

ALDEN LIBRARY

QUINSIGAMOND COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Library Research Guide

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and Electronic Resources
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LexisNexis Academic for Legal Research: Cases

LexisNexis Academic is a research database for criminal justice, legal ethics, nursing and other fields of study. The full text of laws, court cases, and regulations is available for the national and state level. Law Reviews are the scholarly journals of law, and are available in full text, along with articles from legal news sources.

Getting Started

- Begin at the library web page: <http://www.qcc.mass.edu/library>
- Click on **Online Databases**.
- Use the **Databases by Title A-Z** link and scroll to **LexisNexis Academic Legal Research**.
- If you are **Off campus**, you will be prompted to type in your library barcode number and your last name. For more information, there is a separate Remote Access guide.

You will see this page:

The screenshot shows the LexisNexis Academic search interface. At the top, there are navigation links for "Start", "Sign Out", "Contact Us", and "Help". Below this is a red navigation bar with tabs for "Search" and "Sources", and sub-tabs for "General", "News", "Legal", "Business", and "People". The main content area is titled "Federal & State Cases" and includes a search box with a "Search" button. Below the search box is a "Required Terms (Optional)" section with a text input field. The "Select Sources" section shows "Federal & State Cases, Combined" selected. There are also fields for "Case Name", "Citation Number", "Specify Date", "Judge's Last Name", and "Counsel or Firm Name". On the right side, there are sections for "Terms and Conditions", "Legal Searches" (with a list of search options like "Law Reviews", "Federal & State Cases", etc.), and "Related Links" (with a "How do I...?" section).

Step one: Enter Search Terms

Cases can be found by using the party names, using the exact citation, using a keyword search on any of those elements, and by placing elements like dates in the “Enter Search Terms” field and parties in the “Case Name” field.

Enter the **names** of the parties in the case

In this example, **Kent v United States** (although capitalization is not required).

The screenshot shows the 'Federal & State Cases' search interface. The 'Enter Search Terms' field is empty. The 'Natural Language' radio button is selected. Below the search terms field, there is a text box with instructions: 'Enter a question, a sentence, or a few descriptive terms. Use quotation marks for an exact phrase. Do not use wildcard characters such as ! or *.' The 'Required Terms (Optional)' field is empty. The 'Select Sources' dropdown is set to 'Federal & State Cases, Combined'. The 'Search within Document Sections' dropdown is set to 'All available dates'. The 'Case Name' field is circled and contains 'Kent v. United States'. The 'Citation Number' field is empty. The 'Specify Date' dropdown is set to 'All available dates'. The 'Judge's Last Name' and 'Counsel or Firm Name' fields are empty. A 'Search' button is in the top right corner. A 'Clear Form' link is in the bottom right corner.

OR

Enter the legal **citation**

In this example, the citation is **383 U.S. 541**, which means volume 383 of the United States reports, page 541.

The screenshot shows the 'Federal & State Cases' search interface. The 'Enter Search Terms' field is empty. The 'Natural Language' radio button is selected. Below the search terms field, there is a text box with instructions: 'Enter a question, a sentence, or a few descriptive terms. Use quotation marks for an exact phrase. Do not use wildcard characters such as ! or *.' The 'Required Terms (Optional)' field is empty. The 'Select Sources' dropdown is set to 'Federal & State Cases, Combined'. The 'Search within Document Sections' dropdown is set to 'All available dates'. The 'Case Name' field is empty. The 'Citation Number' field is circled and contains '383 u.s. 541'. The 'Specify Date' dropdown is set to 'All available dates'. The 'Judge's Last Name' and 'Counsel or Firm Name' fields are empty. A 'Search' button is in the top right corner. A 'Clear Form' link is in the bottom right corner.

OR

Enter your terms separated by connectors like “**and**,” “**or**,” or use the Natural Language button and type in a phrase or sentence.

The screenshot shows the 'Federal & State Cases' search interface. The 'Enter Search Terms' field contains 'morris a. kent and supreme court and 1966'. The 'Terms and Connectors' radio button is selected. Below the search terms field, there is a text box with instructions: 'Use connectors to show relation of terms, e.g., apple and orange, cat or feline, trade w/5 act View Connectors...'. The 'Narrow Search Terms' field is empty. A 'Search' button is in the top right corner. A 'Clear Form' link is in the bottom right corner.

Step two: View Search Results

The results in the right side of the display show individual cases. The groupings on the left side show smaller sets of results based on where the case was heard.

LexisNexis[®] Academic
Federal & State Cases - Federal & State Cases (1966) (53)
Search Sources Results
Result Groups View List Narrow Search
Sources by Category Sort Publication Date 1-25 of 53 Next Steps Edit Search Go
View Tagged
All Results (53)
Cases (53)
US Courts of Appeals Cases, Combined (26)
US District Court Cases, Combined (24)
DE Superior Court Cases from 1885 (1)
U.S. Supreme Court Cases, Lawyers' Edition (1)
US Bankruptcy Court Cases (1)
No. Results
1 Kent v. United States, No. 104, SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES, 383 U.S. 541; 86 S. Ct. 1045; 16 L. Ed. 2d 84; 1966 U.S. LEXIS 2015; 11 Ohio Misc. 53; 40 Ohio Op. 2d 270, January 19, 1966, Argued, March 21, 1966, Decided
2 United States v. Cassel, No. 03-10683, UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE NINTH CIRCUIT, 408 F.3d 622; 2005 U.S. App. LEXIS 9439, December 7, 2004, Argued and Submitted, San Francisco, California, May 24, 2005, Filed
3 United States v. Davis, No. 02-4898, UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE FOURTH CIRCUIT, 70 Fed. Appx. 730; 2003 U.S. App. LEXIS 16550, July 24, 2003, Submitted, August 13, 2003, Decided, RULES OF THE FOURTH CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEALS MAY LIMIT CITATION TO UNPUBLISHED OPINIONS. PLEASE REFER TO THE RULES OF THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THIS CIRCUIT.
4 Pryzbowski v. U.S. Healthcare, Inc., No. 99-5920, UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE THIRD CIRCUIT, 245 F.3d 266; 2001 U.S. App. LEXIS 4903; 25 Employee Benefits Cas. (BNA) 2345, November 14, 2000, Argued, March 27, 2001, Filed

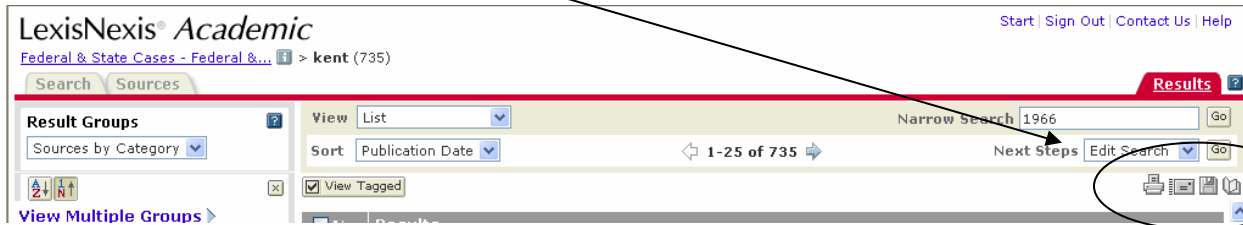
To view an individual case from the brief display, click on the title link to see the entire case.

The full text display:

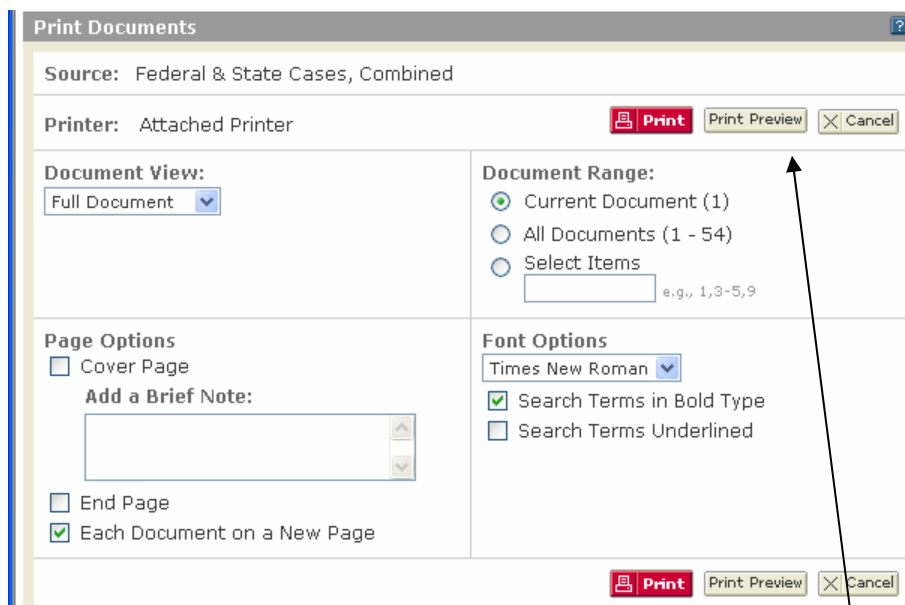
Federal & State Cases - Federal & State Cases (1966) (53) > Document (1/53)
Search Sources Results
View Full with Indexing Narrow Search
1 of 53 Next Steps Edit Search Go
1966 U.S. LEXIS 2015, LEXIS Case Law Signal: Questioned - Consult Citation Services, 383 U.S. 541, *86 S. Ct. 1045, **16 L...
KENT v. UNITED STATES
No. 104
SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES
383 U.S. 541; 86 S. Ct. 1045; 16 L. Ed. 2d 84; 1966 U.S. LEXIS 2015; 11 Ohio Misc. 53; 40 Ohio Op. 2d 270
January 19, 1966, Argued
March 21, 1966, Decided
PRIOR HISTORY: CERTIORARI TO THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CIRCUIT.
DISPOSITION: 119 U. S. App. D. C. 378, 343 F.2d 247, reversed and remanded.
CASE SUMMARY
PROCEDURAL POSTURE: After petitioner juvenile was held in juvenile detention for a week, the juvenile court, without a hearing, entered an order waiving juvenile court jurisdiction pursuant to D.C. Code Ann. § 11-1553 (1965). The juvenile challenged his subsequent criminal convictions for robbery and housebreaking and asserted that the waiver was invalid. The United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit affirmed; the juvenile appealed.
OVERVIEW: While on probation for a previous offense, the juvenile was apprehended for rape and robbery; he admitted committing the crimes. His counsel, who requested a psychological evaluation of the juvenile, filed motions for a waiver hearing and for access to the juvenile's social service file. Without ruling on the motions, holding a hearing, or providing a statement of reasons, the juvenile court entered a waiver order pursuant to D.C. Code Ann. § 11-1553 (1965). The juvenile was subsequently acquitted by reason of insanity of rape, but was convicted of housebreaking and robbery. The appeals court affirmed his convictions. On appeal, the Court reversed and remanded. It held that waiver of juvenile court jurisdiction was a "critically important" action that entitled juveniles to a hearing with assistance of counsel, access to records, and a statement of reasons. It noted that prior knowledge of a juvenile and his record was not sufficient to meet § 11-1553's requirement of "full investigation" and that legal counsel was not limited to merely bringing forward additional information for the court to consider. The Court held that basic due process applied to waiver decisions.

Step three: Print, Email, Save

Options to Print, Email and Save the cases are provided by icon links on the right side above the result list or full text display.




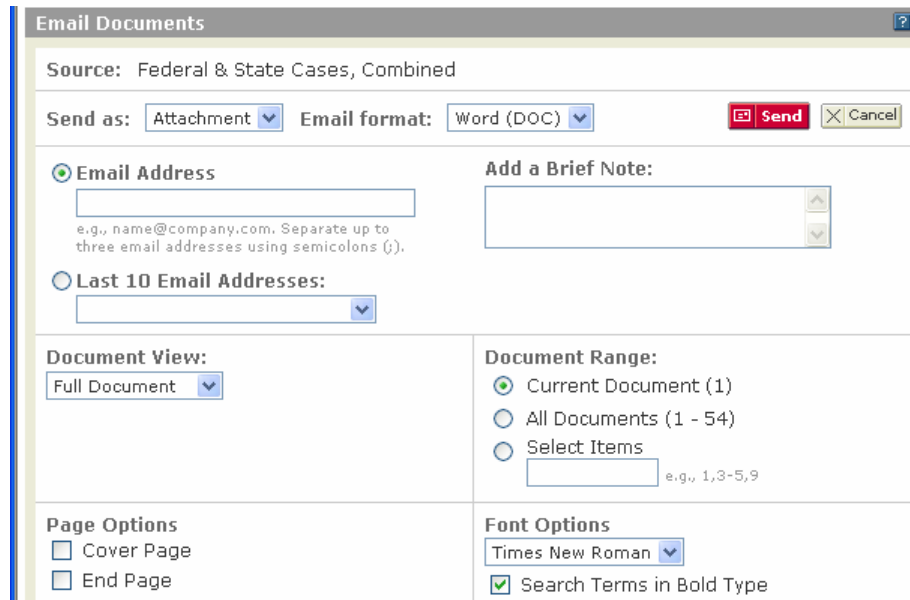
Print options allow printing all or selected parts of the document, the current result, or the entire result list. Search terms will be highlighted with bold type unless you change that option. Choices of 2 other fonts are also offered.




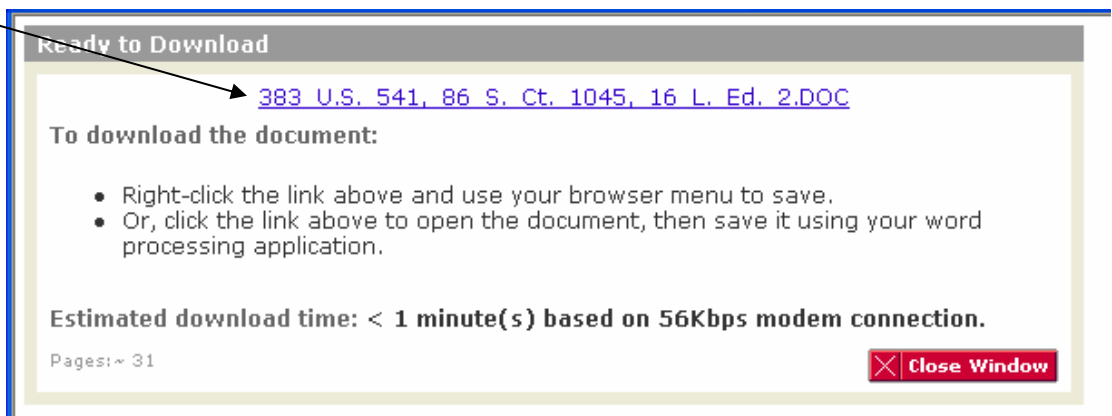
Click on “**Print Preview**” to find out how many pages will be printed.

Customization options include adding a cover page or printing only a segment from the full document.

 Documents can be emailed as attachments or as part of the body of the email. Formats for the attachments include MS Word documents, html, PDF, or text files.



 Clicking on the “Save” link brings up an additional step with the document displayed as a hyperlink and instructions for how to save.



Citing the case in a bibliography

There is no special help in the search results for how to cite your case. The hyperlinked line above is in a legal citation format called a parallel citation—you could locate the same case whether you were looking at the *U.S. Reports*, *The Supreme Court Reporter*, or the *Lawyer’s Edition*.

For help with legal citations, use the following source:

The Bluebook: A Uniform System of Citation, found in Reference at REF KF 245 .B58 2000 or consult guides for citing legal cases in MLA style or APA style.

Other Search Options

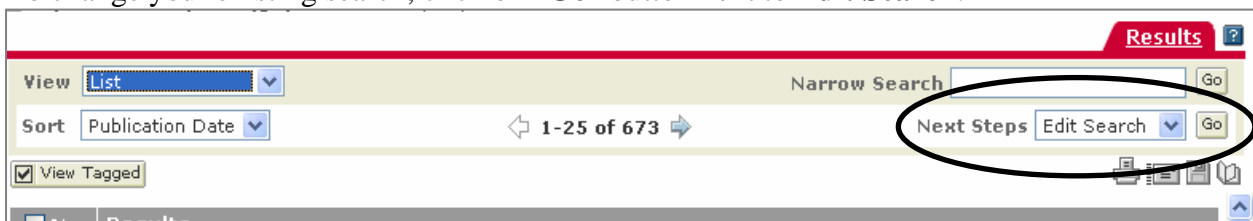
To focus on a particular date or term within the set of results you are viewing, use the Narrow Search field.



To return to the list of cases, use the Results tab.



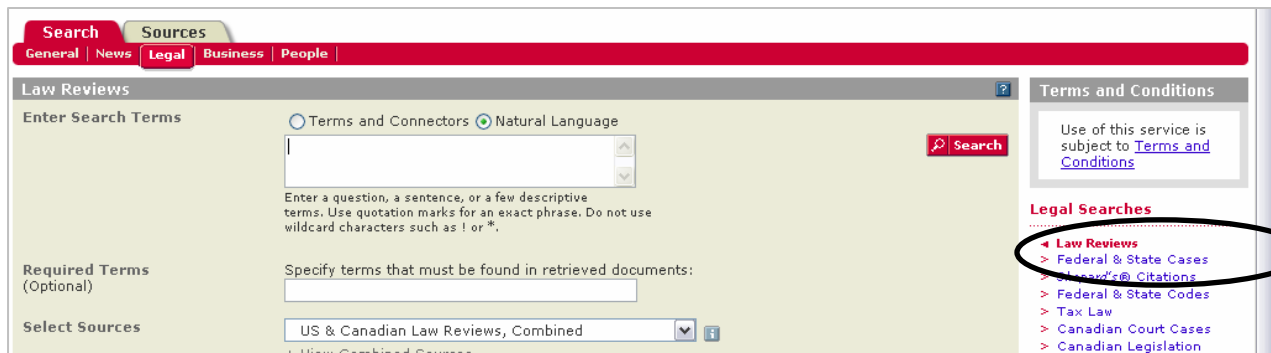
To change your existing search, click on "Go" button next to Edit Search.



To return to the main search screen, use the Search tab.

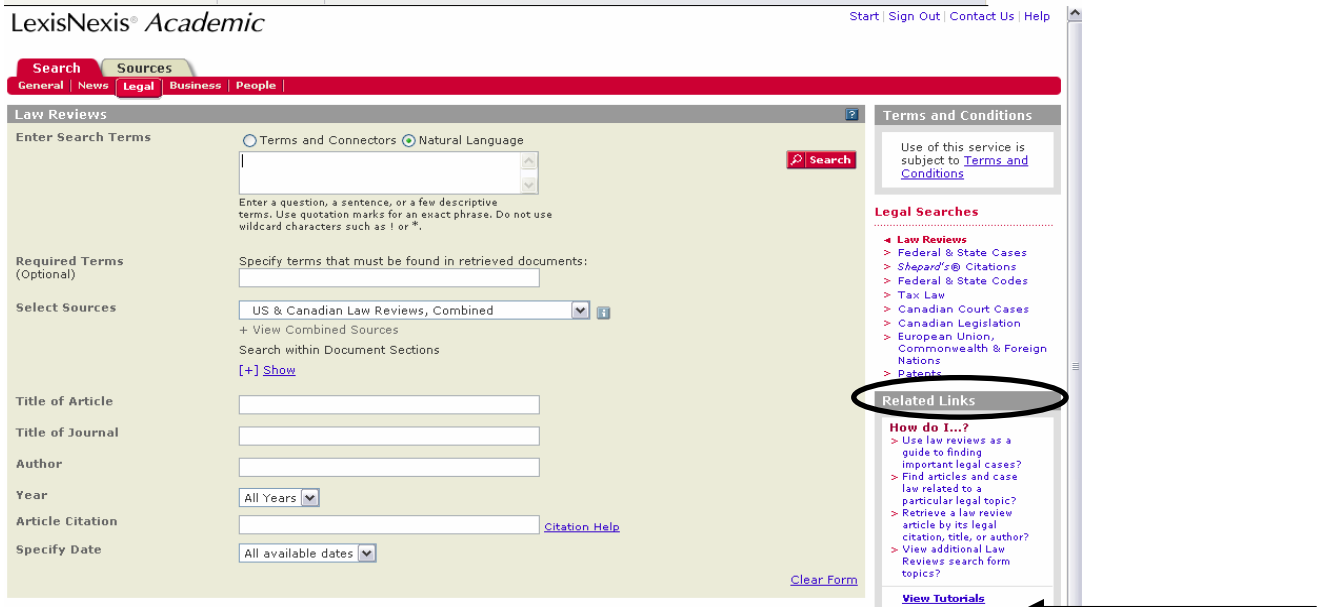


The main search screen defaults to the Law Reviews search. To continue searching only in Federal and State Cases, use "Federal & State Cases" the link under "Legal Searches."



Finding Help in LexisNexis Academic

There are many ways to search for news articles and to find help in conducting your research in LexisNexis Academic. For Help, consult the “**Related Links**” or use the online tutorials.



A sample screen from the online tutorial.



For assistance using the LexisNexis Academic database or for help with your research project, please call the Reference Desk during regular library hours at (508) 854-4366 or email us at reference@qcc.mass.edu. Immediate help may also be available from the Massachusetts Trial Court Law Libraries <http://www.lawlib.state.ma.us/> or **Mass Answers**, a 24/7 online reference service.