

FASTCASE® BASIC SEARCHES

Fastcase is a database research tool that allows users to locate cases, laws, and other legal information using Natural Language, Boolean, and citation searches.

Free access to Fastcase is available at the Clark County Law Library. Patrons interested in using library computers must check in at the Reference Desk by presenting their photo ID and print-outs cost \$.25 per page.

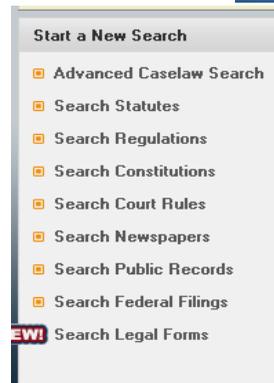
Fastcase is relatively simple to use and online tutorials are available at www.fastcase.com/support/.

To use Fastcase at the Clark County Law Library, follow these steps to perform some basic searches:

- Sign in to use a computer by showing your photo ID at the Reference Desk.
- Click the **Fastcase Icon** on the Desktop to open the program.



- Select the type of information you are searching for under the **Start a New Search** column by clicking one of the choices: Caselaw, Statutes, Regulations, Constitutions, Court Rules, Newspapers, Public Records, Federal Filings, or Legal Forms.



- To search for cases, select Advanced Caselaw Search.

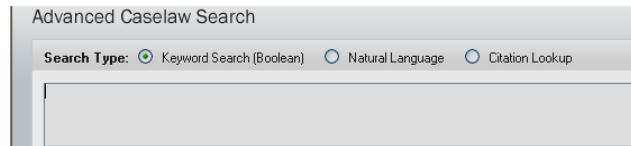
- Select a Jurisdiction to search. Multiple Jurisdictions are offered first under the **Select Jurisdictions** column: All Jurisdictions, All Federal Appellate, All State, All District Courts, and All Bankruptcy Courts.



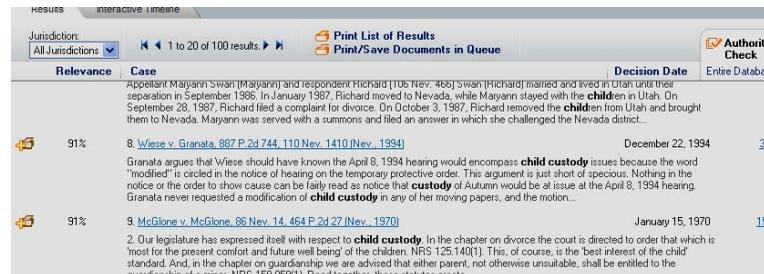
- Click on **Individual Jurisdictions** to select other courts: U.S. Supreme and U.S. Courts of Appeal, U.S. District Courts, U.S. Bankruptcy Courts, State Supreme and Appeals Courts.



- Cases may be searched by Natural Language, Boolean, or Citation.



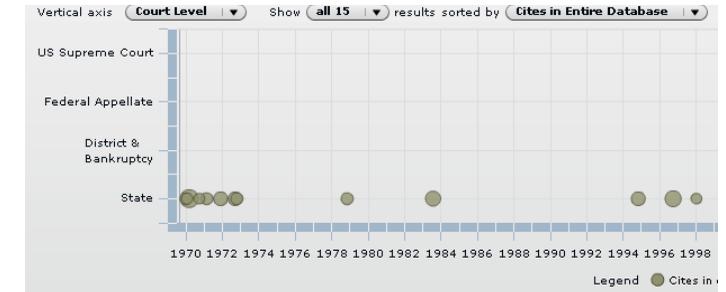
- Search Results will appear. Click on a case name to view the report of a specific case.



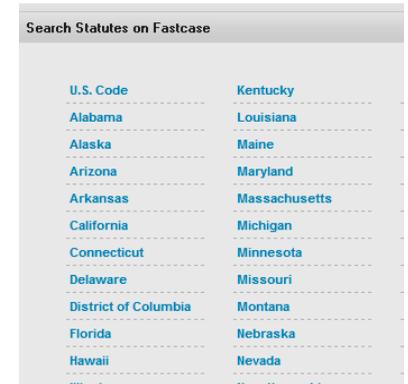
- Click on **Authority Check** to view citations for the case. Per the Fastcase website “*Authority Check is an automated system that identifies later-citing cases, but it is not a citator, and does not include editorial information telling you whether your case is still good law. Before filing papers with a court or in any way relying on the continuing validity of cases, we recommend that you use either Shepards or KeyCite as a citator.*”



- The **Interactive Timeline** is a visual representation of later citing cases. Resting the mouse on a circle provides the case citation and summary information.



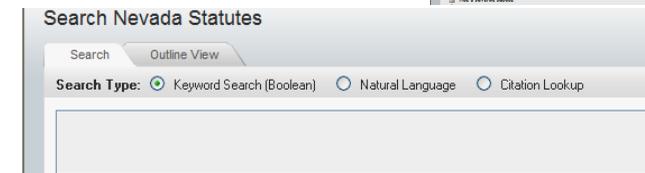
- To search laws, select **Statutes** on the first screen or from the drop-down menu. Click U.S. Code or the state needed.



- Click **Outline View** to search the statute or code by Title or Table of Contents.



- Select **Natural Language, Boolean, or Citation Lookup** to search by keywords.



- Search Results will appear. Click on the desired statute or code to view.