



FINDING A CASE USING LEXISNEXIS ACADEMIC

The [LexisNexis Academic](#) reference database contains the full-text of *all* case law for *all* federal and state courts. This database also contains full-text law review articles from over 500 publications.

GETTING STARTED

- Access [LexisNexis Academic](#) via the Murphy Library web site.
- Switch to Legal Searches by clicking on the red “Legal” button at the top-left of the screen.



FINDING A KNOWN CASE

- Within Legal Searches, at the left side of the screen, click on Federal & State Cases.
- To search by Case Name, type in one or both party names here:



Case Name v.

-OR-

To search by Citation Number, type in the case citation here:

Citation Number [Citation Help](#)

For help with legal citations, click on “Citation Help” or see Murphy Library Guide #308, [Legal Citations](#).

SEARCHING FOR CASES

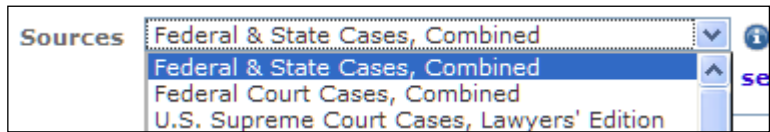
- Within Legal Searches, at the left side of the screen, click on Federal & State Cases.
- Perform a simple search by entering search terms here:



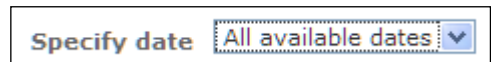
Search terms Terms and Connectors Natural Language

Use connectors to show relation of terms, e.g., apple **and** orange, cat **or** feline, trade **w/5** act [Tips for using search connectors](#)

- Limit your search by **court** with the Sources pull-down menu:



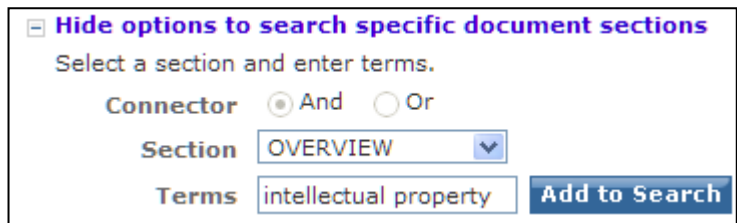
- Limit your search by **date** with the Specify Date pull-down menu:



- The “simple search” described above searches for terms anywhere in the entire full-text of cases. This can often find many unrelated cases. For a more focused search, click on Show Options to Search Specific Document Sections.



- To search for cases by **subject**, try searching for terms within the Overview document section. Select Overview from the “Section” pull-down menu, type in your search terms, then click “Add to Search.”



- Click the Search button to perform your search.

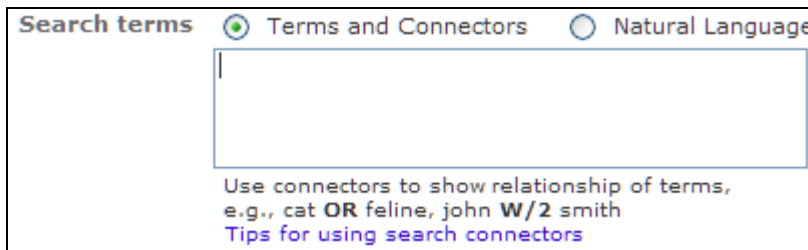


FINDING ANALYSIS OF MAJOR CASES (secondary sources – articles in law journals)

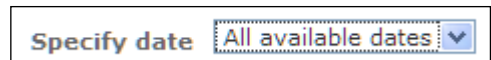
- Within Legal Searches, at the left side of the screen, click on Law Reviews.



- Perform a simple search by entering search terms here:



- Limit your search by **date** with the Specify Date pull-down menu.



- The “simple search” described above searches for terms anywhere in the entire full-text of articles in law review journals. This can often find many unrelated articles. For a more focused search, click on Show under Search within Document Sections.



- To search for law reviews by **subject**, try searching for terms within the Summary document section. Select Summary from the “Section” pull-down menu, type in your search terms, then click “Add to Search.”

Sources US Law Reviews and Journals, Combined

Hide options to search specific document sections
Select a section and enter terms.

Connector And Or

Section SUMMARY

Terms intellectual property

- Click the Search button to perform your search.

GENERAL SEARCH TIPS

- Use **AND** to get *fewer* results by combining separate concepts. Example: *trademark and football*
- Use **OR** to get *more* results by listing synonyms for a concept. Example: *gender equity or women*
- Use **!** to retrieve variations on a word root. Example: *negligen!* retrieves negligent and negligence
- You do not need to enclose **phrases** within quotation marks
- W/n** finds words within a certain distance of each other. The letter **n** stands for a number from 1 to 255. *W/n* does not specify a word order. Example: *title 9 w/5 basketball*. This finds the word “basketball” within 5 words of the phrase, “title 9”.
- Atleastn()** finds documents containing a word at least a certain number of times. The letter **n** stands for a number from 1 to 255. Example: *atleast10(copyright)* finds documents containing at least 10 instances of the word “copyright”.

PRINTING & EMAILING CASES & ARTICLES

- The document currently on the screen may be printed, emailed, or saved to disk

-OR-

Tag multiple articles to print, email, or save using the checkboxes:



- Click the Print, Email, or Save buttons near the *top-right* of the screen.

