



LEGAL RESEARCH ON A SHOESTRING BUDGET



Hello!
Nice to meet
you!



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Agenda

1. Where to Start
2. Citation Services
3. Alternatives to Lexis & Westlaw
4. Paywall Busters
5. Oregon Legal Resources
6. Legislative History

Where to start?

Never underestimate the power of a good secondary source. - Me, all the time.

1. Research Guides
 - a. Search recipe for success: [topic] research guide
 - b. Oregon research guides
 - i. Lewis & Clark Law: <https://library.lclark.edu/law/oregon> and <https://library.lclark.edu/orleghistory>
 - ii. Multnomah Law Library: <http://libguides.multlawlib.org/?b=g&d=a>
 - iii. University of Oregon Law: <https://researchguides.uoregon.edu/orleghist>
 - iv. Washington County Law Library <https://www.co.washington.or.us/LawLibrary/Resources/subject-guides.cfm>
 - v. Willamette: <http://law.willamette.libguides.com/oregon> and <http://law.willamette.libguides.com/legislativehistory>
2. Alumni Services at Your Law Library
3. County Law Libraries

Citators: KeyCite & Shepard's

**Washington
County**
Send request
by phone or
email. FREE

**Clackamas
County**
Up to 10
citations/day
by phone &
email.
\$1/citation

Free & Cheap
at Your Local
Public Law
Library

**Multnomah
Law Library**
Submit
through online
document
delivery form.
FREE

**Lexis &
Westlaw**
access at all 3.
Bloomberg
access at
MultCo.

Alternatives to Lexis & Westlaw



Fastcase

Comprehensive

Federal and state case law, statutes, regulations, court rules, constitutions, law review articles

Algorithmic Control

Unique sorting algorithms provide alternative results to LX/WL. Plus, you can re-sort and re-prioritize to fit your research

Data Visualization

Map search results visually to show results over time, relevance, or citation ranking.



Google Scholar

Coverage

Federal and state cases; Article search (not just legal articles)

Flexible Search

By keyword, party name, case citation

Expand

Click on “How Cited” to find citing documents and related documents



Casetext

Coverage

Federal and state case law, statutes, federal regulations, briefs database

Contextual Searching

Upload a complaint, memo, brief, etc., then add keywords to filter, focus your results

Narrow Results

By motion type, cause of action & party type

\$65/month

Other Resources for Oregon Case Law

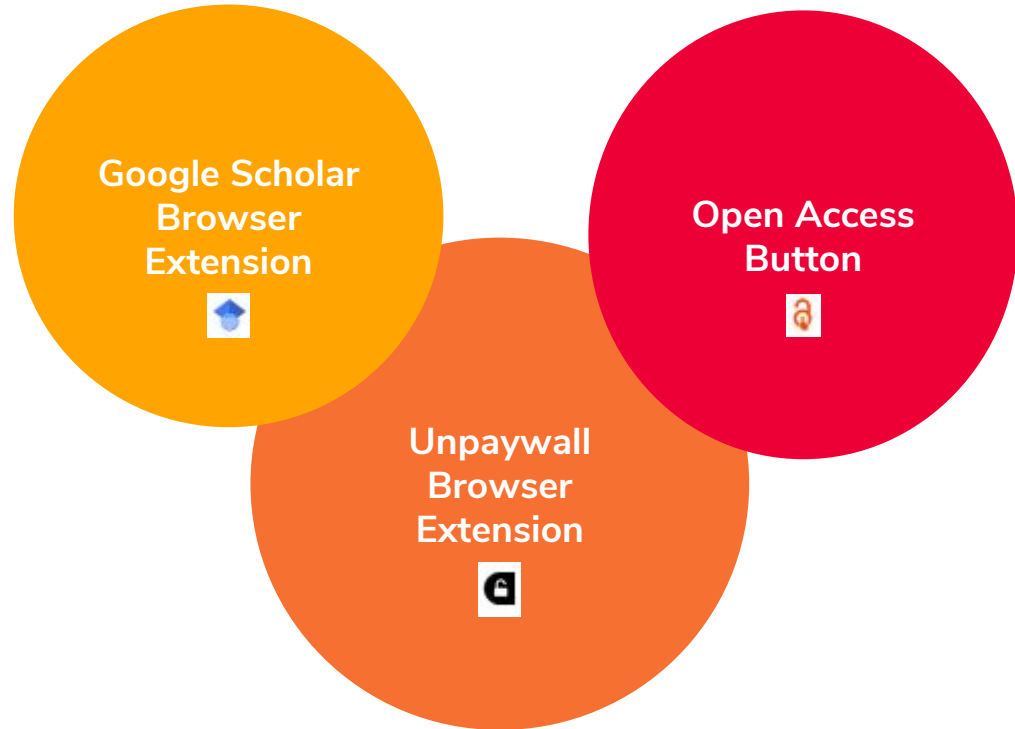
- [ORS Annotations](#) from the OR Legislature
- CoA, SC, Tax Court & AG Public Records Orders from the [SOLL Digital Collection](#) (PDFs)
- [Oregon Courts Case Summaries](#) (Willamette Univ.)
 - Oregon Supreme Court
 - Oregon Court of Appeals
 - Oregon Land Use Board of Appeals

Paywall Busters

Bonus tip: HeinOnline is available from work/home with your Washington County Cooperative Library card.

Don't have a WCCL card? You can get one even if you don't live in Washington County through the Metropolitan Interlibrary Exchange (MIX).

- Legally download articles housed behind paywalls



Oregon Legal Resources

Don't forget to start
with a [Research Guide](#)!



Professional Liability Fund

- Forms
- Checklists
- Sample Letters
- CLE



Oregon BarBooks

- Oregon's Go-To Practice Guides
- Oregon Statutory Time Limitations
- Forms



Oregon State Bar CLE Seminar Material

- Free at osbar.org/cle/library.html



State of Oregon Law Library

- Digital Collection (Briefs & Opinions)
- Nolo Press
- Fastcase

Oregon Legislative History

Don't reinvent the wheel.

Consult:

- 1) Law Review Articles
- 2) Legislative Tracings

Legislative History,
Step-by-Step

- 1) Begin with the ORS citation (look for the history line)
- 2) Session Law -> Bill Number
- 3) Bill Number -> Measure History
- 4) Meeting Minutes/Exhibits

Dates to remember:

Pre-1995: Check for tracing or secondary source, otherwise must use microfilm. Audio only available at Archives.

1995-Present: Check for tracing or secondary source, consult online material from Oregon State Archives. Some material only available at Archives in person (or pay for their research services); after 2007, much of the information needed is available through Legislature's site.

Additional Resources



Search

- Expert Depositions
- List Servers
- Medline-Pubmed
- Disciplinary Actions
- Expert Challenges
- State & Federal Case Law

- Annual license
 - Discounted rate available for OTLA members
- Includes FastCase
- Limited Access

Plaintiffs-Only Policy

TrialSmith exclusively serves the plaintiff bar.

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Who can Access TrialSmith? Access is restricted exclusively to plaintiff lawyers. All users are vetted. Defense lawyers, insurance defense, and corporate counsel are strictly prohibited.

Expeditious & Precise Legal Research

Stepwise Approach:

1. KNOW YOUR CASE
 - a. Start where you are and Read It All.
 - b. Plan your project
2. List & Look up Cited Materials
3. Build a Source/Search List
4. Skim & Save -> Read Later
5. Verify (Shepardize/KeyCite)
6. READ



Storyboard

Always Review:

- Applicable Rules
- Jury Instructions
- Statute
- Annotations!

List:

- Caselaw
- Search Terms
- Resources

DATE Cite Checked



Why?

- ** Due Diligence **
- Time Lags
- Personal Library
- (Billing)

Where to Go:

State Law Materials:

- OSB Bar Books
- CaseLaw
- Statutes

https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/bills_laws/pages/ors.aspx

<https://www.oregonlaws.org/>

Remember: OSB Bar Books & FastCase are available via OSB Dashboard.

Federal Practice / Question:

- Treatises are your friend!
- Topic specific practice guides.

Federal District Court (D. OR)

<https://ord.uscourts.gov/index.php>

Ninth Circuit

<https://www.ca9.uscourts.gov/>

SCOTUSBlog

<https://www.scotusblog.com/>

Stuck?



Additional Resources:

- West Keys
- Word Index
- Law Review Articles
 - Trends & Theories
- Legislative History
 - Legislative Intent
 - Statutory Construction
- Bloomberg
- Hein
- PLI

Details at

<http://libguides.multlawlib.org/databases>



*Ask
for
Help!*

Law Librarian

- Bring your Research Trail!

Listserv

- Ask wisely.

“

Questions?



Image Credits.



<https://www.vectorstock.com/royalty-free-vector/cute-white-sheep-character-holding-red-flag-funny-vector-17381935>

<https://www.mein-mousepad-design.de/designs/-/cute-white-sheep-character-holding-red-flag-funny-humanized-animal-vector-illustration-171615219/>



<http://www.clipartpanda.com/categories/road-map-clipart>



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<https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Rabbit.gif>



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