Type: ☒ Keyword Search (Boolean) ☐ Natural Language ☐ Citation Lookup

Select your search type using the radio buttons.

Keyword Search (with Boolean operators)

Searching by **Keyword** using Boolean operators is the most powerful and flexible way to search for electronic information. It is also very easy to use. Fastcase uses the standard Boolean operators described below:

OPERATOR	EXAMPLE	DESCRIPTION
AND, &	copyright AND preemption	Results must contain <i>both</i> the words “copyright” and “preemption”
OR	landlord OR lessor	Results must contain <i>either</i> the word “landlord” <i>or</i> the word “lessor.” (They may contain both words).
NOT	vehicle NOT car	Results <i>must contain</i> the word “vehicle” but <i>must not contain</i> the word “car.”
w/3, /3	capital w/3 punishment	Results must contain the word “capital” within 3 words of the word “punishment.” You must specify a number for how far apart the terms may found.
, !	litig	Results must contain some variation of the stem “litig” such as litigation, litigated, litigator, etc.
?	advis?r	The ? works as a single letter wildcard. Results must contain some variation of the word advis_r, such as adviser or advisor.
“ ”	“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.

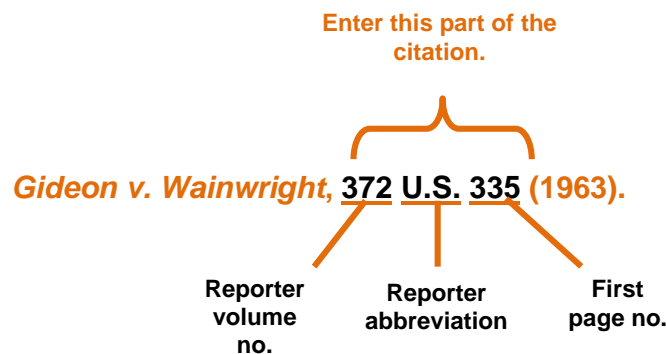
Examples of the operators are also visible in the **Show Search Tips** box on the [Advanced Caselaw Search](#) page.

Here are a few more things to keep in mind when you are performing a keyword search on Fastcase:

- Our search engine automatically omits certain common words (e.g., the, it, etc.) from your query. The search runs more efficiently without these common “noise” words.
- Fastcase uses an “implied AND” operator. This means that if there are multiple words in your search query and you do not specify a Boolean operator to connect them, Fastcase will treat your search as if you had placed an “AND” between each term. For example, if you type: summary judgment order, Fastcase will read that as: summary AND judgment AND order. Only cases containing ALL of those terms will be returned as results. If you would like to search for cases that contain the exact phrase “summary judgment order” (where those three words will appear in documents directly next to each other and in the same order), you should put the phrase in quotation marks.
- At the moment, our search engine will accommodate a search up to 500 words long. For the purposes of search length, a Boolean operator counts as a word.

Citation Lookup

- Pull up a case using the reporter citation by entering the reporter volume number, the reporter abbreviation, and the first page number.
- This type of search works in both [Quick Caselaw Search](#) and [Advanced Caselaw Search](#).



Natural Language Search

Natural language searches are much less precise than **Keyword** searches, but they are good place to start if you are new to legal research, or if you are delving into a new area of the law. There are a few important aspects of a **Natural Language Search** that you should bear in mind:

- The results are the cases with the highest relevance scores based on your overall mix of search terms.
 - Your search results may not contain each and every one of your search terms.
-

Select a Specific Jurisdiction for Your Search

- Scroll down to the middle of the **Advanced Caselaw Search** page to the heading **Select Jurisdiction**.
- Select one of the groups of jurisdictions listed, or to specify a specific court or state, select **Individual Jurisdictions**.
- Expand any category under **Individual Jurisdictions** by clicking on the plus sign. States are listed under the **State Supreme and Appeals Courts** category.
- Check the box next to the name of the state or court you wish to select.
- You can select as many courts as you would like and you can select courts across different levels and jurisdictions.

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StartSearchResultsDocumentPrintMy LibraryOptionsHelp

Select JurisdictionsRecently Searched Jurisdictions

☐ All Jurisdictions

☐ All Federal Appellate

☐ All State

☐ All District Courts

☐ All Bankruptcy Courts

☐ WI

☐ AR

☐ FL

☐ IA

☒ Individual Jurisdictions...

☐ U.S. Supreme Court and U.S. Courts of Appeal

☐ U.S. District Courts

☐ U.S. Bankruptcy Courts

☐ State Supreme and Appeals Courts

☐ Alabama☐ Illinois☐ Montana☐ Rhode Island

☐ Alaska☐ Indiana☐ Nebraska☐ South Carolina

☐ Arizona☐ Iowa☐ Nevada☐ South Dakota

☐ Arkansas☐ Kansas☐ New Hampshire☐ Tennessee

☐ California☐ Kentucky☐ New Jersey☐ Texas

☐ Colorado☐ Louisiana☐ New Mexico☐ Utah

☐ Connecticut☐ Maine☐ New York☐ Vermont

☐ Delaware☐ Maryland☐ North Carolina☐ Virginia

☐ District of Columbia☐ Massachusetts☐ North Dakota☐ Washington

☐ Florida☐ Michigan☐ Ohio☐ West Virginia

☐ Georgia☐ Minnesota☐ Oklahoma☐ Wisconsin

☐ Hawaii☐ Mississippi☐ Oregon☐ Wyoming

☐ Idaho☐ Missouri☐ Pennsylvania

☒ Select All

☐ Clear All

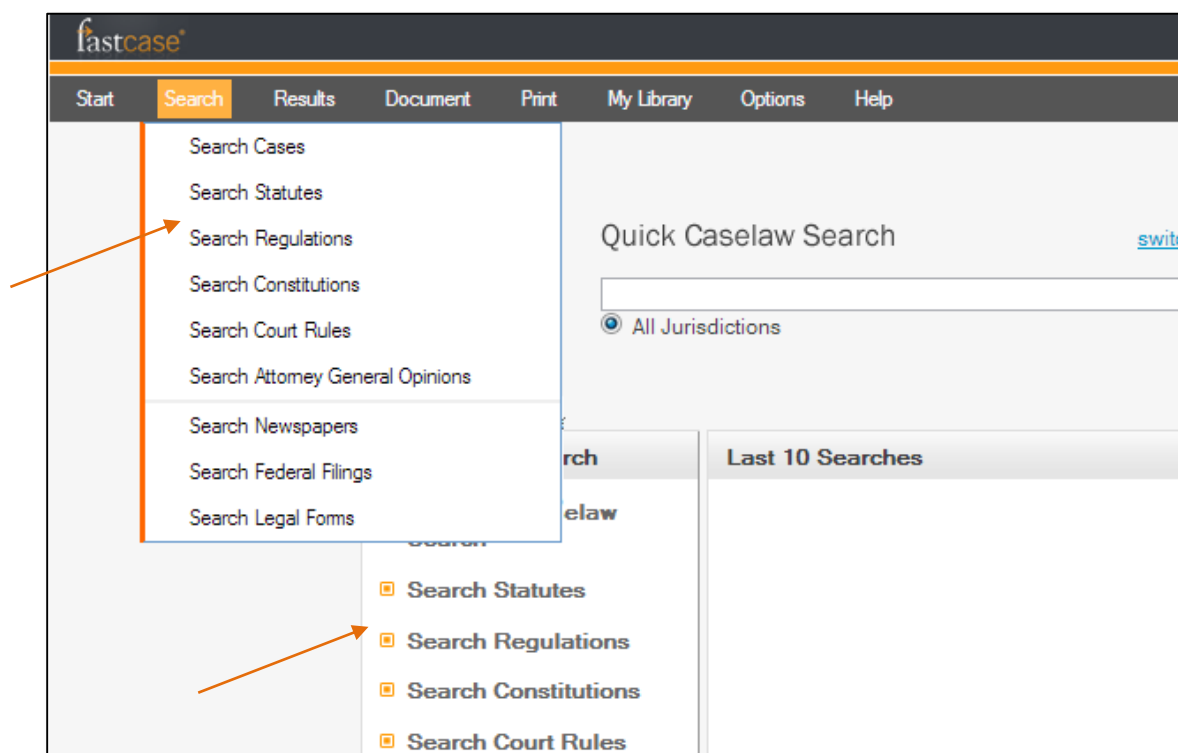
Searching for Statutes, Regulations, Constitutions and Court Rules

Fastcase also includes statutes, regulations, court rules and constitutions from nearly all fifty states and the District of Columbia. In most cases, we have incorporated the content into our database so that you can browse and search the relevant statute, regulation, court rule or constitution within Fastcase.

In some cases, Fastcase provides hyperlinks to the free official versions of these resources from the Web as a convenience for our subscribers. Collecting them all in one place allows you to find these resources quickly without having to search for them each time.

Select a Type of Document

- Begin your search by selecting the type of document you want to search from the **Search** menu or the **Start a New Search** panel on the **My Research Home** page.





Statutes

- Next, select a jurisdiction for the type of document you would like to search.

The statutes within Fastcase have check boxes next to each jurisdiction's name. Select the jurisdiction(s) you want to search by clicking on a check box. If you would like to search an older edition of a code, you can view and select what is available by clicking on the plus sign next to **Archived Editions**.

Current Editions:

<input type="checkbox"/> United States Code	<input type="checkbox"/> Kansas	<input type="checkbox"/> North Carolina	<input type="checkbox"/> Wyoming
<input type="checkbox"/> Alabama	<input type="checkbox"/> Kentucky	<input type="checkbox"/> North Dakota	<input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Virgin Islands
<input type="checkbox"/> Alaska	<input type="checkbox"/> Louisiana	<input type="checkbox"/> Ohio	
<input type="checkbox"/> Arizona	<input type="checkbox"/> Maine	<input type="checkbox"/> Oklahoma	
<input type="checkbox"/> Arkansas	<input type="checkbox"/> Maryland	<input type="checkbox"/> Oregon	
<input type="checkbox"/> California	<input type="checkbox"/> Massachusetts	<input type="checkbox"/> Pennsylvania	
<input type="checkbox"/> Colorado	<input type="checkbox"/> Michigan	<input type="checkbox"/> Rhode Island	
<input type="checkbox"/> Connecticut	<input type="checkbox"/> Minnesota	<input type="checkbox"/> South Carolina	
<input type="checkbox"/> Delaware	<input type="checkbox"/> Mississippi	<input type="checkbox"/> South Dakota	
<input type="checkbox"/> District of Columbia	<input type="checkbox"/> Missouri	<input type="checkbox"/> Tennessee	
<input type="checkbox"/> Florida	<input type="checkbox"/> Montana	<input type="checkbox"/> Texas	
<input type="checkbox"/> Georgia	<input type="checkbox"/> Nebraska	<input type="checkbox"/> Utah	
<input type="checkbox"/> Hawaii	<input type="checkbox"/> Nevada	<input type="checkbox"/> Vermont	
<input type="checkbox"/> Idaho	<input type="checkbox"/> New Hampshire	<input type="checkbox"/> Virginia	
<input type="checkbox"/> Illinois	<input type="checkbox"/> New Jersey	<input type="checkbox"/> Washington	
<input type="checkbox"/> Indiana	<input type="checkbox"/> New Mexico	<input type="checkbox"/> West Virginia	
<input type="checkbox"/> Iowa	<input type="checkbox"/> New York	<input type="checkbox"/> Wisconsin	

 [Select All](#)  [Clear All](#)

☐ **Archived Editions**

Regulations, constitutions and court rules

Click on the bolded hyperlinks to select content that is integrated and searchable within Fastcase. Non-bolded hyperlinks lead to the official versions of non-integrated content, which are not searchable within Fastcase.

Court Rules		
Federal	Tennessee Eastern Dist. Court	Maryland
1st Circuit	Tennessee Middle Dist. Court	Massachusetts
2nd Circuit	Tennessee Western Dist. Court	Michigan
3rd Circuit	Texas Eastern District Court	Minnesota
4th Circuit	Texas Northern District Court	Mississippi
5th Circuit	Texas Southern Bankruptcy Court	Missouri
6th Circuit	Texas Southern District Court	Montana
7th Circuit	Texas Western District Court	Nebraska
8th Circuit	U.S. Tax Court	Nevada
9th Circuit	Virginia Eastern Dist. Bankr. Court	New Hampshire
10th Circuit	Virginia Eastern Dist. Court	New Jersey
11th Circuit	Virginia Western Dist. Court	New Mexico
D.C. Circuit	State	New York
Federal Circuit	Alabama	NM Dist. Court
Federal Rules of Appellate Procedure	Alaska	North Carolina
Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure	Arizona	North Carolina Appellate Court Rules
Federal Rules of Civil Procedure	Arkansas	North Dakota
Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure	Arkansas Code of Judicial Conduct	Ohio

Search within Statutes, Regulations, Constitutions or Court Rules

Search within the document set that you selected by **Keyword**, **Natural Language**, or **Citation**, just as you would search for caselaw.

- Here, the United States Code has been selected and the search terms can be entered into the search box.

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StartSearchResultsDocumentPrintMy LibraryOptionsHelp

Search Statutes

SearchBrowse

Search Type: ☒ Keyword Search (Boolean) ☐ Natural Language ☐ Citation Lookup

☒ Show Search Tips

Syntax	Example (click to run a search)	Result
AND, &	limited AND government	documents with both the words
OR	taxation OR representation	documents with either the word
NOT	executive NOT corporate	documents with the word "exec
()	(vote OR ballot) AND election	order of operations: documents
" "	"Supreme Court"	documents containing the exact
w/4, /4	election w/4 vote	documents in which the word "e
*	mitig*	wildcard - documents containing
?	advis?r	single letter wildcard - documen

Select Statutes

Current Editions:

☒ United States Code

☐ Kansas

☐ North Dakota

☒ United States Code (2011 Edition) [info >](#)

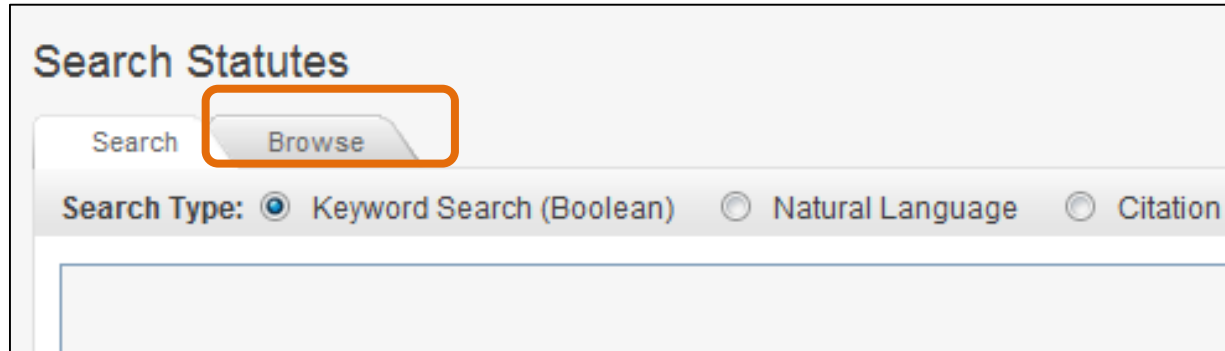
☐ Kentucky

☐ Oklahoma

Browse Statutes Using Outline View

In addition to searching, Fastcase also allows you to browse the integrated codes in our **Outline View** format.

- To get started, go to the **Search Statutes** page, then click the tab labeled **Browse**.



- This will display the statute or code you selected in an expandable outline format.
- Click the plus sign to expand any level and scroll up and down to find the section you are looking for.

