



A Guide to Legal Information

Whether you're writing a paper on a legal topic or searching for consumer-oriented legal information, this guide will point you to resources to begin your search. The Wake County Public Library system assumes no responsibility for any information, advice or services provided by any site or source listed in this guide. If you have questions, please contact your local library. We're here to help!

SUBJECTS: (keywords to use when searching the online card catalog)

* [Courts – United States](#)

* [Law – United States](#)

* [Lawyers – United States](#)

* [Legal research – United States](#)

ONLINE DATABASES:

<http://www.wakegov.com/libraries/research/databases/default.htm>

[CQ Researcher](#)

Published in print and online 44 times a year, the single-themed CQ Researcher report offers in-depth, non-biased coverage of political and social issues, with regular reports on topics in health, international affairs, education, the environment, technology and the U.S. economy.

BOOKS:

General

[Nolo](#) Press and the [American Bar Association](#) publish a variety of self-help legal guides on different topics.

Reference (in library use only)

[Black's Law Dictionary](#)

R 340 BLA

Preeminent Legal Dictionary

[Encyclopedia of the American Constitution](#)

R 342.73 Ency

More than 2,000 entries pertaining to all facets of the Constitution and related doctrinal concepts, specific judicial decisions, important people, and historical periods in American constitutional development.

[Landmark Decisions of the U.S. Supreme Court](#)

R 347.73 Landmark

Covers key cases in American history, from birth control and equal pay issues to decisions concerning the Slave Ship cases and Leary's marijuana case.

[National Survey of State Laws](#)

R 349.73 NAT

The book is organized into eight broad sections covering 42 topics of business, consumer, criminal, education, employment, family, real estate, tax, and general civil law. Each section begins with a narrative overview of the types of law to be covered, areas of possible controversy, and terms commonly used in discussing the topic. Within each section, charts compare the salient points of each area of state law.

[West's Encyclopedia of American Law](#)

R 348.73 West

This 12-volume set is simply organized, has very thorough explanations of more than 4,000 legal terms and important legal events, and devotes a whole volume to a comprehensive legal dictionary.

WEBSITES:

American Bar Association

<http://www.abanet.org/legalservices/findlegalhelp/home.html>

Information and links concerning consumer legal help

Findlaw

<http://www.findlaw.com/>

Online forms, articles and guides concerning legal topics, as well as links to both federal and state case law, statutes and administrative codes.

GlobaLex

http://www.nyulawglobal.org/globalex/United_States1.htm

GlobaLex is an electronic legal publication providing a guide to the United States federal legal system and Web-based public resources. GlobaLex provides access to information regarding legislation, the judiciary, the executive branch, administrative law and presidential documents.

Government Printing Office

<http://www.gpoaccess.gov/index.html>

Includes the U.S. Code, as well as the Code of Federal Regulations (rules passed by executive departments of federal agencies), the Federal Register (rules, proposed rules and executive orders) and the Government Manual.

Internet Legal Resource Guide

<http://ilrg.com/>

Includes a variety of legal forms

LawGuru.com

<http://www.lawguru.com/>

Ability to submit legal questions and receive answers for free; has legal forms for a price.

Legal Information Institute

<http://www.law.cornell.edu/>

One of the best web sites for accessing federal and state rules of court, case law and statutes.

LexisONE

<http://www.lexisone.com/>

Creating an account and signing up is required, but the site contains numerous forms, well-organized links and access to the most recent five years of federal and state case law.

Martindale-Hubbell Online

<http://martindale.com/>

Search for lawyers by name, areas of practice or location.

Municipal Codes

<http://www.municode.com>

Includes Raleigh and numerous other municipalities in the Triangle

North Carolina Court System

<http://www.nccourts.org/>

North Carolina General Assembly

<http://www.ncga.state.nc.us>

Includes NC Statutes and NC Legislation

Thomas

<http://thomas.loc.gov/>

Contains the text of and information about the votes on bills, the Congressional Record and both House and Senate Committee information.

LOCAL LAW LIBRARIES

(* Indicates Libraries serving as Government Document Repositories)

North Carolina Legislative Library

<http://www.ncga.state.nc.us/LegLibrary/index.html>

500 Legislative Office Building
300 N. Salisbury St.
Raleigh, NC 27603
919-733-9390

North Carolina Supreme Court Law Library*

http://www.aoc.state.nc.us/www/public/html/sc_library.htm

5th Floor of the Justice Building
2 E. Morgan St.
Raleigh, NC 27601
919-733-3425

D.H. Hill Library*

<http://www.lib.ncsu.edu/>

North Carolina State University
2205 Hillsborough St.
Raleigh, NC 27695
919-515-2935

(May not be complete collection but is a Government Documents Repository)

Duke University Law Library*

<http://library.law.duke.edu/>

Science Drive and Towerview Road
Durham, NC 27708
919-613-7128

Kathrine R. Everett Law Library*

<http://library.law.unc.edu/>

UNC-Chapel Hill
100 Ridge Road
Chapel Hill, NC 27599
919-918-5542

North Carolina Central University Law Library

<http://web.nccu.edu/law/ilibrary/index.html>

1512 S. Alston Ave.
Durham, NC 27707
919-530-6333