

CHECK IT OUT

Lucille Stewart Beeson Law Library Newsletter
Cumberland School of Law of Samford University



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Starting Your Legal Research: Finding Secondary Sources at Beeson Law Library, Part II

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In the February issue of CHECK IT OUT, Part I of this article discussed the advantages of using secondary sources to begin a legal research project, as well as the benefits of beginning your research by finding and reading a law periodical article on point. There was also a discussion of how to find such articles through online indices or full-text databases. This month's article, Part II, discusses other secondary sources beneficial to starting a legal research project.

Legal Encyclopedias

Legal encyclopedias are another secondary source approach to starting your research. You can start your research by scanning the index volumes of either AMERICAN JURISPRUDENCE, 2ND (First Floor, Row 134) or CORPUS JURIS SECUNDUM (First Floor, Row 134) for applicable index entries to your topic. Alternatively, AMERICAN JURISPRUDENCE, 2ND can be accessed through Westlaw and LexisNexis (type "AMJUR" in the search box to access this title). CORPUS JURIS SECUNDUM can be accessed from Westlaw.

In the print indices of both sets, entries with your topic will provide a subject heading and a section number; those subject headings are organized alphabetically within the set, with the alphabetization of those subjects displayed on the book spines.

The text of these encyclopedias provide a general overview of the law, nationally, on each topic. It is not intended to be a description of the individual laws of the fifty states; however, the footnotes of both sets are chock full of citations to state case law.

There are some legal encyclopedias published which discuss the law of specific states, all of which Cumberland students have access to via LexisNexis or Westlaw:

CALIFORNIA JURISPRUDENCE
3D (Westlaw & LexisNexis)

FLORIDA JURISPRUDENCE 2D
(Westlaw & LexisNexis)

GEORGIA JURISPRUDENCE
(Westlaw)

ILLINOIS JURISPRUDENCE
(LexisNexis)

ILLINOIS LAW & PRACTICE
(Westlaw)

INDIANA LAW ENCYCLOPEDIA
(Westlaw)

MARYLAND LAW
ENCYCLOPEDIA (Westlaw)

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LAW LIBRARY SCHEDULE

MONDAY-THURSDAY
7:00 A.M.-12 MIDNIGHT

FRIDAY
7:00 A.M.-10:00 P.M.

SATURDAY
9:00 A.M.-10:00 P.M.

SUNDAY
1:00 P.M.-12 MIDNIGHT

Spring



Legal Research from Page 1

M I C H I G A N C I V I L
 JURISPRUDENCE (Westlaw &
 LexisNexis)

MICHIGAN LAW & PRACTICE
 (LexisNexis)

DUNNELL MINNESOTA DIGEST
 (LexisNexis)

ENCYCLOPEDIA OF MISSISSIPPI
 LAW (Westlaw)

NEW YORK JURISPRUDENCE 2D
 (Westlaw & LexisNexis)

STRONGS NORTH CAROLINA
 INDEX (Westlaw)

OHIO JURISPRUDENCE 3D
 (Westlaw & LexisNexis)

P E N N S Y L V A N I A L A W
 ENCYCLOPEDIA (LexisNexis)

STANDARD PENNSYLVANIA
 PRACTICE 2D (Westlaw)

SUMMARY OF PENNSYLVANIA
 JURISPRUDENCE (Westlaw)

S O U T H C A R O L I N A
 JURISPRUDENCE (Westlaw)

TENNESSEE JURISPRUDENCE
 (LexisNexis)

TEXAS JURISPRUDENCE 3D
 (Westlaw)

MICHIE'S JURISPRUDENCE OF
 VIRGINIA AND WEST VIRGINIA
 (LexisNexis)

American Law Reports (ALR)

In many instances, a discussion found in ALR can be a good starting point for the researcher. Located on Rows 130-132 (First Floor), you will find this collection of annotated law reports provides a court decision addressing a particular legal issue, finding aids and case citations for further research on the topic, as well as a fairly extensive discussion of the issues involved with that topic. Best of all, there are numerous means of accessing the topics discussed in any of the ALR sets. There is a multi-volume ALR Index, which is organized similarly to the "descriptive word index" of the West Digest sets, a single volume (red) ALR Quick Index, a single volume (blue) ALR Federal Quick Index, as well as a multi-volume set of West's ALR Digest which has been organized using the West Key Number system (all found on Row 132). You should remember to update your ALR research by consulting the volume's pocket part, as well as the A.L.R. Blue Book of Supplemental Decisions (for the original edition of ALR) or ALR 2d Later Case Service (for ALR 2d). American Law Reports can also be found using Westlaw or LexisNexis (which excludes annotations involving West Key Numbers, naturally.)

Treatises

Another way to start a legal research project is to find a treatise on point. As mentioned in Part I of this article, jurisdiction-specific works (if they exist for your jurisdiction) on a particular legal topic can be of immense value to the researcher. They will commonly contain both the important code provisions and the court decisions critical to understanding that jurisdiction's stance on a topic. There is a significant collection of current Alabama treatises in the Reference section of the Law Library (Row 165) under call numbers beginning with "KFA." Other Alabama legal works can be found in the general treatise collection (2nd Floor) as well as Reserve (Circulation Desk).

Typically, researchers who are just beginning their work should search the [Law Library's online catalog](#). Assuming that the researcher does not have a specific work in mind, a good keyword search can be a combination of words (no specific word order necessary) describing the jurisdiction along with the topic

Keyword Examples:

Evidence federal

Alabama property

If other secondary legal materials are consulted first, treatises may show up in bibliographies and footnotes contained in law review articles and annotations.

An important warning to the researcher when using treatises—while it is important to update important cases and statutes found in any secondary sources using a citator (such as Shepards or KeyCite), it is particularly crucial to notice the copyright dates of any treatises relied upon. Some treatises can be updated with pocket parts or freestanding

supplements; you should be sure to consult these when they are available. Other works will be organized in three-ring binders; pages in this type of publication will often display its inclusion date at the bottom corner of the leaf. Additionally, the researcher must be wary of relying upon **previous** editions of a work, even if some pocket parts or other supplementation can be found.

As mentioned earlier, the researcher should remember that treatise titles that are not available on the shelf may be available online through the CALR database services of LexisNexis, Westlaw and Bloomberg Law. If you have any questions about finding dates of publication or the latest edition for a particular treatise, please contact a Reference Librarian.

Librarians on Horseback

by Becky Hutto,
Cataloging Librarian
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Stories have been told about the Pony Express and how messages, newspapers, and mail were delivered from coast to coast. The founders of the Pony express felt the need of communication between miles and they were eager to find the right answer.

In much the same way, President Franklin Roosevelt felt the need to help people who had suffered during the Great Depression. As part of his Works Progress

Administration, he created the Pack Horse Library Initiative to help Americans become more literate and to have a better chance to find employment. The horseback librarians who distributed books, rode as much as 120 miles in a week, regardless of the terrain or weather conditions. The need for communication has been in existence since the beginning of time. There have always been innovative ideas, and as a librarian, I am proud of this particular initiative. This was the "Pony Express" to deliver books.

The link is very interesting; take time to view it.

<http://historydaily.org/female-librarians-on-horseback>

Kennedy Assassination Records

A law passed in 1992 required the government to make public the last of the Kennedy assassination documents by Oct. 26, 2017, unless the sitting president opted to withhold any for national security reasons. After protests by the F.B.I. and C.I.A. in the days leading up to

the deadline, President Trump reluctantly agreed to hold back tens of thousands of the documents for another review, but ordered the agencies to make public everything by April 26, 2018, except the names and addresses of people still living.

The President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection can now be found on the National Archives page at: <https://www.archives.gov/research/jfk>

Source:

<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/11/09/us/politics/latest-batch-of-jfk-assassination-records-released.html>

Keep watch - A cookie break will be scheduled during finals. Plan to take a break from the books and come by the Friendship Room. The Law Library staff will have baked goods and coffee available! Check for signs and emails as to the date!



LexisNexis Dedicated Printers

by Grace Simms,
Information Technology Librarian
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LexisNexis provides us with many valuable resources, among them are two dedicated printers that are located in the LexisNexis Lab, Room 228 in the Law Library.

The dedicated printers allow students and Cumberland employees to print directly to a LexisNexis printer rather than to their own attached printer. You don't even have to be on campus to print to these printers.

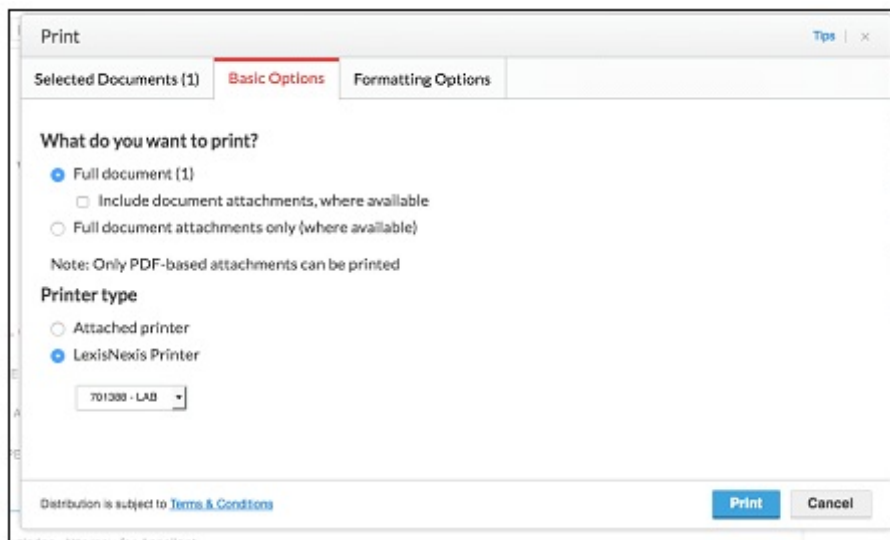
To print to a dedicated printer:

Locate your case, etc. within LexisNexis.

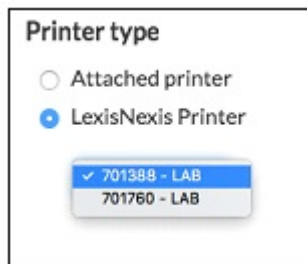
Next, click on the gear icon next to the printer icon above your document.



Under the Basic Options tab, look for Printer type. Choose LexisNexis Printer.



You have two to choose from - 701388 Lab and 701760 Lab. You may also make formatting changes if needed in this window under the Formatting Options tab.



Printer type

☐ Attached printer

☒ LexisNexis Printer

701388 - LAB

701760 - LAB

This option will remain your default until you change it. You may also choose to download, email, or send your document to DropBox.

If you need help with this or have any questions, please contact Grace L. Simms, Information Technology Librarian, at glsimms@samford.edu.

Top Ranking for Cumberland in 1858

In 1858, Cumberland had the largest enrollment of any law school in the United States.

LARGEST LAW SCHOOL IN THE UNITED STATES.

In 1852, the fifth year of its existence, the Cumberland University law school had 86 students, and, in point of numbers, ranked second in the United States. It held this position uninterruptedly until 1858, when it took first rank among the law schools of the country. Its roll showed an attendance of 188. The Dane law school, at Harvard, came next with 146. The years preceding the civil war were glorious ones for the Lebanon law school. Its fame had spread far and wide, and its halls were crowded with the choicest youth of the South and Southwest. Many young men in those antebellum days studied law at Lebanon, not as a profession, but the better to fit themselves for citizenship.

Excerpt from *Higher Education in Tennessee* by Lucius Salisbury Merriam.
Washington : Government Printing Office, 1893.

<https://archive.org/stream/highereducation00merrgoog#page/n205/mode/2up>

Explore the Law Library's Fiction Collection

by Leigh A. Jones,
Evening/Weekend
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The Lucille Stewart Beeson Law Library is home to more than just books containing statutes and case law. The law library is, also, home to an interesting and diverse collection of fiction books. This collection includes historical novels, thrillers, mysteries, and more. Whether you are looking for a fiction book to occupy your leisure time, or whether you are looking for a fiction book that supports your scholarly research, the law library just might have the perfect book for you.

The following is a list of a few of the books that can be found in the Beeson Law Library's fiction collection.

Al-Tounsi. Anton Piatigorsky. Chicago: Ankerwycke, 2017.
PR9199 .3 .P479 A48
In a case of detainees held overseas, read about what happens when Supreme Court Justices allow their personal lives to affect their judicial decisions.

Half of a Yellow Sun. Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie. New York: Anchor Books, 2007.

PR9387 .9 .A34354 H35

In this work of historical fiction, follow the struggles of five people as they cope with the effects of the Nigerian Civil War.

Hallelujah, Alabama! Robert Ely. Montgomery, AL: MBF Press, 2006.

PS3555 .L92 H35

Richard Steick, an attorney and college professor, withstands the weight of political corruption in order to prevent a county in Alabama from becoming a toxic waste dump.

The Help. Kathryn Stockett. New York: G.P. Putnam's Sons, 2009.

PS3619 .T636 H45

Read about the experiences of Abilene, Minny, and Skeeter as they work to tell the stories of African American maids who work in white Southern households of the 1960s.

The Impeachment of Abraham Lincoln: A Novel. Stephen L. Carter. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2012.

PS3603 .A78 I47

What might have happened had President Lincoln not been assassinated?

Law and Vengeance: A Legal Thriller. Mike Papantonio. New York: Select Books, 2017.

PS3616 .A587 L395

Gina Romano, a trial lawyer, works to find out who murdered her friend.

Legal Asylum: A Comedy. Paul Goldstein. Chicago: Ankerwycke, 2017.

PS3607 .O4853 L44

In spite of dark secrets and uncooperative forces, can Dean Elspeth Flowers succeed in getting her state law school into the top of the rankings?

Supreme Ambitions. David Lat. Chicago: American Bar Association, 2015.

PS3612 .A8684 S87

Audrey Coyne, a graduate of Yale Law School, is in search of a U.S. Supreme Court clerkship. What must she do to achieve her goal?

The Rainmaker. John Grisham. New York: Doubleday, 1995.

PS3557 .R5355 R35

Rudy Baylor, a young attorney who seems to be down on his luck, hopes to turn his life around with a million-dollar insurance dispute.



Laptops, Books, Coffee, Friends ... Study time in the Law Library ... March 2018



This is the last issue of **CHECK IT OUT** for this semester. Three issues will be published during the Fall Semester beginning in September 2018. If you have any ideas or suggestions as to ways we can improve, contact **Becky Hutto** at rmhutto@samford.edu. We look forward to the Fall Semester and new issues of the newsletter.

Best of luck with finals!!

Director's Brief

By Gregory K. Laughlin,
Law Librarian and
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It is almost that time of the semester again when the Law Library temporarily modifies its hours and access policies to accommodate student needs for final exams.

If you do not have a sticker on the back of your student ID that is purple with a yellow sun and the word "NEW!" across the face, please stop at the front desk in the next few weeks and get one.

Law Library Extended Hours During Finals

Friday, April 20
7:00 a.m. - Midnight
Saturday, April 21
9:00 a.m. - Midnight
Sunday, April 22
1:00 p.m. - Midnight
Monday, April 23 to Friday, April 27
7:00 a.m. - Midnight
Saturday, April 28
9:00 a.m. - Midnight
Sunday, April 29
1:00 p.m. - Midnight
Monday, April 30 to Friday, May 4
7:00 a.m. - Midnight
Saturday, May 5
9:00 a.m. - Midnight
Sunday, May 6
1:00 p.m. - Midnight
Monday, May 7 to Tuesday, May 8
7:00 a.m. - Midnight
Wednesday, May 9
7:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Thursday, May 10
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Friday, May 11
8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, May 12 & Sunday, May 13 -
Closed

Monday, May 14 to Friday, May 18
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Saturday, May 19 & Sunday, May 20
Closed

Monday, May 21 to Friday, May 25
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Saturday, May 26 & Sunday, May 27 -
Closed

Monday, May 28 -
Closed - University Holiday

Tuesday, May 29
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Wednesday, May 30
Begin Summer Schedule

All schedules are subject to change based on University decisions to close during times we currently list as open. If changes are made, they will be posted on the Law Library doors, on the Law Library web site, on the Law Library Facebook site, and by email to all recipients of this email.

The Law Library will be closed Easter Sunday, April 1 and the following Monday, April 2.

Restricted Access During Final Exam Period

Beginning at the opening of the Law Library on Sunday, April 15 through the closing of the Law Library on Wednesday, May 9 the Law Library will be closed to all but the following patrons in order to accommodate the study needs of law students during their exam period:

1. Cumberland School of Law students, faculty and staff.
2. Samford University paralegal students.

3. Samford University faculty and staff.
4. Lawyers and other professionals who are routinely given access to the Law Library for their work.

The following will be permitted access only upon prior approval following a request made to the Law Library director:

Other Samford University students who need immediate access to an information resource that is only available within the Law Library.

IN ORDER TO ENFORCE THESE RESTRICTIONS, ALL PATRONS, INCLUDING LAW STUDENTS, WISHING TO ENTER THE LAW LIBRARY WILL HAVE TO PRESENT IDENTIFICATION BEFORE ENTERING.

YOU MUST ALSO PRESENT YOUR PATRON (STUDENT) ID TO CHECK OUT MATERIAL OR ROOMS. THAT IS LAW LIBRARY POLICY. ANY COMPLAINTS SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO THE DIRECTOR. THE DESK WORKERS ARE SIMPLY FOLLOWING MY POLICY IN THIS REGARD.

