



**User Guide.** The Public Library of Law ([www.plol.org](http://www.plol.org)) is the **world's largest** online database of **free law**. Our library brings free materials from across the Web together in one place, and adds hundreds of volumes of law that has previously only been available with a subscription. **That's why PLoL is the best starting point for finding law on the Web!**

PLoL provides access to a wide variety of legal resources for legal professionals and the general public alike. As a registered PLoL user, you have **FREE** access to the following jurisdictions:

**State Law** - Access to your state law, and the law of **all 50 States**

- Supreme and Appellate Court cases from 1997 to the present
- Statutes from all 50 states
- Constitutions from all 50 states
- Court Rules from all 50 states
- Regulations and Administrative Codes from selected states

**Federal Law**

- All U.S. Supreme Court Cases
- All Federal Circuit Courts from 1950 to the present
- The United States Code
- US Code of Federal Regulations
- Federal Court Rules

**Getting Started.** Searching PLoL is easy – it's just like searching the Web! Type search terms into the search box, and PLoL brings back all of the cases that use those terms. If you're only searching for the law of your state (most researchers are), simply click "Advanced Options" and select your state from the list. Now you'll only get the search results from your state.



You can use very precise keyword search expressions to narrow your search. PLoL features all of the "connectors" found in subscription research services, such as "**exact phrase**" searches, **wildcar\*** characters, and operators such as **AND, OR, NOT, W/n**, so if you're an experienced legal researcher, you can search the same way you do on subscription sites (without the subscription). Of course, if you just want to type keywords into the search box, you'll always get great results, even without the connectors. If you know a case citation, just type it in (for example, [158 F.3d 693](#)) and you get the case!

PLoL is a free service, but an initial registration is required – think of it as your library card for law on the Web. The first time you click to view a case on PLoL, you'll be invited to register. We send you an activation link by e-mail. When you click it, you have access to the full Public Library of Law!

The Public Library of Law is a service from Fastcase ([www.fastcase.com](http://www.fastcase.com)), the fastest-growing professional legal research service in the world. PLoL covers recent cases, but **you can find extra libraries and older cases on Fastcase**. Where older cases are cited in PLoL, you'll see links to them in Fastcase, with easy and affordable purchase options. (Of course, if the citation is to a case you can find in PLoL,

hyperlinked citations take you to the free case on PLoL.)

**Fastcase offers comprehensive legal research** coverage, and **next-generation research tools**. Fastcase's libraries include older cases, federal district courts and federal bankruptcy cases, specialty courts, and the **official pagination** for cases. And Fastcase's research tools are both powerful and easy to use, including **dual-column printing** (in PDF, Word, or WordPerfect-compatible Rich Text Format), **Authority Check** to find later citing cases, sorting options that bring the **best results to the top** of the list, **public records** search, and the ability to search multiple jurisdictions at once.

**PLoL is your starting point for law on the Web!** It is the world's largest free law library, with easy-to-use tools and content from across the Web. And with further materials available from **Fastcase**, you have a full law library online.