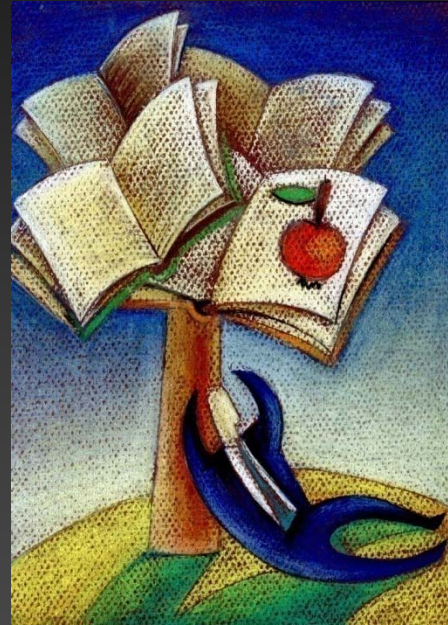


# Legal Research: Tips to Zero in on the Good Stuff... and then Find it Again!



Catherine Sanders Reach, MLIS  
Director, Legal Technology Resource Center  
American Bar Association

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# You Get What You Pay For: Free Web Research

- Search engines have limits
  - Full text of long documents is not indexed
- Know what the search engines are up to
  - [SearchEngineWatch.com](http://SearchEngineWatch.com)
- Just like school – know your sources
- In fact, surfing can be dangerous
- Keep it advanced, while keeping it simple

# JUST ASK a Law Librarian

- **Jurisdiction**
- **Useful tips** - check university libraries and other sites for pathfinders
- **Scope** - how extensive should the research be?
- **Terms of Art** – define search terms and find synonyms
  
- **Acronyms** – look them up
- **Sources** – Secondary treatments?
- **Key Cost Restraints** – can you bill the client?

# Speaking of Libraries...

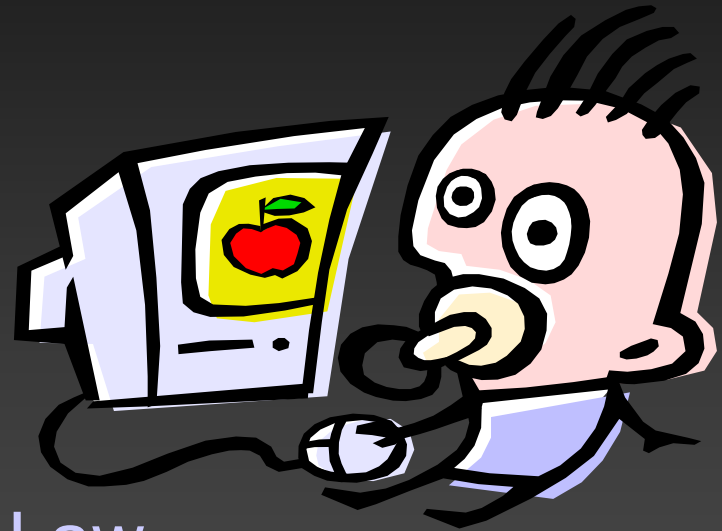
- Don't forget your local law and public libraries
- World of information online via public libraries
- [AALL 50 State Survey of Authentication of online legal resources](#)
- Library secret weapon - [WorldCat](#)

# Legal Specific Web Directories

- [GLIN](#) – Global Legal Information Network
- [LII](#) – Cornell's Legal Information Institute
- [LLRX](#) – Law Librarian's Resource Exchange
- [LexisONE](#) ([Shepard's by Credit Card](#))
- [Zimmerman's Legal Research Guide](#)
- [ABA LawLink](#)

# Legal Research: New Kids on the Block

- [PreCYdent](#)
- [JD Supra](#)
- [AltLaw](#)
- [Public.Resource.org](#)
- [PLOL – Public Library of Law](#)



# Searching Blogs (and Blawgs)

- [Justia's BlawgSearch](#)
- [ABAJournal.com](#)
- [Technorati](#)
- [Google Blog Search](#)

## Non-Traditional Sources

- [YouTube](#)
- Social Networking Sites
- [Podcasts](#)

# News Junkie

- Legal News Aggregators
  - [Jurist Legal News](#)
  - [ABAJournal.com](#)
  - [Law.com](#)
- General News Aggregators
  - [Google News](#)
  - [Yahoo! News](#)
  - [AltaVista News](#)



# Business/Competitive Intelligence

- Free Public Records resources (BRB compiled list)
- Hoovers (free and \$\$)
- BigCharts
- Dun & Bradstreet Company Reports (\$\$)
- US Economic Census
- Industry Information Resources

# Better Searching with Google

- Search tips:
    - Site Search: [patents site:www.abanet.org](#)
    - Exact phrase: "lauritzen v. larsen"
    - Excluded words: bass –fishing
    - Necessary words: bass +fishing
    - Similar words: ~mobile phone
    - OR: vacation Sedona OR Phoenix
    - Type in math, conversions, addresses, phone numbers, tracking numbers
  - Or.... use [Google Advanced Search](#)
-

# Too Much Information...

- Use Google to do discrete searches:
  - Site, images, videos, news, maps, groups, products, blogs, books, patents (!), Google Scholar, Finance...
- Create a [Google Custom Search](#)
- Create a search roll with [Rollyo](#)

# Way Too Cool Search Engines



Pardon Our Dust...

– SearchMe

- If you love your fancy new iPod and iTunes you'll love this

– Viewzi

- SearchMe ...x10

# Personal Knowledge Management

- Knowledge Management on a small scale
- Track research strategies – sources, search strings, results
- Rule #1 of librarians
  - I know the answer because I know where to look
- Too much information to remember?
- Use methods and tools to help you remember, store, find, and reuse information and mix/match

# “Clipping” Services

- **Create automated searches**
  - Sent to your email
    - [Google News Alerts](#)
    - [Google Alerts](#) and [GoogleAlert](#)
  - Sent to your RSS feed reader
    - [FeedMySearch](#)
- **Webpage Watchers**
  - Sent to your email or RSS feed reader
    - [WatchthatPage](#)

# iGoogle (example of RSS Feed Reader)



Google Search

I'm Feeling Lucky

[Advanced Search](#)  
[Search Preferences](#)  
[Language Tools](#)

legal technol... ▾

Foodstuff

Google Apps

ChicagoLand

Library stuff

small busines...

Add a tab [Get artist themes](#) | [Select theme](#) | [Add s...](#)

## PMA Pipe



- [\[ABA Site-tation\] Search Engine Roundup: Beyond Google, Yahoo, and Microsoft](#)
- [\[Law Practice Tips Blog\] 10 Essential Web Sites for Litigators](#)
- [\[Compujurist\] Dealing with the Deluge: Flood Resources for Wisconsin Lawyers](#)
- [\[Law Practice Matters\] Lawyers Liking LinkedIn](#)
- [\[Law Practice Tips Blog\] Tips on How to Block Cellphone Spam](#)
- [\[Thoughtful Legal Management\] The UN comes to BC!](#)
- [\[Compujurist\] Casual is OK - But Leave the flip flops at the Beach.](#)
- [\[ABA Site-tation\] LTRC Monthly FYI Poll: Online Backup Security](#)
- [\[ABA Site-tation\] New Metadata Ethics Opinion: Colorado](#)

## Law.com - Legal Technology



- [Virtualization Can Save Time and Money](#)
- [Judging Content vs. Keyword Search Strategies](#)
- [PC Gadget Uses Internet To Cut Phone Costs](#)
- [Use Trial Technology but Don't Overdo It](#)
- [Web Site Makes Law Reviews Transparent](#)
- [Subpoenas Seeking E-Mails Meet Resistance](#)
- [E-Discovery Tips From the Bench](#)
- [Law Firm Shines With Shift to Mac](#)

## ABA TECHSHOW.blog



- [It's All Over But The Shouting!](#)
- [It's a Wrap!](#)
- [ABA TECHSHOW Buzz Is Live!](#)

## ABA Journal Daily News



- [Oklahoma Law Firms Benefit from State's Oil-and-Gas Economy](#)
- [DOJ Opinion OKs Social Security Benefits for Gay Couple's Child](#)
- [Federal Judge Presides Over Gay Marriage of Former Clerk](#)

## Law.com - Newswire



- [Milberg Agrees to Pay \\$75 Million in Settlement Over Kickback Scheme](#)
- [High Court Will Hear Case Against Ashcroft Over Post-9/11 Detention](#)
- [Objections Interrupt Morgan Stanley Settlement](#)

## Wired: Gadgets



- [How to Shoot Awesome Black-and-White Photos](#)

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# RSS Feed and News Aggregators

- Getting Started
  - Get a “feed reader” or “news aggregator”
  - Software/downloaded Readers
    - FeedReader
    - RssReader
    - NetNewsWire (Mac)
  - Web-based readers
    - MyYahoo!
    - Bloglines
    - Google Reader/ iGoogle
  - Built-in
    - Outlook 2007, IE 7, Firefox

# RSS Feed and News Aggregators

- Looking for RSS Content
  - Check your favorite news sites, websites, blogs, etc.
  - More and more court sites offer updates via RSS
  - Search engines for RSS content:
    - [Syndic8](#)
    - [Technorati](#)
    - [Justia Blawg Search](#)

# RSS Feed and News Aggregators

- Adding RSS Content
  - Some sites have “add to \_\_\_\_\_” for popular news readers, like:



- Otherwise look for these symbols, right click and “Copy Shortcut” and paste into the news reader:



# Web Link & Content Management

- Advantages
  - End link rot
  - Capture content as you find it
  - Good for discrete content (versus a website)
  - Sharing (???)
- Examples:
  - [Iterasi](#)
  - [Zotero](#)
  - [Google Notebook](#)

**[404 error: File not found](#)**

The [URL](#) you requested was not found.

# Research Notebooks

- Advantages
  - Really powerful with tablets
  - Keep research folders, with notes, clippings, todos,
  - Insert anything – pictures, audio, video, web
  - Replaces dog-eared notebooks, post-it notes,
  - Can be shared via network
- Examples:
  - [MS OneNote](#)
  - [Evernote](#)



# Questions?

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