

UF Legal Information Center ["LIC"]

<http://www.law.ufl.edu/lic> Link to catalog, e-journals, databases

- ◆ Online Catalog: <http://uf.aleph.fcla.edu>
- ◆ Remote access info: <http://www.uflib.ufl.edu/ufproxy.html>

Portals:

- ◆ American Law Sources On-Line
<http://www.lawsources.com/also>
- ◆ FindLaw <http://www.findlaw.com>
- ◆ LawCrawler search engine <http://lawcrawler.findlaw.com>
- ◆ Lawyers.com <http://www.lawyers.com>
- ◆ LawyerExpress.com <http://lawyrexpress.com>
- ◆ LLRX.com <http://www.llrx.com>
- ◆ Law school portals:
 - Cornell's Legal Information Institute
<http://www.law.cornell.edu>
 - Washburn <http://www.washlaw.edu>

Internet resources may not be reliable.

Things to look for:

- * Author/Posted by
- * Domain e.g., edu., .gov, .mil, etc. / Entity hosted by
- * Date site was last updated

Finding Case Law on the Internet:

- ◆ U.S. Courts Web site <http://www.uscourts.gov/courtlinks>
- ◆ FirstGov.com
<http://www.firstgov.gov/Agencies/Federal/Judicial.shtml>
- ◆ FindLaw, Cornell Legal Information Institute, lexisOne.com
- ◆ National Center for State Courts
http://www.ncsconline.org/D_KIS/info_court_web_sites.html
- ◆ Florida State Courts site
<http://www.floridasupremecourt.org/decisions/index.shtml>
 - * Drawbacks:
 - * No editor-added content, such as headnotes or references to other cases, statutes, encyclopedias, law reviews, etc.
 - * Often there is no search engine
- ◆ United States Supreme Court
<http://www.supremecourtus.gov/opinions/opinions.html>
 - * Opinions from 1991 to 2001 can be found under the "Bound Volumes" link
 - * More recent opinions, in all forms e.g., bench and slip opinions, can found through individual links on this main opinion page
- ◆ Eleventh Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals
<http://www.ca11.uscourts.gov/opinions/indexpub.php>
 - * Official and unofficial opinions; 1995 to present
 - * Search by keyword, date, or case #, PDF files
- ◆ Florida Supreme Court
<http://www.floridasupremecourt.org/decisions/opinions.shtml>
 - * Official opinions available from September of 1999 to present; unofficial opinions; 1991 to present
 - * Court opinions are listed chronologically by year, PDF files
 - Drawbacks:
 - No search engine, Coverage is poor

- * Florida Supreme Court Briefs & Opinions

<http://www.law.fsu.edu/library/flsupct>

- Created and maintained by FSU Law
- Contains opinions 1992 forward and the briefs filed in those cases
- Search engine that allows keyword searching

Finding Federal Laws/Bills:

- ◆ U.S. Senate <http://www.senate.gov>
- ◆ U.S. House <http://www.house.gov>
- ◆ Thomas <http://thomas.loc.gov>
- ◆ FirstGov <http://www.firstgov.gov>
- ◆ GPO Access <http://www.gpoaccess.gov>

Finding State Laws/Bills:

- ◆ Cornell Legal Information Institute
<http://www.law.cornell.edu/states/listing.html>
- ◆ FindLaw
<http://www.findlaw.com/casecode/index.html#statelaw>
 - * Links to the various state legislative body sites; searchability will vary
- ◆ Florida Senate Web Site <http://www.flsenate.gov>
- ◆ Florida House Web Site <http://myfloridahouse.com>
 - * Statutes from 1997 forward
 - * Bills from 1998 forward
 - * Keyword searching

Finding Federal Agency Regulations:

- ◆ FirstGov.com
http://www.firstgov.gov/Agencies/Federal/All_Agencies
 - * Provides an A-Z listing with links to all U.S. government departments and agencies
- ◆ GPO Access
 - * Contains the F.R. 1994 to present and the C.F.R. 1996 to present
- ◆ Louisiana State University
 - * Listing of agencies by type
<http://www.lib.lsu.edu/gov/fedgov.html> and a search engine <http://www.lib.lsu.edu/cgi-bin/search.cgi> that allows you to search across all of the various federal agency websites

Finding State Agency Regulations:

- ◆ State and Local Government on the Net
<http://www.statelocalgov.net>
 - * Includes a directory of links to state and local agencies in all 50 states
- ◆ MyFlorida.gov
 - * Directory of Florida State Agencies
<http://www.myflorida.com/directory>
- ◆ Administrative Code <http://fac.dos.state.fl.us>
- ◆ Florida Administrative Weekly on the Web
<http://faw.dos.state.fl.us>
 - * Access to proposed rules and regulations, as well as notices of public meetings and bid announcements

Finding Local Laws/Regulations:

- ◆ State and Local Government on the Net
<http://www.statelocalgov.net>
 - * Portal to thousands of state agencies and city and county government websites
- ◆ Municode.com
http://www.municode.com/resources/code_list.asp?stateID=9
- ◆ FindLaw e.g., FL:
<http://www.findlaw.com/11stategov/fl/laws.html>
- ◆ MyFlorida.com <http://www.myflorida.com/counties>
 - * Includes a directory of links to each official county and city Web sites

Finding Rules of Court:

- ◆ The Washburn University School of Law has an entire page devoted to federal court rules
<http://www.washlaw.edu/searchlaw/courtrules>
 - * Links users to the official federal courts' clerk of court Web sites
- ◆ The LIC has the most recent federal and Florida rules of court behind the Circulation Desk in the reserve area

Finding Forms:

- ◆ Florida Bar <http://www.flatls.org/sanction.asp>
- ◆ FindLaw <http://www.findlaw.com> & lexisONE
<http://www.lexisone.com>; Forms are available for free in PDF; Interactive forms available for a small fee
- ◆ FindForms.com <http://www.findforms.com>
- ◆ The Internet Legal Research Group <http://www.ilrg.com/forms> has business-related legal forms; Small fee for forms in MS Word format vCourt Web sites:
 - Ex: Florida family law forms are available on the Florida State Courts website
http://www.flcourts.org/gen_public/family/forms_rules
- ◆ The LIC has sets of form books for federal and Florida courts behind the Circulation Desk
- ◆ Remember that forms can often be found in annotated statutes

Finding Dockets:

- ◆ Some courts provide docket information on their own sites.
 - * The U.S. Supreme Court
<http://www.supremecourtus.gov/docket/docket.html>
 - Provides information regarding the status of cases for both the current Term and the prior Term
- ◆ Florida Supreme Court Online Docket
http://jweb.flcourts.org/pls/docket/ds_docket_search
 - * Searchable by: Case #, Party, Attorney, or Date filed
- ◆ However, most courts require access to subscription services, such as Pacer fees are generally nominal
- ◆ Locally, the Official Records Program
http://myfloridacounty.com/services/officialrecords_intro.shtml is offered through Florida's Clerks of Courts
 - * Provides access to court documents for a small fee, \$120 annual fee, and 50% off documents.
- ◆ LLRX.com <http://www.llrx.com/courtrules>
 - * This portal links users to sites that contain various state and federal dockets or to the appropriate subscription services

Finding Motions:

- ◆ Law Firm/Corporation/Non-Profit Web sites
 - * The ACLU site contains an amicus brief submitted with regard to *Clinton v. Jones*
<http://www.aclu.org/scotus/1996/228851g19961001.html>
- ◆ Supreme Court Merit Briefs can be found on the ABA Web site <http://www.abanet.org/publiced/preview/briefs/home.html>
 - * Briefs may be accessed either by argument date or case name 2003-present
- ◆ U.S. Supreme Court Records and Briefs, 1832-1978
 - * LIC homepage -> Research Links -> Federal Resources; or if on campus you can use this URL:
<http://galenet.galegroup.com/servlet/SCRB?locID=gain40375&finalAuth=true>
- ◆ Westlaw Select briefs from 1870-present SCT-BRIEF-ALL

Finding Public Records:

- ◆ SearchSystems.net <http://www.searchsystems.net>
 - * Claims to be the largest public record directory on the Internet
- ◆ NetrOnline http://www.netronline.com/public_records.htm
 - * NETROnline a.k.a. the Public Records Online Directory is a portal to official state web sites, and those Tax Assessors' and Recorders' offices that have developed web sites for the retrieval of available public records over the Internet

Finding Statistical Information:

- ◆ FedStats <http://www.fedstats.gov>
- ◆ U.S. Census Bureau <http://www.census.gov>
- ◆ Statistical Abstract <http://www.census.gov/statab/www>
- ◆ Bureau of Labor Statistics <http://www.bls.gov>
- ◆ University of Michigan portal
<http://www.lib.umich.edu/govdocs/stats.html>

Current Awareness:

- ◆ JURIST - Legal News and Research <http://jurist.law.pitt.edu>
- ◆ FindLaw Legal News <http://news.lp.findlaw.com>
- ◆ Blawg. Republic <http://www.blawgrepublic.com/dir>
- ◆ Law Professors Blogs <http://www.lawprofessorblogs.com>
 - * a network of over 20 blogs which provide permanent resources & links and daily news & information of interest to faculty in various areas of the law school curriculum.
- ◆ PrawfsBlawg
http://prawfsblawg.blogs.com/prawfsblawg/2005/06/law_professor_b.html

Creating your search string:

- ◆ Boolean logic: <http://www.internettutorials.net/boolean.html>
- ◆ Remember: OR gets you MORE!
- ◆ Use parentheses and quotations properly