

Chapter 6

BIBLIOGRAPY OF CALIFORNIA LAW RESOURCES

This chapter lists a wide variety of California legal materials and includes both print and Internet sources. This bibliography begins with the California Constitution, and then is arranged by branch of government: legislative branch resources (e.g., codes, statutes, bills), judicial branch resources (e.g., case law, digests, court rules, jury instructions); executive branch resources (e.g., administrative rules and regulations); and municipal and county codes and ordinances. Also included are sources related to California attorneys and judges (e.g., ethics rules and directories), as well as a few of the seminal California secondary sources (e.g., form books). This chapter includes hyperlinks throughout. For a list of URLs, please see the end of the chapter.

For self-help sources, readers should refer to Chapter 9: Assisting Self-Represented Litigants and Chapter 10: Bibliography of Self-Help Resources of this publication. Also be sure to review Chapter 1: Introduction to determine how each of these types of materials, such as legislative codes, case law reporters, administrative rules and regulations, and secondary sources, relate to each other, as well as Chapter 5: California Law, which gives an overview of California law.

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California Constitution

The California Constitution is the supreme law of California. Copies of the California Constitution are available at nominal cost from the [Legislative Bill Room](#), State Capitol, in Sacramento.¹ The Constitution is reprinted in the [annotated codes](#) and is also available on the [California Constitution](#) page of the [California Legislative Counsel](#) Web site, the official site for California legislative information.

¹ Phone inquiries/orders may be placed by calling the Legislative Bill Room at 916-445-2323.

California Legislative Branch Materials

This section will cover finding aids, statutes, codes, bills and resolutions, initiatives referenda, ballot propositions, and legislative process resources.

Statutes & Codes

- *Finding Aid*

LARMAC Consolidated Index to the Constitution and Laws of California. Matthew Bender. Annual.

A handy, one-volume index, LARMAC uses “non-legalese” and offers a detailed subject index to the codes. Note that the publications listed below under *Statutes* and *Codes* also include their own indexes and tables.

- *Statutes*

Newly passed legislation is bound and printed in chronological order (by date passed into law). These chronological compilations are called statutes or session laws.

California Statutes and Amendments to the Codes. Annual.

This is an official publication of all laws enacted by the legislature in a given year, prior to codification in the annotated code sets. This set includes tables and indexes.

The [Bill Information](#) page on the [California Legislative Information](#) Web site provides the full text of California session laws from 1999 to the present. Users may search by chapter or bill number,² author, keyword, code topic, or session or statute year. For the years 1993 to 1998, use the Bill Information page from the older version of the Web site, [Official California Legislative Information](#), which remains online as an archive of California legislative information.

² A bill is “chaptered” by the Secretary of State after both houses of the legislature approve it and the governor signs it (or it becomes law without the governor’s signature).

- *Codes*

Legislative code sets are collections of current statutes, arranged by subject. Codes are consulted more frequently than session laws because codes are geared for researching the current state of the law, unlike session laws which are generally used for historical research. Codes may be easier to use than session laws because codes place related statutes together, which means that code sections are accessible by topic or keyword. (Alternatively, the chronological publication of session laws requires knowing the year a statute passed to access them.) In addition, code sets may have more enhanced indexes than session laws and may be annotated with editorial enhancements.

- *Annotated Codes*

These sets provide the text of the code section as well as references to court decisions and secondary sources that explain its meaning. Thus, annotated code sets are a popular source for legislative research. Two sets of California annotated codes are available from commercial publishers, one from LexisNexis and one from Thomson Reuters. Both sets include the full-text of the codes, the California Constitution, and the Rules of Court.

Deering's California Codes, Annotated. LexisNexis. 220+ vols. Updated by pocket parts. With *Deering's California Codes Advance Legislative Service*.

West's Annotated California Codes. Thomson West. 400+ vols. Updated by pocket parts. With *West's California Legislative Service*.

Legislative service pamphlets update the codes with the newest session laws.

- *Unannotated Codes*

Typically these sets are compilations of one or a few of the twenty-nine California code titles. Calling them “unannotated” is a bit of a misnomer, as they often include a minimal amount of annotations.

Deering's California Desktop Code Series. LexisNexis. Various code subjects and Rules of Court. Annual.

Parker's California Codes. Michie. Various code subjects and Rules of Court. Annual.

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The Standard California Codes: 6 in 2. LexisNexis. Includes the following codes: Civil, Civil Procedure, Evidence, Family and Probate, as well as California Rules of Court. Annual.

West's California Codes, Desktop Edition. Thomson West. Various code subjects and Rules of Court. Annual.

The [California Law](#) page on the [California Legislative Information](#) Web site provides full-text access to California's twenty-nine codes. Under the Code Search tab on the left side of the page, click the link for the code to display its table of contents and to browse to a particular code section. Specific code sections can also be accessed in the Code Search tab by using the Code dropdown box and Search box on the right side. To search for keywords in one or multiple code subjects, click the Text Search tab, enter search terms, select a code topic(s), and click Search.

Legislative Process Materials

- *Finding Aids*

[Legislative Index](#). California Legislative Counsel. This tool helps researchers locate bills by subject.

"[P]rovides a subject matter index of all legislative measures for the current legislative session... indicates the subject of each bill, constitutional amendment, and current or joint resolution as introduced and as amended. Entries are not removed from the index when the subject matter is deleted from the measure in the course of passage."³

[Table of Sections Affected](#). California Legislative Counsel. This tool helps researchers locate bills that amend, repeal, add, or otherwise affect a specific code section.

"[P]rovides an index of each section of the California Constitution, codes and uncodified laws affected by measures introduced. The PDF document includes links for the measure and chapter number [if applicable]."⁴

³ Legislative Index. [Legislative Publications](#), Office of Legislative Counsel.

⁴ Table of Sections Affected. [Legislative Publications](#), Office of Legislative Counsel.

- ***Bills & Resolutions***

The [Legislative Bill Room](#) provides copies of all legislative publications to the public, including single copies of individual bills.

[Legislative Highlights](#) (California Senate Office of Research). This source provides a succinct review of legislation from 1991 to 1994, and 1997 to 2007; also includes “significant” California statutes from the 20th Century and statutes by California women senators from 1976 to 1999.

[California Law Revision Commission Printed Reports, Recommendations, and Studies](#) (1957-). The Commission is the seminal bipartisan bill evaluator and legal issue researcher for California. The Commission’s studies on topics of interest to the Legislature are available on this Web site.

The [Bill Information](#) page on the [California Legislative Information](#) Web site provides the full text of bills, resolutions, and constitutional amendments, from 1999 to the current legislative session. Users may view the bill versions, including the chaptered law for bills that have passed, as well as the bill’s status, history, votes, and committee and floor analysis. Search by bill number, chapter number, author, keyword, code topic, or session or statute year. Use the older version of the Web site, [Official California Legislative Information](#), for [bills](#) and [legislative publications](#) from 1993 to 1998. The [Bill Index](#) from the previous Web site is also available. This tool helps researchers locate bills by bill number or author from 1993 to 2016.

- ***Legislative Publications***

Journal. California Legislature. State Printing Off. 1849/50-.

Contains an “account of the proceedings of each house (not a verbatim report of debates), the titles of all measures introduced, considered, or acted upon by the house, the full text of all amendments to any such measures, the text of all house resolutions, roll calls upon all actions requiring a recorded vote,, messages from the Governor and the other house...[,]” the rules of the Senate and Assembly, an alphabetical subject index, and a bill action index.⁵

⁵ Daniel W. Martin, *Henke’s California Law Guide*, 8th ed. (LexisNexis Matthew Bender 2006) at 94-95.

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[*Senate Daily Journal*](#). California Legislature. 1850-. The Legislative Counsel provides the Senate Daily Journal from 2003 to the present:

[*Senate Daily Journal*](#). November 2016-.

[*Senate Daily Journal*](#). December 2004-November 2016 (and October and November 2002).

[*Prior Session Senate Journal*](#). 2003-2004.

[*Assembly Daily Journal*](#). California Legislature. 1849-. The California State Assembly Office of the Chief Clerk provides the *Assembly Daily Journal* from 1849 to the present:

[*California State Assembly*](#). 1995-.

[*Archived Journals*](#). 1849-2011.

Daily File. California Legislature.

The *Daily File* is the agenda of business for each legislative day. It also contains a table of all bills and constitutional amendments with their dates of introduction. The *Assembly File* includes titles of all committee hearing notices and all measures eligible for floor actions.

Current Assembly and Senate Daily Files are available on the CA [Legislative Information](#) Web site on the right side of the page.

The Daily File and the Committee Hearings versions of the File are also available under the [Publications tab](#) of the Web site.

Initiatives, Referenda, Ballot Pamphlets & Propositions

[Elections and Voter Information, Ballot Measures](#). California Secretary of State.

Provides information on current [ballot measures](#); [voter information guides](#) starting with the March 1996 election, which provide the text of each proposition, along with summaries, analyses, and pro and con arguments; the [status](#) of initiatives proposed for qualification; and a [history](#) of the California initiative process. The Web site links to UC Hastings College of the Law's *California Ballot Measures Database*.

[California Ballot Measures Databases](#). UC Hastings College of the Law Library.

Search for information on California propositions and initiatives from 1911 to the present. The database contains the full-text of measures, ballot pamphlets, and other related information. UC Hastings Scholarship Repository provides links to [ballot pamphlets](#) (voter information guides) from 1911-present, [individual propositions](#) from 1911-present, and [initiatives](#) from 1912-present.

[Ballot Initiatives](#). State of California Department of Justice.

The California Attorney General's Ballot Initiatives Web site [explains](#) initiatives and referenda, provides a [database](#) to search for initiatives, links to [active](#) and [inactive](#) measures and those that have [qualified for the ballot](#), and offers an [e-mail subscription list](#) to be notified about initiatives on the Web site.

[California Ballot Propositions](#). Los Angeles County Law Library.

Users may browse ballot propositions from 2008, 2009, and 2010.

California Judicial Branch Materials

Court Decisions

Court decisions are published in bound volumes called reporters. California has official and unofficial reporters. The text of the case opinion is the same in both sources, but the editorial enhancements provided by the publishers differ.

- *Official Court Reporters*

Reporters that are sanctioned by the State of California to contain published case law are called official reporters.

California Reports. LexisNexis.

Includes full text opinions of California Supreme Court cases. The first series includes volumes 1 to 220 (1850-1934); *California Reports, 2nd* includes volumes 1 to 71 (1934-1969); *California Reports, 3rd* includes volumes 1 to 54 (1969-1991); *California Reports, 4th* includes volumes 1 to 63 (1991-2016); *California Reports, 5th* started with volume 1 in 2016.

California Appellate Reports. LexisNexis.

Includes published opinions of the California Courts of Appeal and Appellate Departments of the Superior Courts. The first series includes volumes 1 to 140 (1905-1934); *California Appellate Reports, 2nd* includes volumes 1 to 276 (1934-1969); *California Appellate Reports, 3rd* includes volumes 1 to 235 (1969-1991); *California Appellate Reports, 4th* includes volumes 1 to 248 (1991-2016); *California Appellate Reports, 5th* started with volume 1 in 2016.

California Official Reports (Advance Sheets). LexisNexis.

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Recent court decisions first appear online, then in advance sheets, paperbacks that may be discarded when bound volumes are published to replace them.

[Court Opinions](#) on the [California Courts](#) Web site. Judicial Council of California. All series of *California Reports* and *California Appellate Reports* are available for free at this official Web site.

In addition, the California Courts Web site publishes California Supreme Court and California Courts of Appeal [slip opinions](#) from the last 120 days that are certified for publication or ordered published. The Web site posts Supreme Court opinions “immediately on filing at 10:00 a.m. on Mondays and Thursdays. Court of Appeal slip opinions are posted throughout the day as soon after filing as possible.”⁶ Slip opinions may be superseded during the time they are available on this Web site, so proceed with caution before relying on them.

- ***Unofficial Court Reporters***

Unofficial court reporters are published commercially and do not have government sanction. Court decisions are reprinted in their entirety by commercial publishers Thomson Reuters (West), the Daily Journal Corporation, Metropolitan News Company, and ALM. West’s reporters (and West digests) use the ubiquitous “key number system” to categorize cases by subject, and make them more discoverable to researchers.

California Reporter. Thomson Reuters. In print and online with a paid [Westlaw](#) subscription.

The first series includes volumes 1 to 286 (1960-1992). *California Reporter, 2d* includes volumes 1 to 135 (1992-2004), and *California Reporter, 3d* includes volumes 1 to present (2004-) with advance sheets. The *California Reporter* contains decisions of the California Supreme Court, Courts of Appeal, and Appellate Departments of the California Superior Courts.

Pacific Reporter. Thomson Reuters. In print and online with a paid [Westlaw](#) subscription.

The first series includes volumes 1 to 300 (1883-1931). *Pacific Reporter, 2d* includes volumes 1 to 999 (1931-2000); *Pacific Reporter, 3d* includes volumes 1 to present (2000-) with advance sheets. The *Pacific Reporter* contains appellate

⁶ [Published Opinions](#). Judicial Council of California.

decisions from fifteen western states, including California. It ceased publication of California Courts of Appeal decisions in 1960 but continues to publish California Supreme Court opinions.

Daily Appellate Report (D.A.R.). [The Daily Journal](#). In print and online with a paid *Daily Journal* subscription.

This publication is an insert in the *Los Angeles Daily Journal* and the *San Francisco Daily Journal*, both published by the Daily Journal Corporation. This publication contains full-text California Supreme Court and Courts of Appeal decisions within a few days of being issued. It also includes full-text decisions from the U.S. Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, the Ninth Circuit Bankruptcy Appellate Panel, the U.S. Supreme Court, and the California Attorney General.

Slip Opinion Supplement (S.O.S.). [Metropolitan News-Enterprise](#). In print.

The *Slip Opinion Supplement* is an insert in the legal newspaper, Metropolitan News-Enterprise, which is published by the Metropolitan News Company. The supplement contains full-text California Supreme Court and Courts of Appeal decisions within a few days of being issued. The paper's articles (not the cases) are online.

[The Recorder](#). ALM. Online with a paid Recorder subscription.

The Recorder is a subscription-based Web site with California legal news and cases. The site contains the *California Daily Opinion Service (C.D.O.S.)*, which is similar in case coverage to the *Daily Appellate Report* described above. Five articles are free every thirty days with registration.

[FindLaw's California Case Law](#). Thomson Reuters.

FindLaw provides the full text of California Supreme Court and Courts of Appeal opinions dating back to 1934. Registration is free. Unannotated.

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Digests

Digests provide a means of conducting comprehensive subject searches of court decisions in print. Thomson Reuters (West) is the only publisher continuing to publish digests in print. Find an appropriate legal topic and subtopic by using the index volumes, and you will be directed to the main digest volumes which contain short summaries of decisions in your jurisdiction on that topic. These summaries, or subject headings, are also known as “headnotes.” Headnotes are assigned to each case in the reporters by the publisher. These headnotes correspond to the topics and headnotes in that publisher’s digest.

The following digest sets correspond to the West Reporter sets. West digests are also available online with a paid [Westlaw](#) subscription.

West’s California Digest. West Group. 1850-1949.

West’s California Digest, 2nd. Thomson Reuters. 1950-.

West’s Pacific Digest. Thomson Reuters. 1962-.

These digest sets correspond to the former official reports:

McKinney’s New California Digest. Bancroft-Whitney. 1850-1968.

California Digest of Official Reports, 3rd & 4th series. Bancroft-Whitney. 1969-2003.

Court Rules

Court rules ensure the proper control of litigation by establishing uniform procedures. There are rules that apply to all California state courts, to all appellate courts, and to all trial courts. There are also “local rules” that are set by each individual court. A litigant must abide by all applicable court rules.

Deering’s California Codes Annotated: Rules of Court. LexisNexis. 3 vols.

Deering’s California Desktop Code Series. California Rules of Court. LexisNexis. Annual. 1 vol. (which also includes Civil, Code of Civil Procedure, and Evidence codes).

California Rules of Court, State. Thomson Reuters. Annual. 1 vol.

Also in *West’s Annotated California Codes: Court Rules*. Thomson Reuters. 6 vols.

California Civil Practice Statutes and Rules, Annotated. Thomson Reuters. Annual. 1 vol.

Standard California Codes, Rules of Court. LexisNexis. Annual. 1 vol.

[Official California Rules of Court](#). Judicial Council of California.

Local Court Rules:

Court Rules: Northern California. Daily Journal Corp. Loose-leaf. 9 vols.

Court Rules: Southern California. Daily Journal Corp. Loose-leaf. 8 vols.

Metropolitan News-Enterprise Rules of Court. Metropolitan News Co. Loose-leaf.
Publishes court rules for individual counties as well as state court rules.

[Official Local Court Rules](#). Judicial Council of California.

Provides links to the local rules of the superior courts of California. Alphabetical by county.⁷

Jury Instructions

During a trial a judge gives specific instructions to a jury before deliberation begins. The use of the CACI (for civil cases) and CALCRIM (for criminal cases) jury instructions is strongly encouraged by the California Rules of Court. The older sets of jury instructions, BAJI and CALJIC, were drafted by the Committee on Standard Jury Instructions, and include notes explaining their use, history, and relevant cases. Most of the publications below are updated with a new edition each year or twice each year. In most cases, your local library will retain the latest edition only.

- ***Civil Jury Instructions***

Judicial Council of California, Civil Jury Instructions (CACI). LexisNexis
Matthew Bender. 2 vols.

Judicial Council of California, Civil Jury Instructions (CACI). Thomson Reuters. 2 vols.

[Civil Jury Instructions \(CACI\)](#). Judicial Council of California.

⁷ Thomson Reuters also publishes local court rules for Los Angeles County and for three regions: Northern, Central, and Southern California.

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California Jury Instructions, Civil (BAJI). Thomson Reuters. 2 vols.

- ***Criminal Jury Instructions***

Judicial Council of California Criminal Jury Instructions (CALCRIM). LexisNexis Matthew Bender. 2 vols.

Judicial Council of California, Criminal Jury Instructions (CALCRIM). Thomson Reuters. 2 vols.

[Criminal Jury Instructions \(CALCRIM\)](#). Judicial Council of California.

California Jury Instructions Criminal (CALJIC). Thomson Reuters. 2 vols.

California Jury Instructions Criminal Forms (CALJIC). Thomson Reuters. 2 vols.

CJER Mandatory Criminal Jury Instructions Handbook. California Center for Judicial Education and Research.

California Executive Branch Materials

California's executive branch is large and complex.⁸ There are hundreds of executive, administrative, and advisory agencies. Most California administrative law research will focus on regulatory rules and regulations, which begins this section. Also covered are agency reports, decisions and orders, as well as executive orders and proclamations.

Administrative Rules & Regulations

State agencies issue administrative rules and regulations, which implement or explain legislation. These rules and regulations carry the same force of law as legislation and published case law.

Barclay's Official California Code of Regulations. Barclays Law Publishers (subsidiary of Thomson Reuters). 25+ vols. 1980-. Loose-leaf. Formerly *California Administrative Code*.

⁸ Please see the organizational chart, available at <https://cold.govops.ca.gov/File/OrganizationalChart>.

The full text of the [California Code of Regulations](#) (CCR) is available free online (except for Title 24), as maintained by Thomson Reuters under contract with the California [Office of Administrative Law](#).

California Regulatory Notice Register (Z-Register) contains the most recent notices of *proposed* actions by state agencies which relate to the repeal, adoption, or amendment of regulations contained in the *California Code of Regulations*.

The [California Regulatory Notice Register](#) is online (in PDF) on the California Office of Administrative Law Web site. From 2002-.

California Regulatory Code Supplement (Digest of New Regulations).

This source offers the official changes (*final* actions) to the *California Code of Regulations*, on a weekly basis. From the point in time that the changes are published in this source, the changes await codification into the *California Code of Regulations*. Note that this source includes only those changes that have actually been made, whereas the Z-Register includes all proposed changes (which may not actually become law).

[Title 24 of the California Code of Regulations](#), called the *California Building Standards Code*, is published independently of the rest of the *California Code of Regulations*.

It is published every three years and updated by supplements in intervening years. It is available to the public at no cost through California [depository libraries](#).

There are several parts to the *California Building Standards Code*:

- California Building Standards Administrative Code* (Part 1)
- California Building Code* (Part 2).
- California Residential Building Code* (Part 2.5)
- California Electrical Code* (Part 3)
- California Mechanical Code* (Part 4)
- California Plumbing Code* (Part 5)
- California Energy Code* (Part 6)
- California Historical Building Code* (Part 8)
- California Fire Code* (Part 9)
- California Existing Building Code* (Part 10)
- California Green Building Standards Code (CAL Green Code)* (Part 11)
- California Reference Standards Code* (Part 12)

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[2016 Triennial Edition of CCR, Title 24](#). California Buildings Standards Commission. Applies to all occupancies that applied for a building permit on or after January 1, 2017, and remains in effect until the effective date of the 2019 triennial edition.

For more information on Title 24 of CCR and the selected parts that are available online, please visit the [California Buildings Standards Commission](#) Web site.

California Agency Decisions, Orders & Reports

Some agencies post decisions and orders on their Web sites. The State of California posts an Agency Directory (link below), which provides links to the agencies' sites. Reports, on the other hand, are rarely posted online. To find out if an agency has published a report, go to the Legislative Counsel's [Agency Reports](#) database.

[California State Agencies Directory](#). State of California.

Alphabetical listing of state agency Web sites. Links to State agencies, departments, boards, commissions, etc. The list can be searched and filtered by category. Also includes links to frequently requested projects, programs, and other nonprofit organizations related to government.

- *Agency Decisions & Orders*

Note that the print version of an agency decision may be deemed the controlling or official version. Contact the individual agency directly for availability of the print decision. In addition, because of the transitory nature of the Internet, some of the links below are sure to have been changed since the publication of this chapter. If a link is broken, please use the [Agency Directory](#) to find the agency Web site and look for either a tab or link to the publications listed below. Below is a list of just a few examples of agency decisions and orders posted online.

Department of Justice. Attorney General. [Legal Opinions of the Attorney General](#). Search opinions dated back to 1986 by keyword or phrase, opinion number, or citation, or use the yearly indexes, which go back to 1984.

California Natural Resources Agency. [1972-2010 Reported CEQA Cases](#).

Access court decisions relating to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Includes court reporter citations.

[Fair Employment and Housing Commission](#). Precedential decisions from 2000 to 2011.⁹

Department of Managed Health Care. [Independent Medical Review Decisions, Complaint Reports, and Arbitration Decisions](#).

The Department provides a database of Independent Medical Review decisions (2001-) and Arbitration Decisions (1999-2016). In addition, once a year, the Department prepares a report on complaints and Independent Medical Reviews. Complaint reports are available from 2000-2015.

Department of Social Services. [Index of Decisions Designated as Precedent](#). Summaries of twenty-three decisions with precedential value “involving” the Department of Social Services, Community Care Licensing Division. Each summary links to the full-text of the decision (in PDF). The Index link is at the bottom of the page.

Fair Political Practices Commission. Access to [Commission Opinions](#) (1976-2014), [Administrative Fines and Penalties](#) (2014-), [Summary of Enforcement Decisions](#) (PDF) (1980-2014), [Case Resolutions](#) (Without Fine/Penalty) (2009-), [Advice Letters](#) (1984-), and [Complaint Closure Letters](#) (2009-).

Medical Board of California. [Precedential Decisions](#).

“[A] decision that contains a significant legal or policy determination of general application that is likely to recur may be designated as precedential... Once a decision is designated as precedential, the Medical Board of California... may rely on it, and parties may cite to such decision in their argument to the Board and courts.” Search by keyword, subject, Business and Professions code section, or year.

Office of Administrative Hearings. [Special Education Decisions and Orders](#).

Search decisions dated back to July 1, 2005, by keyword, judge, case number, or school district. May also browse a listing of all decisions. The link at the bottom of the page leads to a database of decisions from 1993-2005.

⁹ This link is provided by the Internet Archive Wayback Machine because the [California Department of Fair Employment and Housing](#) appears no longer to link to these decisions.

- *Agency Reports*

[Agency Reports](#). California Legislative Counsel.

This database provides information about reports by various state and local agencies. The information is processed and updated continuously by the Legislative Counsel. For a copy of the report, contact the agency directly.

The Governor's Executive Orders, Proclamations, Press Releases, etc.

[Executive Orders](#), [Proclamations](#), [Public Notices](#), [Press Releases](#), and [Media Advisories](#).

The Governor of California.

View current executive orders, proclamations, public notices, press releases, and speeches. After you have selected one of the types of documents, notice the links under *Archives* on the right side of the screen. If the links above fail, go to the [Governor of California](#) page and place your mouse over *Newsroom*.

California Municipal & County Codes, Ordinances

Many city and county municipal codes and ordinances are posted online. If a city or county self-publishes its codes and ordinances, you will find a link on the city or county's Web site. Normally, a self-published municipal code will have limited search features and may not be updated frequently.

There are several commercial publishers of municipal codes. UCLA Law Library has a comprehensive list of those publishers on one of its LibGuides pages, [Municipal Codes Online](#), which is on the [Local Government Law](#) tab of the guide called [Online Legal Research: Beyond LexisNexis & Westlaw](#). Please note that these local code databases are not comprehensive. You will find a state's cities in more than one database. For this reason, researchers who need to search for codes in multiple cities and would like to do one general search (rather than search the codes of each city and county separately) will face some difficulties.

An excellent source for researching particular California municipal and county codes and ordinances is the UC Berkeley Institute of Governmental Studies Library's [California Local Codes and Charters](#) page.

An alternative, if you are looking for one city or county's municipal code or ordinances, is to use a search engine such as Google, Bing, or DuckDuckGo to find the city's Web site or to search for the city name and the words "municipal code."

California Attorneys & Judges

Professional Responsibility

California attorneys and judges must follow rules of professional conduct. Ethics opinions serve to guide the ethical conduct of attorneys through the use of hypothetical situations and commentary. Ethics opinions have advisory value. State Bar Court opinions are ethical rulings regarding California attorneys and have precedential value, if designated for publication and printed in their final form in the *California State Bar Court Reporter*.

- *Digest*

California State Bar Court Reporter. Office of the State Bar Court. 1990-. 6 vols. Loose-leaf. Includes topical digests, a table of cases (including case numbers and subsequent history notations), and the official version of published State Bar Court, Review Department opinions.

- *California Rules of Professional Conduct and Code of Judicial Ethics*

California Rules of Professional Conduct, State Bar Act. State Bar of California. Annual.

[California Rules of Professional Conduct](#). State Bar of California.

This page provides links to current, previous, and proposed rules of professional conduct required of California State Bar members.

[California Code of Judicial Ethics](#) (PDF). Amended by the Supreme Court of California, effective December 1, 2016. This code is intended for the California judiciary and candidates for judicial office.

- *Ethics Opinions & Rulings*

California Compendium on Professional Responsibility. Office of Professional Competence, State Bar of California. Randall Difuntorum, editor. 1983-. 3 vols. Loose-leaf. Includes ethics opinions from the State Bar and four local bar associations, California Rules of Professional Conduct, the State Bar Act, and the California Code of Judicial Conduct. The [486-page Index](#) for the Compendium from 2015 is available online (PDF).

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[Ethics Opinions](#). The State Bar of California Committee on Professional Responsibility and Conduct. View the list of opinions by date — older opinions are listed on the left side of the page — or search for opinions with keywords. 1965-.

California State Bar Court Reporter. Office of the State Bar Court. 1992-. 6 vols. Loose-leaf. Official source of State Bar Court opinions.

[Published Opinions](#) and [Non-Published Opinions](#). The State Bar Court of California, Review Department.

The full text of published and non-published State Bar Court *slip opinions* are posted on these Web pages. Please note: these slip opinions are *not* the finalized or official version of the opinions and thus are not citable in a court document. “Only opinions designated for publication or ordered published may be cited or relied on by courts and parties.” Published Opinions with precedential value are available in their final form *only* in the print version of the *California State Bar Court Reporter*.

[Dockets](#) for State Bar Court cases are searchable on the State Bar Web site by attorney name or case number.

*Directories of Attorneys and Judges*¹⁰

[Attorney/Member Search](#). State Bar of California.

The member records directory of the California State Bar provides contact information and education history for members of the state bar. In certain circumstances, incidents of public discipline are provided. Use the Advanced Search page to search for attorneys by location and certified specialists in a particular legal area.

California Judge Reviews (formerly *California Courts and Judges*). Mark Thompson and Elizabeth Smith. James Pub. Co. 2001-. Annual.

Provides information on California’s federal and state court judges. The new version of this title began in 2014 and includes “attorney comments about California judges.”

¹⁰ The attorney directories in this section generally are statewide (California) or nationwide. An alternative is to use an attorney directory provided by a local bar association or a pro bono organization.

California Court Directory. Daily Journal Corp. 1989-. Monthly.

Published as an insert in the *Los Angeles Daily Journal*. Contains telephone numbers for federal and state courts and judges in California, the Office of Administrative Hearings, and the Unemployment Insurance Appeals Board.

Judicial Profiles (Southern California). Daily Journal Corp. 1995-. 7 vols. Loose-leaf.

Profiles current California federal and state court judges.

Judicial Profiles (Northern California). Daily Journal Corp. 1995-. 8 vols. Loose-leaf.

Profiles current California federal and state court judges.

The Lawyer's Almanac. Wolters Kluwer. 1981-. 1 vol. Annual.

Describes itself as “[t]he Leading Reference of Vital Facts and Figures About the Legal Profession.” Includes lists of the largest U.S. law firms, MCLE requirements by state, federal and state government information, and vital records departments by state.

Martindale-Hubbell Law Directory. Martindale-Hubbell. 18 vols.

Volumes 2 and 3 list California firms and attorneys. Attorney profiles include biographical information and areas of practice.

Martindale.com.

Contains credentials and contact information for over one million attorneys. Search by keyword at the top of the page, or scroll down to the Comprehensive Attorney Coverage section to browse by practice area or location. Filters on the left lead to even more precise results.

[Find a Lawyer](#). (FindLaw from Thomson Reuters).

Offers credentials and contact information on U.S. attorneys. Search or browse by location, legal issue, language, and type of payment.

Secondary Sources for California Legal Research

Secondary sources offer two major benefits – they summarize an unfamiliar area of law, and they provide citations to the law. There are many forms of secondary sources. With few exceptions, traditional secondary sources are not available free online. So, unless a hyperlink is included below, assume that the listed resource is a print resource. A free online book published by the Office of the Assembly Chief Clerk may be helpful to researchers who need an introduction to the legislative process and state government.

CHAPTER 6: BIBLIOGRAPHY OF CALIFORNIA LAW RESOURCES

[*California's Legislature*](#). Office of the Assembly Chief Clerk. 2016.

This book “is a resource for the citizens of California, elected officials, and others who are interested in the Legislature and state government. This year’s edition has over 1,000 footnotes and other resources. The detailed table of contents, “Quick Information Guide,” and detailed index will provide you with easy access to the charts, photos, glossaries, and other pertinent information regarding California’s governmental process.”

Access it [online](#) free (in PDF) or order from the [Legislative Bill Room](#) for \$5.00 per copy by calling (916) 445-2323.

This next section begins with a short list of instructional resources on California legal research. Information on legal encyclopedias, treatises or practice guides, and formbooks follows.

California Legal Research Guides

California Legal Research Handbook, 2nd ed. Larry D. Dershem. William S. Hein. 2008.

Henke's California Law Guide, 8th ed. Daniel W. Martin. LexisNexis. 2006.

Legal Research in California, 7th ed. John K. Hanft. Thomson West. 2011.

Libguides, online guides provided by academic and county law libraries, also provide pointers on conducting state and federal legal research and may offer suggestions of secondary sources. Try locating relevant libguides via a search engine. For instance, if researching a landlord-tenant issue, search the words California landlord tenant libguide in a search engine such as Google, Bing, or DuckDuckGo.¹¹ Another option is to search specifically for secondary source libguides.

Legal Encyclopedias

Legal encyclopedias include short narrations of the law, arranged by topic. They refer to California case and statutory law. Because the topics are numerous and the narrations are short, using legal encyclopedias can be an effective way to start the research process when you are researching an unfamiliar area of law: You will likely find information

¹¹ Such searches may also lead to guides from government agencies or law firms.

related to your issue, and it will not be overly detailed. Because of the brevity of the narrations, it may be necessary to consult a more detailed secondary source such as a treatise or practice guide before proceeding to primary law research.

California Jurisprudence, 3d. Thomson Reuters. 1972-. 104+ vols. The [table of contents](#) gives you an idea of the many topics covered by *Cal Jur, 3d*.

Some other “large” states, i.e., Texas, also have legal encyclopedias. Two national legal encyclopedias may be worth reviewing as well: *American Jurisprudence, 2d* and *Corpus Juris Secundum*.

Witkin Treatises

Legal scholar Bernard Witkin dedicated most of his professional life to writing a series of treatises covering all aspects of California law. After his death in 1995, the Witkin Legal Institute continued his legacy by updating and then producing new editions of his works. Despite its grand title, *Summary of California Law* covers civil law only. His co-author in the criminal law set is Norman L. Epstein.

California Criminal Law, 4th ed. Witkin Legal Institute. 2012-. 7 vols.

California Evidence, 5th ed. Witkin Legal Institute. 2012-. 4 vols.

California Procedure, 5th ed. Witkin Legal Institute. 2008-. 10 vols.

Summary of California Law, 10th ed. Witkin Legal Institute. 2005-. 16 vols.

Treatises, Practice Guides & Handbooks

The [California Continuing Education of the Bar \(CEB\)](#) publishes more than one hundred practice guides.¹² In addition, CEB publishes Action Guides, which contain basic how-to instructions for a variety of legal situations. [The Rutter Group](#) (Thomson Reuters) and [Matthew Bender](#) (LexisNexis) also produce useful secondary sources for California law.¹³ For a more extensive list of legal publishers, see Chapter 12.

¹² Among the many popular CEB practice guides are *California Criminal Law Procedure and Practice* and *Neighbor Disputes: Law and Litigation*.

¹³ Examples include *California Practice Guide: Family Law* (from The Rutter Group) and *California Family Law: Practice and Procedure* (Matthew Bender).

CHAPTER 6: BIBLIOGRAPHY OF CALIFORNIA LAW RESOURCES

You may wish to check with your local county and academic law libraries for suggestions of secondary sources on specific subjects. Law libraries that are open to the public may offer access to these sources in print or online via CEB OnLAW,¹⁴ Westlaw, and/or Lexis Advance.

Formbooks

California Civil Litigation Forms Manual. Continuing Education of the Bar. 1980-. 2 vols. Loose-leaf.

California Civil Practice. Thomson Reuters. Loose-leaf. This title consists of multiple sets which cover many topics, including family law and probate.

California Forms of Pleading and Practice, Annotated. Matthew Bender. 1962-. 55 vols. Loose-leaf.

California Civil Litigation Forms Manual (1980-. 2 vols.) and *California Criminal Law Forms Manual*, 2nd ed. (2005-. 1 vol.). Continuing Education of the Bar. Loose-leaf.

California Legal Forms: Transaction Guide. Matthew Bender. 1968-. 36 vols. Loose-leaf.

California Points and Authorities. Matthew Bender. 1965-. 26 vols. Loose-leaf.

California Transaction Forms. Thomson Reuters. This title consists of multiple sets, which cover business and family law topics.

West's California Code Forms with Practice Commentaries. Thomson Reuters. This title consists of multiple sets that are keyed to specific California legislative code sections.

West's Judicial Council Forms. Thomson Reuters. 1986-. 4 vols. Annual.

[California Judicial Council forms](#) are also available free on the California Courts Web site.

¹⁴ Attorneys admitted to the State Bar of California during the last five years are eligible for a free CEB OnLAW account for one year. See details at <https://ceb.com/new-lawyers>.



Internet Sources Cited in this Chapter

California Legislative Counsel's California Legislative Information:

- Home page:
<http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/>
<http://leginfo.ca.gov> (previous Web site)
- State Constitution:
<http://tinyurl.com/y8bj3s4m>
- California Law:
<http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codesTextSearch.xhtml>
- Bill Information:
<http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billSearchClient.xhtml>
<http://leginfo.ca.gov/bilinfo.html> (previous Web site)
- Bill Index:
<http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/bilindex.html> (previous Web site)
- Legislative Publications, including *Daily File*, *Legislative Index*, *Table of Sections Affected*, *Senate Daily Journal*, and *Assembly Daily Journal*:
<http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/publicationsTemplate.xhtml>
<http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/legpubs.html> (previous Web site)

Other Legislative Branch Materials:

- California State Assembly. Schedules & Publications. Assembly Daily Journal:
<http://assembly.ca.gov/schedulesandpublications>
- California State Assembly. Office of the Chief Clerk:
Daily Journals (1995-): <http://clerk.assembly.ca.gov/daily-journals>
Archived Journals (1849-2011): <http://clerk.assembly.ca.gov/archive-list>
- Legislative Bill Room:
<http://www.dgs.ca.gov/osp/Programs/BillRoom.aspx>
- Senate Daily Journal:
<http://senate.ca.gov/dailyjournals>
<http://tinyurl.com/y83zzsjy> (Nov. 2016-)
<http://leginfo.ca.gov/senate-journal.html> (Oct. and Nov. 2002, Dec. 2004 - Nov. 2016)
<http://leginfo.ca.gov/legpubs-SIprior.html> (2003-2004)
- Senate Office of Research's Legislative Highlights:
<http://tinyurl.com/ycxk3cgx>
- California Law Revision Commission. Printed Reports, etc. (1957-):
http://www.clrc.ca.gov/Menu3_reports/publications.html

Judicial Council of California's California Courts:

- Home page: <http://www.courts.ca.gov>
- Opinions (published and unpublished): <http://www.courts.ca.gov/opinions.htm>
- Slip opinions (published): <http://www.courts.ca.gov/opinions-slip.htm>
- Forms: <http://www.courts.ca.gov/forms.htm>
- California Rules of Court: <http://www.courts.ca.gov/rules.htm>
- California Civil Jury Instructions: <http://www.courts.ca.gov/partners/317.htm>
- California Criminal Jury Instructions: <http://www.courts.ca.gov/partners/312.htm>

Other Judicial Branch Materials:

- Westlaw: <http://www.westlaw.com>
- Daily Journal: <http://www.dailyjournal.com>
- Metropolitan News-Enterprise: <http://mnc.net>
- The Recorder: <http://www.therecorder.com>
- FindLaw's California Case Law: <http://www.findlaw.com/cacases/>

Executive Branch Materials:

- California State Government - The Executive Branch (org chart):
<https://cold.govops.ca.gov/File/OrganizationalChart>
- California State Agencies Directory: <http://www.ca.gov/agencies.aspx>
- Agency Reports: <http://agencyreports.ca.gov>
- California Code of Regulations:
 - California Office of Administrative Law: <http://www.oal.ca.gov>
 - California Code of Regulations: <http://ccr.oal.ca.gov>
 - California Regulatory Notice Register: <http://tinyurl.com/y84ahe64>
 - California Code of Regulations, Title 24, California Building Standards Commission: <http://www.bsc.ca.gov/home.aspx>
 - California Code of Regulations, Title 24, California Building Standards Code: <http://www.bsc.ca.gov/codes.aspx>
- Opinions/Decisions of California agencies (selective):
 - Legal Opinions of the Attorney General: <http://oag.ca.gov/opinions>
 - Reported CEQA cases (1972-2010): <http://resources.ca.gov/ceqa/cases/>
 - Fair Employment and Housing Commission Decisions (2000-2011):
<http://tinyurl.com/ybncfwx2>
 - Department of Managed Health Care. Independent Medical Review Decisions, Complaint Reports, Arbitration Decisions:
<http://tinyurl.com/y89wwdq7>
 - Department of Social Services. Index of Decisions Designated as Precedent:
<http://tinyurl.com/y9mmh6mt>

- Fair Political Practices Commission
 - Commission Opinions: <http://tinyurl.com/yawk62m3>
 - Administrative Fines and Penalties: <http://tinyurl.com/y7jmouz7>
 - Summary of Enforcement Decisions: <http://tinyurl.com/y9dzu4mv>
 - Case Resolutions: <http://tinyurl.com/ybtncreb>
 - Advice Letters: <http://tinyurl.com/yddpurjw>
 - Complaint Closure Letters: <http://www.fppc.ca.gov/index.php?id=539>
- Medical Board of California
 - Precedential Decisions: http://www.mbc.ca.gov/precedential_decisions
- Office of Administrative Hearings
 - Special Education Decisions and Orders: <http://tinyurl.com/6wqkeos>
- California Governor's Office
 - Home page: <http://gov.ca.gov>
 - Executive Orders: http://gov.ca.gov/s_executiveorders.php
 - Proclamations: http://gov.ca.gov/s_proclamations.php
 - Public Notices: http://gov.ca.gov/s_publicnotices.php
 - Press Releases: https://www.gov.ca.gov/s_pressreleases.php
 - Media Advisories: https://www.gov.ca.gov/s_mediaadvisories.php

Initiatives, Referenda, Propositions, Ballot Propositions:

- California Secretary of State
 - Election & Voter Information, Ballot Measures: <http://tinyurl.com/yd9w5stb>
 - Qualified Statewide Ballot Measures: <http://tinyurl.com/glxt872>
 - Voter Information Guides: <http://tinyurl.com/y7zmpn2u>
 - Initiative and Referendum Qualification Status: <http://tinyurl.com/ybhb2fhm>
 - History of California Initiatives: <http://tinyurl.com/ycb5jdzh>
- UC Hastings
 - California Ballot Measures: <http://tinyurl.com/y9xuccma>
 - Pamphlets (Voter Information Guides): <http://tinyurl.com/yblay5wf>
 - Propositions: http://repository.uchastings.edu/ca_ballot_props/
 - Initiatives: http://repository.uchastings.edu/ca_ballot_inits/
- State of California. Department of Justice
 - Ballot Initiatives: <https://oag.ca.gov/initiatives>
 - Ballot Initiatives FAQs: <https://oag.ca.gov/initiatives/faqs>
 - Search for an Initiative (database): <https://oag.ca.gov/initiatives/search>
 - Initiatives - Active Measures: <https://oag.ca.gov/initiatives/active-measures>
 - Initiatives - Inactive Measures: <https://oag.ca.gov/initiatives/inactive-measures>
 - Initiatives (Qualified for Ballot): <https://oag.ca.gov/initiatives/qualified-for-ballot>
 - E-mail Subscription List: <https://oag.ca.gov/subscribe>
- LA Law Library Ballot Propositions: <http://tinyurl.com/kp9ywbdb>

California Municipal, County, Local Codes, Ordinances:

- UCLA Law Library Libguides
 - Online Legal Research: Beyond LexisNexis & Westlaw: <http://tinyurl.com/7cyxmks>
 - Municipal Codes Online: <http://tinyurl.com/yatznuwh>
 - Local Codes Online: <http://tinyurl.com/yatznuwh>
- California Local Codes and Charters: <http://tinyurl.com/h366z9s>

Attorneys & Judges:

- Professional Responsibility & Ethics - State Bar of California
 - Rules of Professional Conduct: <http://tinyurl.com/y8dbyfql>
 - California Code of Judicial Ethics: <http://tinyurl.com/c3lrplt>
 - California Compendium on Professional Responsibility Index: <http://tinyurl.com/y9fn3rrn>
 - Ethics Opinions:
 - Published slip opinions: <http://tinyurl.com/ycomnr4f>
 - Nonpublished opinions: <http://tinyurl.com/y8nksxgw>
 - State Bar Court Dockets: <http://apps.statebarcourt.ca.gov/dockets.aspx>
- Directories
 - State Bar of California. Attorney Search: <http://tinyurl.com/86og8lj>
 - Martindale: <https://www.martindale.com>
 - West's Legal Directory on FindLaw: <http://lawyers.findlaw.com>

Secondary Source Publishers/Research:

- California depository libraries: https://www.library.ca.gov/gps/gps_cal3.html
- California Jurisprudence 3d, Table of Contents (PDF): <http://tinyurl.com/y7t8mtxw>
- California's Legislature (book in PDF): <http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/califleg.html>
- Continuing Education of the Bar (CEB): <http://ceb.com>
- The Rutter Group: <http://www.ruttergroup.com>
- Matthew Bender: <https://store.lexisnexis.com>

Search Engines:

- Bing: <https://www.bing.com>
- DuckDuckGo: <https://duckduckgo.com>
- Google: <https://www.google.com>