Fastcase: next-gen legal research

Free Access for DC bar members, login at dcbar.org
what is Fastcase?

Founded in 1999

- (A tech company that survived!)
- The mission was simple – create an alternative to Westlaw and Lexis for conducting research on primary law.
- This is not just a cheaper version of the big two, but something entirely different.
- We are now partners with 29 state bar associations and have over 800,000 subscribers.
- According to the ABA, lawyers use the Fastcase mobile app more than any other legal mobile application.
why should you try it?

- More automation, less leg work.
- Easy to use, easy to learn
- Fastcase eliminates the “luck” element of haphazardly finding an important case
- Fastcase has smart tools that you cannot find anywhere else
what Fastcase has

- All federal courts, including districts
- All state appeals and Supreme courts
- Unpublished opinions from ~2010
- All state and federal statutes and regulations
- All LexBlog content (Fastcase 7 only)
- DC Bar exclusive content – ethics opinions, AG opinions, disciplinary rulings
sort by what’s important

- Sort the most cited cases to the top of your results list in one click.
- Also sort by those cases that were cited the most by other cases that satisfy your search terms. These will often be the most relevant.
- Finally, sort by date to get the latest search results.
authority check

- You can click on the numbers displayed next to a case name to see every case that cited back to it on the Authority Check Page.

- A case that has been cited with negative citation signals per the Bluebook rules will be flagged by “Bad Law Bot” on multiple pages. More detail is available on the Authority Check page.

- Various statistical information about citations and data visualization.
forecite

- Alerts you to important cases you may have overlooked.
- Sometimes the most important cases will not match your terms.

**Forecite:** Fastcase has identified 3 additional decisions that may be relevant to your research topic, but do not contain one or more of your search terms.

interactive timeline
Fastcase specializes in primary law, but we partner with other companies that are great at what they specialize in.

HeinOnline and Clio, leaders in secondary sources and practice management, respectively.

Only pay for law review articles when you find something useful instead of perpetually financing other people’s research.
mobile app
Fastcase 7

- Fastcase 7 is the new revision of the Fastcase interface, available in beta testing now for members.
- DC Bar members are able to toggle between 6 and 7 at will using the toggle switch at the top right of the screen.
- Fastcase 7 has a slew of new features - endless scroll, the ability to search across multiple content types, a streamlined look and feel.
Available 8 am - 8 pm Eastern, Monday through Friday  
(excluding holidays)

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(AKA Free Legal Research Help – Don’t Stay Frustrated!)
### Intro to Fastcase
First Thursday of the month, 1pm

### Advanced Course
Second Thursday, 1pm

### Boolean Searching
Third Thursday, 1pm

Intro to Fastcase 7 webinars – every other Monday at 1pm

Sign up at www.fastcase.com/webinars