LEGAL Research GUIDES

Our librarians created research guides on various subjects to help you research specific areas of the law. Guides include links to statutes, explanations of the law, and useful materials on the topic.

JUST A FEW OF OUR GUIDES:

- Child Custody and Support
- Common Law Marriage
- Consumer Protection
- Credit Reports
- Divorce
- Foreclosure
- Grandparents' Rights
- Gun Laws
- Landlord/Tenant Law
- Payday Loans
- Property Owners' Associations (HOAs)
- Small Claims Cases
- Termination of Parental Rights

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TO ACCESS THE GUIDES:

- Visit our website at www.sll.texas.gov
- Select "Legal Help and Info"
- Select "Legal Guides by Topic"
- Select a guide from the topic list

WHO IS THE TEXAS State Law Library?

We serve the legal research needs of the Texas Supreme Court, the Court of Criminal Appeals, the Office of the Attorney General, other state agencies and commissions, and the citizens of the state. We are a public law library created by Chapter 91 of the Texas Government Code. It is free for Texas residents to get a library account and access our remote databases.

TEXAS STATE LAW LIBRARY We put legal research at — your fingertips —



SERVING THE LEGAL INFORMATION NEEDS OF <u>All</u> Texans

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How can we Help You?

The Texas State Law Library has librarians on staff who are here to help you find legal information. We are open from 8 am to 5 pm Monday through Friday.

DO YOU HAVE A QUESTION? ASK US!

- By telephone at 1-844-829-2843 (toll-free) or 1-512-463-1722 (Austin)
- Email your question to a librarian via our website: www.sll.texas.gov



TO SIGN UP FOR A LIBRARY ACCOUNT OR TO LOG IN AND RESEARCH FROM HOME:

- 1. Visit our website www.sll.texas.gov
- 2. Click the "Research from Home" button on the top right of the page (shown below)
- 3. Either follow the directions to get a library account or, if you already have your login information, click on a database to get started



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All Texas residents can now get a library account online. With internet access at home, work, or even a public library, you can use your library account to log into many of our research databases and e-books. We offer Texans access to legal information not available through a Google search.

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TO ACCESS THE RESEARCH DATABASES AND E-BOOKS BY TOPIC:

- Go to www.sll.texas.gov
- Click on "Digital Collection" under "Library Resources"
- You can then search for e-books by keyword or select a database

The following list may help you with choosing the right database or e-book for your research

BASIC EXPLANATIONS OF THE LAW

Start your legal research with a basic overview of the law from an e-book in one of several popular, easy to read series (such as: *Law in a Nutshell, A Short and Happy Guide to the Law, Principles of the Law*).

Self-help Material

Legal Information Reference Center provides access to a wide range of self-help material written in plain English. **Gale Virtual Reference Library** also offers *Veterans' Benefits: A Guide to State Programs*, an excellent resource for veterans.

Case law, statutes, and more

Fastcase provides access to case law, statutes, constitutions, regulations, court rules, Attorney General opinions, and orders for all state and federal jurisdictions.

LAW JOURNALS AND MORE

HeinOnline and EBSCO's Legal Source provide extensive access to scholarly law journals and legal periodicals.

Consumer Law

National Consumer Law Center and the **Legal Information Reference Center** provide access to hundreds of titles on consumer law including fair debt collection practices, Truth in Lending, foreclosure, class actions, financial planning, and more.

Immigration Law

AILALink provides broad coverage of American immigration law including statutes, regulations, case law, manuals, guidebooks, and fillable immigration forms.

LEGAL ENCYCLOPEDIAS AND TREATISES

Gale Virtual Reference Library, National Consumer Law Center, and AlLALink all offer access to legal resources of varying depth, from encyclopedias to treatises. HeinOnline's Legal Classics contains historical titles on legal topics that may be of interest to students or historians. We also offer many up-to-date legal treatise e-books.

"IT IS OUR GOAL TO SERVE THE LEGAL INFORMATION NEEDS OF ALL TEXANS"

A LEGAL DISCLAIMER:

The Texas State Law Library can provide legal information but is unable to give legal advice, legal opinions or any interpretation of the law. We do not have lawyers on staff who can answer your legal questions or recommend legal forms.