

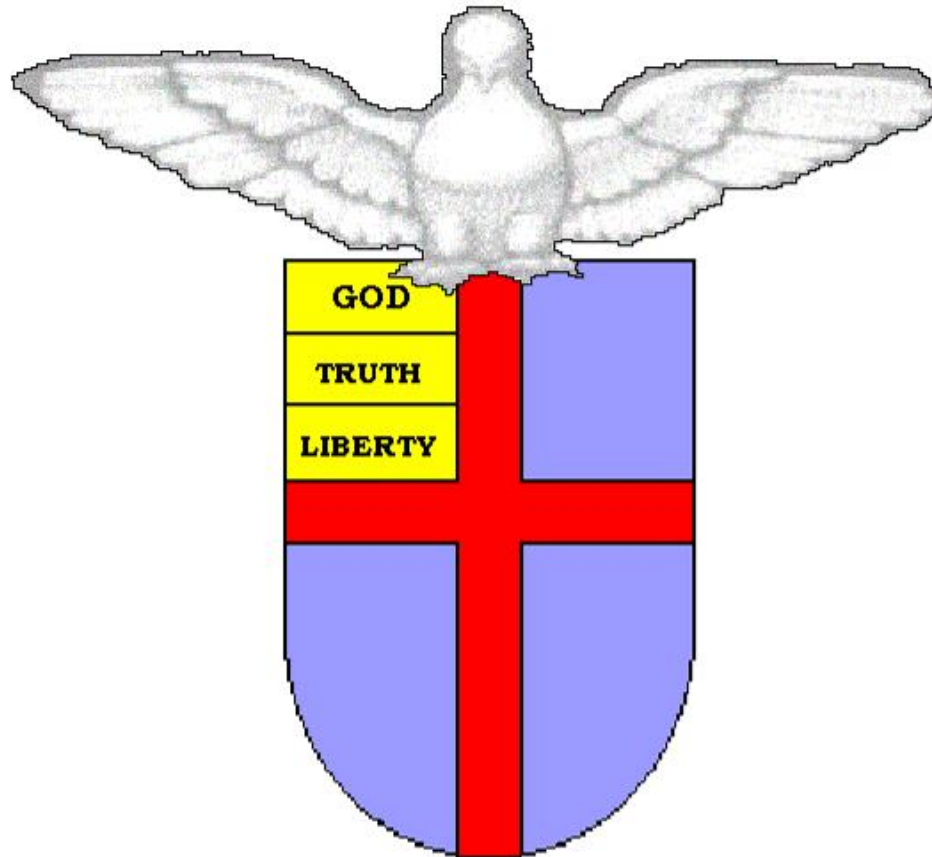
Legal Research and Writing Techniques Form #12.013 Litigation Tool #10.005

by:
**Sovereignty Education
and Defense Ministry
(SEDM)**

<http://sedm.org>

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S E D M



Course Materials

If you want a copy of this presentation after viewing the course, you can download it from:

- **Liberty University, Item #2.4**
<http://sedm.org/LibertyU/LibertyU.htm>
- **SEDM Forms/Pubs Page, Form #12.013**
<http://sedm.org/Forms/FormIndex.htm>

Disclaimer

- Information appearing in this presentation is educational in nature
- Everything presented is based on:
 - Thousands of hours of scriptural and legal research
 - Review and use of the resulting research by the over 1 Million people who have visited and are currently using the [SEDM Website](#) and [Family Guardian Website](#)
 - Continuous feedback from our several readers that have improved the quality of the information over time
- If you find anything inaccurate in this presentation, our [Member Agreement, Form #01.001](#) makes it a DUTY of all members to promptly bring the error to our immediate attention with supporting evidence so that we may continually improve our materials. Your evidence must be completely consistent with our presentation below:

Reasonable Belief About Income Tax Liability, Form #05.007

<http://sedm.org/Forms/FormIndex.htm>

- The application of this information to your specific legal circumstances is entirely your choice and responsibility
- The information presented is copyrighted and subject to the copyright restrictions found at:
<http://sedm.org/disclaimer.htm>
- This disclaimer is the SAME disclaimer as the U.S. government uses. See section 4.10.7.2.7 at:
https://www.irs.gov/irm/part4/irm_04-010-007#idm139859652464096

Why We **MUST** Learn Law!

- "One who turns his ear from hearing the law [[God's law](#) or [man's law](#)], even his prayer is an abomination." [[Prov. 28:9](#), Bible, NKJV]
- "But this crowd that does not know [and quote and follow and use] [the law](#) is accursed." [[John 7:49](#), Bible, NKJV]
- "Salvation is far from the wicked, For they do not seek [Your God's statutes](#)." [[Psalms 119:155](#), Bible, NKJV]
- "Every man is supposed to know the law. A party who makes a contract [[or a franchise, which is also a contract](#)] with an officer [of [the government](#)] without having it reduced to writing is knowingly accessory to a violation of duty on his part. Such a party aids in the violation of the law." [Clark v. United States, 95 U.S. 539 (1877)]

Course Summary

- **Audience:** The average American
- **Length:** Approximately 90 minutes
- **Purpose:**
 - Introduce you to legal terminology.
 - Introduce you to the uniform system of Legal Citation (Blue Book).
 - Introduce the precedence and hierarchy of law.
 - Show you how to search and locate federal and state constitutions, statutes, regulations, rules, cases, and legal authorities
 - Provide guidance on how to locate all information available about a specific legal subject.
 - Demonstrate how to Shepardize court cases.
 - Show you how to follow an ongoing case in federal court.
 - Demonstrate how to prepare legal pleadings using Microsoft Word 2003 and 2007.
 - Describe the various practice guides available to simplify your research and litigation.
 - Demonstrate how to use the SEDM website's extensive resources to do legal research.
 - Familiarize you with all the free internet resources available for doing legal research.

Problem

- Public schools no longer teach anything about law or how to do legal research. Public schools, in fact, are used to create “Useful Idiots” for the [socialist agenda](#).
- Even those who go to college for advanced degrees do not learn anything about law unless they are studying to become a lawyer or legal professional.
- When legal disputes arise, we often can’t afford “the luxury of justice” because lawyers are so expensive and we are ill equipped to litigate the case on our own, leaving no remedy.
- Our society has become an abomination throughout the world because our ignorance of the law has permitted a Satanic priesthood called the American Bar Association (ABA) to [take over the government and the legal profession](#), destroy our rights and liberties, and lead us into damnation. Listen to the following if you don’t believe us:
<http://sedm.org/what-we-are-up-against/>
- On this subject, the Bible says:
 - *"My [God's] people are destroyed [and enslaved] for lack of knowledge [and the lack of education that produces it]." [Hosea 4:6, Bible, NKJV]*
 - *"One who turns his ear from hearing the law [[God's law](#) or [man's law](#)], even his prayer is an abomination." [Prov. 28:9, Bible, NKJV]*
 - *"But this crowd that does not know [and quote and follow and use] [the law](#) is accursed.? [John 7:49, Bible, NKJV]*
 - *"Salvation is far from the wicked, For they do not seek [Your \[God's\] statutes](#)." [Psalms 119:155, Bible, NKJV]*

Solution

- **We MUST:**
 - Study and learn the law for ourselves.
 - Learn how to do legal research.
 - Learn about government jurisdiction and how to challenge it.
 - Learn how to litigate cases for ourselves, including preparing pleadings.
 - Learn enough about the law to be an intelligent consumer of legal services.
 - Know what our rights are (see Forms #10.002 and #10.009). If you don't, then YOU DON'T HAVE ANY and people will walk all over you!
 - Learn to prevent abuses of “words of art” and presumption that might enslave us.
- **This course will therefore teach you enough about legal research to be able to:**
 - Find all the major free legal research sources on the web.
 - Verify legal cites for yourself.
 - Know whether the authorities cited by judges and attorneys are even relevant to your circumstances or just “frivolous”.
 - Recognize and select a good and well-informed attorney.
 - Supervise the activities of your attorney, should you hire one.
 - Participate in your own litigation as a paralegal and verify and improve the work of your co-counsel

Course Outline

- 1. Introduction to legal terminology.**
- 2. Introduction to the Uniform System of Legal Citation (Blue Book).**
- 3. Introduction to legal abbreviations and citations**
- 4. Precedence and hierarchy of law**
- 5. Legal Research Sources page**
- 6. State legal research sources**
- 7. Researching a subject matter**
- 8. Quoting Court Cases in a pleading: DO NOT USE headnotes!**
- 9. Following cases in real time**
- 10. Statutory Construction and interpretation**
- 11. How to Shepardize court cases**
- 12. Introduction to legal writing**
- 13. How to prepare legal pleadings using Microsoft Word**

Course Outline

- 14. How to use the SEDM website's extensive resources to do legal research.**
- 15. Legal Research Subscription Services**
- 16. How to Locate Case Precedents on Specific Subjects**
- 17. Law Practice Guides**
- 18. Unlicensed Practice of Law (UPL)**
- 19. Discovery of Useful Evidence**
- 20. Case Management Software**
- 21. Conclusions**
- 22. SEDM Paralegal Services**
- 23. Member Subscription Service**
- 24. Keeping up with changes to our materials**
- 25. Digging Deeper**
- 26. SEDM**
- 27. Getting Connected: Resources**

Introduction to Legal Terminology

- **The legal field, like the government, telecommunications and electronics fields, has thousands of abbreviations.**
- **The legal field also has a standardized way of citing authoritative sources of legal evidence.**
- **Understanding the format of legal citations and recognizing the most common abbreviations will help you:**
 - **Read and understand legal treatises.**
 - **Verify the authorities cited by your opponent and the judge during litigation.**
 - **Quickly locate legal authorities required to assemble legal papers.**

Legal terminology: Abbreviations

- Every legal citation uses a set of abbreviations that have been standardized throughout the legal field.
- All common legal abbreviations are cataloged in:
 - *The Bluebook*, Section T
- The following internet resources on the Family Guardian sister website have a common list of abbreviations:

Legal Abbreviations

<http://famguardian.org/TaxFreedom/LegalRef/Abbreviations/LegalAbbrev.htm>

Introduction to the Uniform System of Legal Citation (Blue Book)

- The entire field of legal citation, abbreviations, and terminology has been standardized.
- The definitive reference on the subject is the following:
 - *The Bluebook: A Uniform System of Citation*; Sixteenth Edition; The Harvard Law Review Association; 1998
- Book is described on Wikipedia:
<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bluebook>
- *The Bluebook* is available at:
 - Online:
<http://www.legalbluebook.com/>
 - Most legal book stores.
 - Law school book stores.
 - Amazon.com:
<http://www.amazon.com/Bluebook-Citation-Law-Review-Harvard/dp/600014329X>
- Other similar references are also available:
 - Basic Legal Citation, Cornell Law School
<http://www.law.cornell.edu/citation/>
- The Bluebook is over 400 pages, and it is pointless to list all that it contains here. Suffice it to say: **YOU GOTTA HAVE THIS!**

SEDM Jurisdictions Database

- We have assembled our own expanded and better version of the Legal Bluebook called the SEDM Jurisdictions Database. It covers:
 - All federal law
 - All 50 states and counties
 - Major legal authorities within each jurisdiction
 - Courts within each jurisdiction
 - Court reporters and coverage within each jurisdiction
 - Franchises and tax information for each jurisdiction
 - Links to major law, court, and government websites within each jurisdiction
 - Major points of contact within each jurisdiction required to complete forms on our website
 - Tax collection notices and response tools
- Our database will save you thousands of hours of searching and organizing if you litigate or research law a lot.
- The database FREE! You GOTTA HAVE THIS!

SEDM Jurisdictions Database

- There are TWO versions of the SEDM Jurisdictions Database:
 - ***SEDM Jurisdictions Database Online***, Litigation Tool #09.004** ([Member Subscriptions Only](#))– Continuously Updated online version
LITIGATION TOOLS PAGE: <http://sedm.org/Litigation/LitIndex.htm>
DIRECT LINK: <https://sedm.org/litigation-main/sedm-jurisdiction-online/>
 - ***SEDM Jurisdictions Database***, Litigation Tool # 09.003- Downloadable PDF
LITIGATION TOOLS PAGE: <http://sedm.org/Litigation/LitIndex.htm>
DIRECT LINK: <http://sedm.org/Litigation/09-Reference/SEDMJurisdictionsDatabase.pdf>

Common Federal Court Abbreviations

Abbrev.	Year(s)	# Volumes	Meaning
U.S.	1875-Present		United States Reports. Contains rulings of the U.S. Supreme Court.
S.Ct.	1893-Pres.		United States Supreme Court.
F.Cas.	1789-1880		Federal Cases
F.	1880-1912	300	Federal Series, First Edition. Federal Circuit Courts.
F.2d.	1930-1982	999	Federal Series, Second Edition. Federal Circuit Courts.
F.3d.	1982-Pres.	600+	Federal Series, Third Edition. Federal Circuit Courts.
F.Cl.	1992-Pres.		Federal Claims Report. United States Court of Claims.
F.Supp.	1932-1960	999	Federal Supplement. Federal District Courts, Court of Federal Claims, Court of International Trade.
F.Supp.2d	1998-Pres	600+	
L.Ed.	1790-Pres.		Lawyer's Edition.
A.L.R.			American Law Reports. West Publishing. Federal caselaw. Copyrighted, annotated caselaw focusing on specific fields.
D.C. Cir.			Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia.
Cl.Ct	1982-1992		United States Claims Court Reporter.
Ct.Cl.	1863-1982		United States Court of Claims Reporter.
T.C.	1942-Pres.		United States Tax Court
B.R.	1979-Pres.		United States Bankruptcy Court

Common Federal Statute and Regulation Abbreviations

Abbrev.	Year(s)	Meaning
Stat.	1789-Pres	United States Statutes at Large. Enacted by the United States Congress.
Pub.L.		Public Law passed by Congress.
U.S.C.	1926-Pres.	United States Code. Published by the Law Revision Counsel of the House of Representatives.
U.S.C.A.		United States Code, Annotated. Published by West Publishing. Very good place to learn about legislative intent of a statute in the U.S. Code.
U.S.C.S.		United States Code Service. Published by the Law Co-op.
C.F.R.	1938-Pres.	Code of Federal Regulations. Published by the Office of the Federal Register.
F.R.	1930-1982	Federal Register. Published by the Office of the Federal Register..
H.R.	1982-Pres.	House Resolution
S.R.	1992-Pres.	Senate Report.

Common State Abbreviations

- Like the federal government, each state has unique abbreviations all its own for cases, statutes, and regulations.
- Since there are 50 states, then the abbreviations are too numerous to list here.
- You can find all the state abbreviations divided by state in:
 - The Bluebook, Section T
- Section T of the above book is 161 pages long.

Legal Terminology: Citations

- **Constitutional Citations:**

- Format: “Art. XX, Sect. YY, Cl. ZZ” or
- Where:
 - » “XX”=Article number within the Constitution.
 - » “YY”=Section number within the article.
 - » “ZZ”=Clause number within section.
- Example: “Art. 1, Sect. 8, Clause 3” means
 - » “1”=Article 1
 - » “8”=Section 8
 - » “3”=Clause 3

- **Statute Citations:**

- Format: TT STATUTE §SSSS
- Where:
 - » TT=Title of the body of code. For instance, “26” is the Internal Revenue Code or Title 26 within the U.S. Code.
 - » STATUTE=Abbreviation for statute reference. For instance “U.S.C.” means the U.S. Code and “Stat.” means the United States Statutes at Large.
 - » SSSS=Section number within the title.
- Example: “26 U.S.C. §643” means
 - » “26”=Title 26
 - » “U.S.C.”= “U.S. Code”.
 - » “643”=Section 643.

Legal Terminology: Citations

- **Regulation Citations:**

- Format: VVVV REGULATION PPPPP
- Where:
 - » “VVVV” =Volume number.
 - » “REGULATION”= Regulation source, such as “C.F.R.” or “F.R.”
 - » “PPPPP”=Page within the volume.
- Example: “134 F.R. 10365” means
 - » “134”=Volume 134
 - » “F.R.”=Federal Register
 - » “10365”=Page 10365 within volume 134.

- **Case Citations:**

- Format: VVV NAME PP
- Where:
 - » VVV=Volume number
 - » NAME=Abbreviation of legal authority
 - » PPPP=Page number within the volume
- Example: “10 F. 202” means
 - » “10”=Volume 10.
 - » “F.”=Federal Reporter, First Series.
 - » “202”=Page 202 within volume 10.

Introduction to the Precedence of Law

- Within the legal field, some citations of authority take precedence over others.
- Understanding the precedence of law is very important when there are conflicts of law between multiple authorities cited.
- The field which studies conflicts between multiple jurisdictions is called:
 - Conflicts of Law- Currently
 - Private International Law-before 1900's.
- Precedence of federal Law, in decreasing order of priority:
 - Constitution
 - Statutes At Large
 - U.S. Code
 - Federal Register
 - Code of Federal Regulations
 - Agency publications
- A table of precedence of federal law is provided free on the Family Guardian sister site below:
 - *Precedence of Law*
<http://famguardian.org/TaxFreedom/LegalRef/PrecOfLaws.htm>

Federal Legal Research Sources

- The following page on our website is something you should bookmark and use as a startup tab on your browser:

Legal Research Sources

<http://famguardian.org/TaxFreedom/LegalRef/LegalResrchSrc.htm>

- The above page:
 - Contains nearly EVERY type of free legal research source you could imagine.
 - Is organized by jurisdiction and type of law to make things VERY easy to locate.
 - Is available from the following main pages on our website under the heading “OFFSITE LEGAL RESEARCH LINKS”
 - » Opening page
<http://sedm.org/>
 - » Litigation Tools Page
<http://sedm.org/Litigation/LitIndex.htm>
 - » Sermons Page
<http://sedm.org/Sermons/Sermons.htm>

State Legal Research Sources

- The following page on our website is something you should bookmark and use as a startup tab on your browser:

State Legal Research Sources

<http://famguardian.org/TaxFreedom/LegalRef/StateLegalResources.htm>

- The above page:
 - Contains nearly EVERY type of free state legal research source you could imagine.
 - Is organized by state and type of law to make things VERY easy to locate.
 - Is available from the following main pages on our website under the heading “OFFSITE LEGAL RESEARCH LINKS”
 - » Opening page
<http://sedm.org/>
 - » Litigation Tools Page
<http://sedm.org/Litigation/LitIndex.htm>
 - » Sermons Page
<http://sedm.org/Sermons/Sermons.htm>

Researching a Subject Matter

- If you are called to research a particular subject matter, we recommend the following sequence to locate the relevant authorities on the subject:
 1. If you have a Westlaw online research account, you should find the subject matter under the West Keycite system. Then search for all subjects under that Keycite number.
 2. Look on our [Forms/Pubs Page](#) under section 1.5: Memorandums of Law. There are over forty different memorandums of law on various subjects. See if there is a memorandum that directly addresses the subject you are interested in:
<http://sedm.org/Forms/FormIndex.htm>
 3. Use the [Search Page](#) on the SEDM website
<http://sedm.org/Search.htm>
 4. Visit the [Subject Index Page](#) on Family Guardian to find relevant materials
<http://famguardian.org/TaxFreedom/LegalRef/SubjectIndex.htm>
 5. Look in the Legal Dictionary Page on Family Guardian:
<http://famguardian.org/Publications/Bouviers/bouvier.htm>
 6. If the subject is a particular statute, first login to your paid subscription law site such as Westlaw or Lexis and look up the Annotated version of the statute to quickly find all the relevant case law on it.

Researching a Subject Matter (cont.)

7. If you have a legal encyclopedia or your legal subscription service includes it, look up the subject matter in the following:
 - » American Jurisprudence (Am.Jur) Legal Encyclopedia
 - » Corpus Juris Secundum (C.J.S.) Legal Encyclopedia
8. If you have a Westlaw Account that includes American Law Reports, look up the specific subject you are interested in.
<http://west.thomson.com/westlaw/litigator/alr/default.aspx>
9. If you need cases that relate to a specific subject, search for the subject in your online legal subscription service.
10. You can also use Google books, which has hundreds of FREE law books in browsable, downloadable pdf format. The books they offer have expired copyrights and may freely be shared and used.
<http://books.google.com>
11. West Publishing sells a very useful series of books called “In a Nutshell”. These are short, small, well indexed reference books on various legal subjects. They are the equivalent of “Cliff’s Notes” for the legal field and are referred to as “Study Aids”. We have several of them. See:
<http://www.westacademic.com/Professors/ProductSearchResults.aspx?t=ab=6&series=69&searchtypeasstring=ADVANCED-SEARCH>
12. If you STILL cannot find the information you seek, then visit the following:
 - » *Family Guardian Forums*: Forum 5.6.1: Legal Research Assistance Topic
<http://famguardian.org/forums/forums/forum/5-members-helping-members-we-do-not-give-legal-advice-guests-not-allowed-to-read-or-post/56-legal-activism/1-legal-research-assistance/>

Quoting Court Cases in a Pleading: DO NOT USE headnotes!

- **THE MOST COMMON** mistake that legal neophyte freedom lovers make during litigation is to **MISQUOTE** court case authorities they found online.
- **This HORRIBLE tendency:**
 - **COMPLETELY** discredits them as a source of accurate legal information, both in the eyes of the court and the freedom community at large.
 - Makes them a target of propaganda and sophistry by administrative agencies in order to discredit them. See the following for rebutted examples:

SEDM Forms/Pubs Page, Section 1.8: Policy Documents
<https://sedm.org/Forms/Navigation/FormIndex-Right-1.08.htm>
- **The way they do this is to:**
 - Quote from the headnotes or syllabus of the case instead of directly quoting what the court **ACTUALLY** said.
 - Not distinguish the headnote content from what the court actually said.
 - Put headnotes in quotes, thus **MISREPRESENTING** what the court actually said. The **ONLY** thing that should be in quotes is what the court actually said!
- **IMPORTANT:** The **SYLLABUS** or **HEADNOTE** section for a case explains, summarizes, indexes, and simplifies what the court said, but it is **NOT** what the court said and should not be quoted or even mentioned in a court pleading!

Quoting Court Cases in a Pleading: DO NOT USE headnotes!

- **Every legal research service provider has their own unique syllabus or headnote system.**
 - The major providers with their own headnote or syllabus sections are:
 - » [Westlaw](#). A high cost service used mainly by lawyers and judges.
 - » [Lexis Nexis](#). A high cost service used mainly by lawyers and judges.
 - » [Legal Information Institute \(LII\) –Cornell University](#). Free.
 - The above providers are completely different from each other. If you look at the **SAME** case on each of these providers, the headnotes or syllabus will be **COMPLETELY** different!
- **Some providers don't offer a headnote or syllabus section AT ALL. They do this to reduce the cost of disseminating the case information and your fees in accessing it. Examples:**
 - Google Scholar, <http://scholar.google.com/>
 - Fastcase
<http://fastcase.com/>
 - Casetext
<http://Casetext.com>
- **Some legal research providers give you syllabus information but do not do a good job separating the syllabus from what the court actually said. This makes it difficult to distinguish the two. Examples:**
 - Justia
<http://Justia.com>

Quoting Court Cases in a Pleading: DO NOT USE headnotes!

- **The reason that people trust us and want to rely on us is because:**
 - We understand these things.
 - **NEVER** misquote what a court said.
 - Clearly distinguish between the headnote of a case from the syllabus.
 - Insist that when members find something inaccurate, they have a **MANDATORY DUTY** to notify us promptly for the benefit of all.
- **This frequent problem in the freedom community is:**
 - The quickest way we know of to **COMPLETELY** discredit yourself with your friends and foes.
 - A common method by which the government identifies legal neophytes and targets them with sophistry to discredit them.
 - A way that we distinguish between credible and untrustworthy sources of information.
- **GET YOUR ACT TOGETHER! STOP MISQUOTING CASES!**
The freedom community is rife with people who do this and it will never go ANYWHERE in court as long as they do this!

Quoting Court Cases in a Pleading: DO NOT USE headnotes!

- **In the freedom community, you will frequently receive authorities from people, and especially case law. It is VERY IMPORTANT TO:**
 - Not quote or reuse this information UNTIL you have looked it up YOURSELF first.
 - Certainly never put this unverified information into a court pleading without first looking it up yourself.
 - If what the person sent you quotes the headnotes, let them promptly know that this is FALSE information and that they should let everyone they sent it to know that it is FALSE information.

Following Cases in Real Time

- If you would like to follow any case being litigated in federal court in real time, please get an account on the following:
 - Public Access to Court Electronic Records (PACER)
<http://pacer.psc.uscourts.gov/>
- **Features of PACER:**
 - All federal courts are now online.
 - You can download and read all the pleadings in any case.
 - You are charged per page for items you download. The fee is 8 cents per page at this time.
 - Your credit card is debited monthly for your downloads.
 - Search tools are very poor. You **MUST** know what you are looking for to find it.
- **PACER provides a GREAT way to locate sample pleadings for particular types of cases that you can reuse.**
 - You can download the PDF.
 - You can use either of the following tools to convert the PDF into editable Microsoft Word format
 - » Nuance PDF Converter Pro. Best of breed.
 - » Adobe Acrobat
 - You can then reuse the work of your opponent and use it against him/her later

Statutory Construction and Interpretation

- The definitive work on statutory construction and interpretation, often quoted by the U.S. Supreme Court is:
 - Statutes and Statutory Construction, Second edition. Jabez Sutherland, 1904.
- You can view and download the above book FREE on Google books:
 - Volume 1:
<http://books.google.com/books?id=Jw49AAAAIAAJ&printsec=titlepage>
 - Volume 2:
<http://books.google.com/books?id=4xA9AAAAIAAJ&printsec=titlepage>
- In addition to the above, the following work on our website is EXTREMELY helpful in combating “word of art” games by judges and government prosecutors:
 - Legal Deception, Propaganda, and Fraud, Form #05.014
<http://sedm.org/Forms/FormIndex.htm>
- The following article also describes the use of law dictionaries by the U.S. Supreme Court:
 - Looking It Up: The Supreme Court’s Use of Dictionaries in Statutory and Constitutional Interpretation, Kevin Werbach
<http://famguardian.org/Subjects/LawAndGovt/Articles/SupremeCourtDictUse/SupremeCourtDictUse.htm>

Shepardizing Cases

- “Shepardizing” refers to the process of determining whether a specific case has been overruled or superseded.
- If you don’t shepardize your case before citing it in your pleadings and the case is outdated, you may be excoriated by the judge or discredited by your opponent because your legal authorities are irrelevant or “frivolous”.
- The term “Shepardize” came from the name of a series of publications called Shepards Citations.
- Shepard’s Citations are currently published by Lexis-Nexis
<http://www.lexisnexus.com/>
- Westlaw has their own method for doing the same thing. They have a Key Cite system that puts a colored flag next to each case to show whether the case is a reliable source of precedence.
- Less expensive subscription legal research services don’t include tools for doing shepardizing. These include:
 - Findlaw: <http://findlaw.com>
 - Versus Law: <http://fastcase.com>

Introduction to Legal Writing

- Legal writing style is covered extensively in the following terse reference:

The Redbook: A Manual on Legal Style

Bryan A. Garner, Editor in Chief, Black's Law Dictionary, West Publishing; 2002; ISBN 0-314-25859-0

<https://www.amazon.com/Redbook-Manual-Legal-Style-Coursebook/dp/0314289011>

- Having a legal dictionary is also important:
 - Black's Law Dictionary: The industry standard. Published by Westlaw.
 - Bouvier's Dictionary of Law: Good for historical definitions. The standard up until about 1900.
- You can find electronic versions of the above dictionaries that are public domain because outside the copyright window. See:
 - *Bouvier's Dictionary of Law*, 1856:
<http://famguardian.org/Publications/Bouviers/bouvier.htm>
 - *Blacks Law Dictionary, 1st Edition*, 1896:
SEDM Member Subscription Library,
<http://sedm.org/Membership/Subscriptions.htm>
 - *Blacks Law Dictionary, 2nd Edition*, 1910:
<http://famguardian.org/Publications/Black'sLawDictionary/BlacksSecond-1910.pdf>

Introduction to Legal Writing (cont)

- We also recommend that you review and use legal maxims in your pleadings from the following source:
 - Bouvier's Maxims of Law;
<http://famguardian.org/Publications/BouvierMaximsOfLaw/BouviersMaxims.htm>

How to Prepare Legal Pleadings

- The ability to prepare legal pleadings is essential to successfully litigating your case in court.
- We have developed templates for common legal pleadings on our website at the following location:
 - *Litigation Tools Page*
<http://sedm.org/Litigation/LitIndex.htm>
- A good, general purpose pleading you can start with is the following:
 - *Legal Pleading/Motion*, Litigation Tool #01.001
<http://sedm.org/Litigation/LitIndex.htm>
- You will need to learn how to use hopefully a more common word processor, such as Microsoft Word
- We have also compiled two very instructive videos showing you how to use our legal pleading templates on our website as follows, available on our [Support Page](#):
 - *Using Microsoft Word Pleading Templates: MS Word 2003*, Item 9.1
<http://sedm.org/Support/Support.htm>
 - *Using Microsoft Word Pleading Templates: MS Word 2007*, Item 9.2
<http://sedm.org/Support/Support.htm>

How to Prepare Legal Pleadings (cont)

- **Important things to remember about pleading preparation**
 - Local rules of the court you are litigating in determine the acceptable format for pleadings.
 - Local court rules often place limitations on the **LENGTH** of pleadings.
 - Longer pleadings should include a Table of Authorities at the beginning. Our sample templates include that Table for your reuse.
- **Word processing software:**
 - In the government, Word Perfect is the de facto standard for writing pleadings.
 - In the commercial world, Microsoft Word is the de facto standard for writing pleadings.
 - If you are using Microsoft Word, they have a built in template library that also includes pleading templates you can use as a starting point.

How to Use the SEDM Website

- **We have prepared FREE videos on how to use the SEDM Website. The video is available as follows:**
 - Opening Page of SEDM Website under “Video: Registering, logging in, logging out” on the right.
SEDM Opening Page: <http://sedm.org>
DIRECT LINK: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=McwtZUx8ey0>
 - SEDM Support page, Section 2
<http://sedm.org/Support/Support.htm>
- **Please download the above video and watch it several times if need be in order to become totally familiar and comfortable with our extensive website.**

Subscription Internet Legal Research Sources

- **Most of the legal research sources you will need are free. This includes:**
 - U.S. Supreme Court
<https://www.loc.gov/collections/united-states-reports/about-this-collection/united-states-reports-by-volume/>
 - United States Statutes at Large.
<https://www.loc.gov/collections/united-states-statutes-at-large/about-this-collection/>
- **The ones you will need to pay for include mainly the following:**
 - United States Code, Annotated. This is copyrighted material published by Westlaw.
 - [Historical versions](#) of the United States Code.
 - Code of Federal Regulations (CFRs) before about four years ago.
 - Congressional Record before the past two years.
 - American Law Reports (A.L.R.). This is copyrighted material published by Westlaw.
 - Federal District and Circuit court rulings before about 1930.
 - State court rulings before the last two years.
 - Federal Register before the last two years.
 - American Jurisprudence (Am.Jur.) Legal Encyclopedia.
 - Corpus Juris Secundum (C.J.S.) Legal Encyclopedia.
- **You will need to sign up for a paid subscription with an online provider to get the above sources.**

Popular Legal Subscription Services

- **Westlaw**

- Online federal and state case law, statutes, and regulations from the beginning.
- Congressional record.
- Statutes at Large (VERY expensive)
- State surveys-correlates statutes of one state with other states.
- Cost:\$130/month on up.
- Web address: <http://westlaw.com>

- **Lexis-Nexis**

- Online federal and state case law, statutes, and regulations from the beginning.
- Congressional record.
- Cost: Expensive.
- Web address: <http://www.lexis.com/research/>

Popular Legal Subscription Services (cont)

- **Casetext**
 - Online state case law, statutes, and regulations.
 - Casemine AI Interface (sold separately) simplifies case research
 - Database coverages is described below:
<https://casetext.com/coverage>
 - Online federal case law from the beginning.
 - \$110/month or more, depending on the plan.
 - Web address: <http://casetext.com>

Popular Legal Subscription Services (cont)

- **Fast Case**

- Online state case law, statutes, and regulations from 1950 to the present.
- Database coverage described below:
<https://www.fastcase.com/coverage/>
- Online federal case law, statutes, and regulations from the beginning.
- \$65/month and up.
- A little pricey for the average freedom lover.
- They have a free version called Public Library of Law (PLOL). Try it!
<http://www.plol.org/>
- We don't like their user interface and they don't have the advanced tools that other sites have.
- Web address: <http://www.fastcase.com/>

Popular Legal Subscription Services (cont)

- **TheLaw.net**
 - Access through desktop application instead of web browser. All the other services are web based instead of application based.
 - Database derives from [Fastcase.com](http://www.fastcase.com)
 - Database coverage described below:
<http://www.thelaw.net/case-law-database/>
 - Online state case law, statutes, and regulations from 1950 to the present.
 - Online federal case law, statutes, and regulations from the beginning.
 - \$575/year for basic user
 - Web address: <http://thelaw.net/>

Popular Legal Subscription Services (cont)

- **Vlex**
 - Focus on international law mainly
 - U.S. databases come from Vlex.
 - Database coverage described below:
<https://vlex.com/content-coverage/>
 - They have a free federal case service which we highly recommend
 - State coverage requires a subscription.
 - State coverage only goes back to 1950. If you want earlier cases, sign up for Casemaker or Westlaw or LexisNexis.
 - Premium subscription is \$59/month, which is almost the same cost as Casemaker with less coverage for U.S.
 - Web address: <https://vlex.com/>

Popular Legal Subscription Services (cont)

- The above services are listed, described, and referenced at the bottom of the following page and in the columns on the right:

Legal Research Sources

<http://famguardian.org/TaxFreedom/LegalRef/LegalResrchSrc.htm>

How to Locate Case Precedents on Specific Subjects

- 1. Researching statutes in the U.S. Code and state codes is easy because they are **ALREADY** arranged by subject matter in most cases. There are exceptions, like the Illinois (I.L.C.S.), Hawaii (H.R.S.), and Oregon (O.R.S.) state codes, which are a **TOTAL MESS** and not arranged by subject matter.
- 2. Case law research by subject matter is harder, because almost all case research tools available do not organize findings by subject matter. The only exception we have found is Westlaw legal research, which has what is called a "Keycite" system that arranges rulings by subject matter. The Westlaw Keycite system is wonderful because it arranges the subjects in a huge outline system that is organized a lot like statutes, by subject matter system. It saves a **HUGE** amount of time. The down side is that a Westlaw legal research account is upward of \$1500/year, which puts it out of reach of the average pro se such as you and I.

We have had and used Westlaw for several years before it got **REALLY** expensive. We cancelled our subscription because it was just too expensive, opting for cheaper options. Cheaper options include Fastcase, TheLaw.net, and Versus Law. Versus law is probably a good start for someone like you, but it doesn't have a Keycite system. You get what you pay for.

How to Locate Case Precedents on Specific Subjects

- 3. Another option to research by subject matter is to read the U.S. Code Annotated (abbreviated U.S.C.A.). It contains all the cases under a specific statute. An example is the following link:
42 U.S.C.A. 1983 (large file, 48 Mbytes)
<http://famguardian.org/Freedom/Sovereignty/42USCA1983-20070311.pdf>

The downside of U.S.C.A. and state annotated statutes are:

- 3.1 Unfortunately, Westlaw is the only one that offers it.
- 3.2 It only covers those SUBJECT to the statutes, which wouldn't include most of our members. The reasons are explained in:

Why Statutory Civil Law is Law for Government and not Private Persons, Form #05.037

FORMS PAGE: <http://sedm.org/Forms/FormIndex.htm>

DIRECT LINK: <http://sedm.org/Forms/05-MemLaw/StatLawGovt.pdf>

How to Locate Case Precedents on Specific Subjects

- 4. Another option is to get a copy of the American Jurisprudence (Am.Jur) legal encyclopedia, which is organized by subject matter. It is 160 volumes in print and covers only law in the United States. This is our favorite way to research caselaw by subject matter. They used to sell it on CD-ROM, which we have used and we like it. It has exhaustive case references by subject matter at both the federal and state level. It too has the disadvantage that the printed version is out of reach for most people, who don't want to store 160 thick volumes. Few attorneys buy this because it takes up so many bookcases. You can get a cheap set practically for free if you search online or call law libraries who are getting rid of their old sets and going electronic. The CD-ROM version also is no longer available. That means you need to find the electronic version cheap online. Here is why you can't afford Am.Jur. \$14,000!

<http://legalsolutions.thomsonreuters.com/law-products/Legal-Encyclopedias/American-Jurisprudence-2d/p/100027544>

How to Locate Case Precedents on Specific Subjects

- **5. Corpus Juris Secundum (C.J.S.) is the second legal encyclopedia that is a competitor to Am.Jur. Unlike Am.Jur, it covers INTERNATIONAL law rather than only United States law. It is available at extra cost in electronic form as part of a Westlaw subscription. You can't get it anywhere else. Since Westlaw is already too expensive WITHOUT add-ons, that isn't a viable option for the average joe either. It too is available as an add-on to a Westlaw subscription and available NOWHERE ELSE. Here's why you can't afford C.J.S. \$14,000!**
<http://legalsolutions.thomsonreuters.com/law-products/Legal-Encyclopedias/Corpus-Juris-Secundum/p/100001060>

How to Locate Case Precedents on Specific Subjects

- **6. Another fruitful source is the series of books called "West Group In a Nutshell Series". It is also published by West and has a small brief synopsis of law in specific fields. There are 158 volumes in the series and they are all tiny and don't take up much shelf space. We have several. They are like the "Cliff Notes" version of law for each field and they are used mainly by law students in law school.**

<https://www.westacademic.com>

How to Locate Case Precedents on Specific Subjects

- **8. Obviously, Westlaw and its parent, Thomson Reuters, has a dangerous monopoly on all the most important legal research tools. That monopoly has priced subject matter research beyond the reach of all but the most affluent lawyers. Even most lawyers can't afford it. To their credit, their electronic tools, however, are stupendously useful and well organized, head and shoulders above everyone else. This has stratified the law practice landscape and created a priesthood of sorts, like the one the judicial branch of the government currently enjoys and which we vociferously complain about. Most judges and government prosecutors, for instance, have Westlaw accounts while it is unaffordable for most of the rest of us PEONS.**
- **9. For further information on using legal research tools, see:**
<https://guides.ll.georgetown.edu/home>

How to Locate Case Precedents on Specific Subjects

- **10. Because Westlaw is out of reach for all but the richest members, and most can't get their hands on Am.Jur. or C.J.S., then the only remaining options are:**
- **10.1 Call attorney offices in your area and ask if they have any unused seats in the Westlaw accounts that they would be willing to sell to you for a discount. We have done this before to get the cost of a Westlaw account down.**
- **10.2 Go to the nearest Federal Depository Library and use the printed versions of both the West Keycite, Am.Jur, and C.J.S. This option sucks because everything is in print form and you either have to pay for photocopies or come into the library with your own scanner.**
<http://catalog.gpo.gov/fdlpdir/FDLPdir.jsp>

How to Locate Case Precedents on Specific Subjects

By the way, if you want to save a LOT of money on photocopies and get FREE scans of anything you find at a FDL to take home in PDF form, we recommend the following portable scanner to connect up to your laptop. We have one and we LOVE it. Its indispensable in gathering evidence and also in turning your entire paper library into electronic and portable form so you can use it on your tablet or laptop. Its designed specifically for scanning books and most law offices and libraries have one. It is ONE of a kind. NO OTHER COMPANY makes BOOK scanners. Only Plustek. Kinda pricey, at \$638. B&H Photo has the best price on the device:

**<http://plustek.com/usa/products/opticbook-series/opticbook-4800/>
<http://www.bhphotovideo.com/c/search?Ntt=plustek+opticbook+4800&N=0&InitialSearch=yes&sts=ps>**

Some FDL's allow you to have free Westlaw access, but they limit your time so you don't hog the shared computer. Same thing for some prison law libraries. Ask the librarian when you first visit the FDL to get their policy. Major universities also give public access to their law libraries as well, even if they aren't FDL libraries. The disadvantage is that you have to be close to a big city to use these most of the time.

How to Locate Case Precedents on Specific Subjects

- **10.3 Start with our site and download the Memorandum of Law on the subject you are researching and look at the case law there as a starting point:**

Forms Page, Section 5

<http://sedm.org/Forms/FormIndex.htm>

- **10.4 Use the Family Guardian sister site. It has lots of case law arranged by subject:**

***Sovereignty Forms and Instructions Online*, Form #10.004,
Cites by Topic**

<http://famguardian.org/TaxFreedom/FormsInstr.htm>

- **10.5 Use a cheaper case law subscription account and carefully select your search terms and your specific jurisdiction, and search with the lower cost case research tools and hope you stumble on what you are looking for.**

How to Locate Case Precedents on Specific Subjects

We found cases on specific subjects to write the materials on this site by using a combination of Am.Jur. access, Westlaw early on, and now a cheaper subscription case research service. It all depends on how much money you have to spend and how close you live to a Federal Depository Library (F.D.L.) or law school.

If you want to follow up on how to use the above resources, see:

Legal Research and Writing Techniques, Litigation Tool #10.005

LITIGATION TOOLS: <http://sedm.org/Litigation/LitIndex.htm>

DIRECT LINK: <http://sedm.org/LibertyU/LegalResearch.pdf>

How to Locate Case Precedents on Specific Subjects

Case law research is the most difficult and time consuming type of legal research. It requires tremendous skill in learning the language/lingo that you are looking for and then keying it into the case search engine to pinpoint exactly the right case quickly. It is therefore the hardest legal research skill to master.

Sometimes we aren't even looking for information that eventually finds its way into our publications but simply stumble upon it when researching a totally unrelated subject. Then we have to go back and find the publication that the cite belongs in, edit the form, and then repost it. Its very time consuming and requires the patience of a monkey on a typewriter. Probably a third of the case cites on this site were stumbled on searching for cases on a completely different subject matter.

Law Practice Guides

- **Law Practice Guides:**
 - Are very helpful in learning and executing legal procedure.
 - Provide sample forms and pleadings.
 - Are available in paper and electronic form.
 - Are indispensable for those who want to win in court.
 - **Several publishers produce law practice guides to help you with the litigation process.**
 - **NOTE: As used in this presentation, the term “law practice”:**
 - Means learning and enforcing the law in court to protect PRIVATE RIGHTS.
 - Excludes the meaning of the term “practice of law” used in any statute or government law, or the activities regulated by “unauthorized practice of law” statutes or rules. Those rules can and do ONLY regulate the protection of PUBLIC rights and franchises of public officers within the government. The ability to regulate PRIVATE conduct or PRIVATE rights or interfere with your ability to contract for legal services as a PRIVATE human being is entirely beyond the scope of such regulation. See: *Why Statutory Civil Law is Law for Government and not Private Persons*, Form #05.037
<http://sedm.org/Forms/FormIndex.htm>
- For details on the above, see the definition of “law practice” in: Disclaimer, Section 4: Meaning of Words; <http://sedm.org/disclaimer.htm>

Law Practice Guides: SEDM

- SEDM Practice Guides

- Legal Remedies that Protect Private Rights Course, Litigation Tool #12.019
LITIGATION TOOLS PAGE: <http://sedm.org/Litigation/LitIndex.htm>
- Civil Courtroom Procedure, Litigation Tool #10.014
LITIGATION TOOLS PAGE: <http://sedm.org/Litigation/LitIndex.htm>
DIRECT LINK: <http://sedm.org/Litigation/10-PracticeGuides/CivCourtroomProc.pdf>
- Civil Causes of Action, Litigation Tool #10.012
LITIGATION TOOLS PAGE: <http://sedm.org/Litigation/LitIndex.htm>
- Federal Litigation Quick Reference, Litigation Tool #10.001
LITIGATION TOOLS PAGE: <http://sedm.org/Litigation/LitIndex.htm>
DIRECT LINK: <http://sedm.org/Litigation/10-PracticeGuides/LitQuickRef.pdf>
- SEDM Jurisdictions Database Online, Litigation Tool #09.004 –
Continuously Update online version
LITIGATION TOOLS PAGE: <http://sedm.org/Litigation/LitIndex.htm>
SEDM Jurisdictions Database, Litigation Tool # 09.003- Downloadable PDF
LITIGATION TOOLS PAGE: <http://sedm.org/Litigation/LitIndex.htm>
DIRECT LINK: <http://sedm.org/Litigation/09-Reference/SEDMJurisdictionsDatabase.pdf>
- Common Law Practice Guide, Litigation Tool #10.013
LITIGATION TOOLS PAGE: <http://sedm.org/Litigation/LitIndex.htm>
DIRECT LINK: <http://sedm.org/ItemInfo/Ebooks/CommLawPractGuide/CommLawPractGuide.htm>

Law Practice Guides: SEDM

- ***Civil Court Remedies for Sovereigns: Taxation***, Litigation Tool #10.002
LITIGATION TOOLS PAGE: <http://sedm.org/Litigation/LitIndex.htm>
DIRECT LINK: <http://sedm.org/ItemInfo/Ebooks/CivCourtRem-Tax/CivCourtRem-Tax.htm>
- ***Responding to a Criminal Tax Indictment***, Litigation Tool #10.004
LITIGATION TOOLS PAGE: <http://sedm.org/Litigation/LitIndex.htm>
DIRECT LINK: <http://sedm.org/ItemInfo/Ebooks/TaxAraignment/TaxAraignment.htm>
- ***Secrets of the Legal Industry***, Litigation Tool #10.003
LITIGATION TOOLS PAGE: <http://sedm.org/Litigation/LitIndex.htm>
DIRECT LINK:
<http://sedm.org/ItemInfo/Ebooks/SecretsOfLegalIndustry.htm>
- You can find specific SEDM practice guide titles, including this title, on our website at:
Litigation Tools Page, Section 1.10.0
<http://sedm.org/Litigation/LitIndex.htm>

Law Practice Guides: Commercial

- **Commercial publishers**
 - **James Publishing:** <http://www.jamespublishing.com/>
 - **Rutter Group:** <http://www.ruttergroup.com/>
 - **California Continuing Education of the Bar (CEB):** <http://ceb.com/>
 - **The Bluebook** (legal terminology): <http://www.legalbluebook.com/>
 - **The Redbook** (legal writing):
<http://www.amazon.com/Redbook-Manual-Legal-Style-Ed/dp/0314168915>
 - **West Publishing:** <http://west.thomson.com/>
 - **Lexis Nexis:** <http://www.lexisnexis.com/>
- **A very helpful self-study course for sui juris litigants written by a lawyer is:**
 - **Jurisdictionary**
<http://www.jurisdictionary.com/>
- **You can find specific commercial practice guide titles on our Website at:**
***Litigation Tools Page*, Section 1.10.1**
<http://sedm.org/Litigation/LitIndex.htm>

Law Practice Guides: Government

- **Government publishers:**
 - **Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts:**
<http://www.uscourts.gov/library.html>
 - » Publishes several useful litigation tools.
 - » Example practice guides:
 - Benchbook for U.S. District Court Judges
 - Chambers Handbook for Judges' Law Clerks and Secretaries
 - Civil Litigation Management Manual
 - Civil Rico: A Manual for Federal Attorneys
 - Deskbook for Chief Judges of the U.S. District Courts
 - Effective Use of Courtroom Technology
 - Federal Rules of Appellate Procedure
 - Manual for Recurring Problems in Criminal Trials
 - **U.S. Dept. of Justice:**
 - » U.S. Department of Justice: Justice Manual
<https://www.justice.gov/jm/justice-manual>
 - » Department of Justice Journal of Federal Law and Practice
<https://www.justice.gov/usao/resources/journal-of-federal-law-and-practice>
 - **U.S. District Courts:** <https://www.uscourts.gov/federal-court-finder/search>
 - » Publishes local court rules.
 - » Click on the above link to find your court and look at the local rules.
- **You can find specific commercial practice guide titles on our Website at:**
Litigation Tools Page, Section 1.10.2
<http://sedm.org/Litigation/LitIndex.htm>

Law Practice Guides: Legal Treatises

- **MANY free legal research books useful as practice guides are available on the Internet called Legal Treatises**
- **We have compiled a large database of Legal Treatises on our website:**

Free Legal Treatises

<http://sedm.org/free-legal-treatises/>

- **The FREE legal treatises on our site in the above list are an extremely effective way to teach yourself legal theory and practice without:**
 - Having to go to an expensive law school
 - Being BRAINWASHED by the tripe the liberal government worshipping law professors subject their students to
- **Our favorite sources for [free legal practice guides](#) no in the above free database are:**
 - Google Books
<http://books.google.com>
 - Archive.org
<http://www.archive.org/details/texts>
 - Project Gutenberg
<http://www.gutenberg.org/>

Unlicensed Practice of Law (UPL)

- Those who wish to defend themselves in court:
 - Should NOT declare themselves “Pro Per” or “Pro Se”
 - Should NEVER say they are “representing themselves”. Doing so means they are representing a public officer in the government.
 - Should ALWAYS describe themselves as “Sui Juris”.

“Sui juris. Of his own right; possessing full social and civil rights; not under any legal disability, or the power of another, or guardianship. Having capacity to manage one’s own affairs; not under legal disability to act for one’s self.”
[Black’s Law Dictionary, Sixth Edition, p. 1434]
- Two choices of hiring legal help:
 - Hire a coach or co-counsel
 - Hire someone to “represent you” who has power of attorney to do ANYTHING. DANGEROUS! Don’t do it!
- If you litigate without hiring an attorney, you may be challenged by the judge or the government prosecutor for “practicing law without a license”, and especially if you are representing an artificial entity such as a trust.
- Resources for responding to the accusation that you are engaging in “Unlicensed Practice of Law”:

Unlicensed Practice of Law, Form #05.029

<http://sedm.org/Forms/FormIndex.htm>

Discovery of Useful Evidence

- The rules for gathering and safeguarding evidence in federal court:

Federal Rules on Evidence

<https://www.law.cornell.edu/rules/fre>

- Discovery of useful evidence through FOIA is covered in:
 - Forms/Pubs Page, Section 1.3: Discovery
<http://sedm.org/Forms/FormIndex.htm>
- Discovery of useful evidence through legal process during litigation is covered in:
 - Litigation Tools Page, Section 1.2: Discovery
<http://sedm.org/Litigation/LitIndex.htm>
- Important evidence has been compiled that you can reuse in your pleadings on our website. Locations:
 - SEDM Exhibits Page
<http://sedm.org/Exhibits/ExhibitIndex.htm>
 - Family Guardian Sovereignty Forms and Instructions Online, Form #10.04, Evidence
<http://famguardian.org/TaxFreedom/FormsInstr-Evidence.htm>

Case Management Software

- **Purpose**: To track all details and information about an ongoing case you are litigating in any court.
- **Example details that it tracks:**
 - Clients and client information
 - Witnesses
 - Expert witnesses
 - Court hearing dates
 - Case docket
 - Discovery
 - Deadline dates
 - Conflict of interest checking
 - Pleadings filed and service of process
 - Timekeeping and billing for attorneys and paralegals working on the case
- **All major law offices have in-house case management software. If you are going to fight the big boys YOU NEED IT TOO.**
- **If you do a lot of litigation, this kind of a tool is a MUST!**

Example Case Management Products

- **Family Legal Assistant (FLA)-SEDM**
<http://sedm.org/ItemInfo/Programs/FLA/FLA.htm>
- **AbacusLaw**-Abacus Software, San Diego.
<http://www.abacuslaw.com/>
- **Needles**-Needles, Inc.
<http://www.needleslaw.com/>
- **PC Law**-Lexis Nexis
<http://www.lexisnexis.com/law-firms/practice-management/specialized-law/pclaw.aspx>
- **ProLaw**-Thomson
<http://www.elite.com/prolaw/>

Family Legal Assistant (FLA)

- Case management software custom developed by us.
- Considerably simplifies your litigation.
- Tracks docket, clients, evidence, expert witnesses, court dates, etc.
- Client journal for ongoing log of activities.
- Integrated attorney timekeeping and billing.
- Does conflict of interest checks across all your client base.
- Database of legal and government acronyms.
- Imports data from previous versions as it is upgraded. No lost data entry time.
- System requirements:
 - Microsoft Access 2000 or Microsoft Office Professional 2000 or later installed
 - Windows 2000, XP, Vista, Windows 7, Windows 10 compatible
 - Will NOT run on Macintosh computers
- For further details, see:
<http://sedm.org/ItemInfo/Programs/FLA/FLA.htm>

Conclusions

Finally, don't limit your options or your future by **PRESUMING** you can't learn this stuff or that you will never be as good as even the dumbest attorney. Many principled people have been elected to no less than the U.S. Supreme Court and state courts who had NEVER before served as a judge or even an attorney. Anyone can learn law if they really care to. Its better if you learn and teach yourself because law schools don't really train you to think. Rather, law schools now instead teach you essentially to administer government employment agreement provisions called "civil statutes". They are simply government administrators even though these idiots think they are "practicing" real law for PRIVATE people. They drank the **Government (Jim Jones) Koolaid** hook line and sinker, even though the smartest of people choose the legal profession. They are blinded to the deception by greed and vanity.

Conclusions

“For the mystery of lawlessness [government instituted anarchy under God’s law] is already at work; only He ^[God] who now restrains will do so until He is taken out of the way.

And then the lawless [[anarchist de facto government](#)] that rebels against [God’s law](#)] one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume [destroy] with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming. The coming of [the lawless one \[a corrupted de facto government\]](#) is according to [the working of Satan](#), with all power, signs, and lying wonders, and with [all unrighteous deception](#) among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe [the lie](#), that they all may be condemned who did not believe [or SEEK] the truth [[God’s law](#)] but had pleasure in unrighteousness.”

[\[2 Thess. 2:7-12\]](#), Bible, NKJV]

Conclusions

The only reason attorneys need or get a degree is to feed their vanity and close their mind to the truth or even the facts so they will stop learning and do whatever the judge says or wants. They take the easy way out by following the statutes, because [the Common law](#) requires too much work and they are lazy. They are government WHORES [according to God, see [Isaiah 1:1-26](#)] who most of the time don't even know they are whores. How sick is that. Here is a clip of how they thereby become tools of Satan himself, who is presented as a lawyer in this clip:

<http://sedm.org/what-we-are-up-against/>

Conclusions

We have personally talked to many of these vain, arrogant, greedy, opinionated, narcissistic lawyer people. One of them told us that he went to law school for a year and was so disgusted with the immorality that he left and became a pastor. He said the first thing they told new classmates at law school was that there is no morality or ethics and that the end justifies the means. Win at all costs.

Those who don't figure out the scam during law school and go into "practice" eventually wake up and figure out the scam they are administering and when they do, they get disbarred or suspended because they are a REAL threat to the government's [plunder gravy train](#). We know three attorneys who this happened to. You will probably meet many more.

Conclusions

The only good lawyer is one who isn't licensed. The minute they have to worry about losing a license because they piss off a judge is the minute they cease to be honorable, credible, or trustworthy because they have a conflict of interest beyond that point. The license is essentially a dog leash for state pets. That's what this video concludes, anyway:

Government Mafia, SEDM

<https://sedm.org/media/government-mafia/>

ONLY YOU can bring the Truth and morality back into the courtroom. No licensed lawyer will ever do it. You are the only “light on a hill” that can bring honesty and accountability back into the legal profession.

Conclusions

The main weapon you have to bring Truth and Morality back into the courtroom is your own legal research and writing skills. The older the case law, the more Truth and Morality it contains. There has been a steady decline in the morality of a culture that has largely become a state-sponsored civil religion that violates the First Amendment:

Socialism: The New American Civil Religion, Form #05.016

FORMS PAGE: <http://sedm.org/Forms/FormIndex.htm>

DIRECT LINK: <http://sedm.org/Forms/05-MemLaw/SocialismCivilReligion.pdf>

Conclusions

The fact that attorney licensing gives undue influence of judges over the legal profession is why:

- Courtrooms have become a very dark and demonic place. See: *Devil's Advocate: What We Are Up Against*, SEDM
<https://sedm.org/what-we-are-up-against/>
- The court system is no longer a truly “adversarial proceeding” and it is a LIE to call it that. The judge, attorney, and prosecutor are all on the government’s side, and especially in cases against illegal activity by the government. See:
How Judges Unconstitutionally “Make Law”, Litigation Tool #01.009
<https://sedm.org/Litigation/01-General/HowJudgesMakeLaw.pdf>
- The system will eventually collapse under the weight of its own corruption.

For details on just how corrupted the system has become, see:

Government Corruption, Form #11.401

<http://sedm.org/GovCorruption/GovCorruption.htm>

Conclusions

“Shall the throne of iniquity [the judges bench], which devises evil by law, have fellowship with You? They gather together against the life of the righteous, and condemn innocent blood. But the Lord has been my defense, and my God the rock of my refuge. He has brought on them their own iniquity, and shall cut them off in their own wickedness; the Lord our God shall cut them off.”

[\[Psalm 94:20-23, Bible, NKJV\]](#)

See also:

[Psalm 82, Amplified Version](#)

[Psalm 2:1-12, New King James Version](#)

Conclusions

Now therefore, be wise, O kings;
Be instructed, you judges of the earth.
Serve the LORD with fear,
And rejoice with trembling.
Kiss the Son, lest He be angry,
And you perish in the way,
When His wrath is kindled but a little.
Blessed are all those who put their trust in Him.
[Psalm 2:10-12, Bible, NKJV]

SEDM Paralegal Services

- **SEDM can provide paralegal services such as:**
 - Doing research on a subject, such as finding legal authorities.
 - Writing pleadings you can use and improve in your own litigation.
- **Paralegal services are only available to:**
 - Members
 - Member Subscribers.
- **We do not “practice law”. We DO law.**
 - Only licensed attorneys supervised by a judge and representing public offices and entities can really “practice” law.
 - Unauthorized Practice of Law statutes cannot be enforced against those who are protecting PRIVATE entities. The U.S. Supreme Court has repeatedly held that the ability to regulate PRIVATE conduct is “repugnant to the Constitution”.
- **If you would like to request paralegal services from SEDM, please see:**
 - Litigation Support Client Intake Packet*, Form #01.003**
<http://sedm.org/Forms/FormIndex.htm>

Member Subscription Service

- SEDM offers a premium legal reference service for dedicated legal researchers and freedom warriors called “[Member Subscriptions](#)”.
- Member Subscriptions is described in detail on the opening page under “[Member Subscriptions](#)”. Direct link:
<http://sedm.org/Membership/Subscriptions.htm>
- Member Subscriptions must be renewed annually.
- Features:
 - Access to over 400 downloadable, searchable, PDF legal research books in our [Member Subscription Library](#)
 - Access to Member Subscriptions forms on our [Forms/Pubs Page](#)
 - Access to Member Subscriptions items on our [Litigation Tools Page](#)
 - Discounts of 10 percent on [State](#) and [Federal Response Letters](#)
 - Three free legal questions answered per year
- None of the following will give you access to [Member Subscriptions](#). You have to sign up through our [Ministry Bookstore](#) to participate in this premium service:
 - A [Member Forums](#) account.
 - A [Ministry Bookstore](#) account.
 - Faxing a [Member Agreement](#) and becoming a Basic Member

Keeping Up with Changes to Our Materials

- Our website is updated very frequently to keep up with changes in the legal and tax fields
- It is VERY important to keep abreast of changes made to the extensive materials on our website
- To save you LOTS of time locating what we changed and preventing you from having to reread our materials in their entirety to find the changes:
 - Many of our publications come with a Revision History at the beginning. This history lists changes down to the section level, so you can reread only the changes that were made since the last time you read the item.
 - The following document lists the revision history of EVERY form, litigation tool, and publication available through our website:

SEDM Resource Revision History, Form #01.009

FORMS PAGE: <http://sedm.org/Forms/FormIndex.htm>
DIRECT LINK: <http://sedm.org/Forms/01-General/SEDMResourceRevHistory.pdf>
 - The item description pages for most **Ministry Bookstore** eBooks includes a Revision History right under the book graphic. Examples:
 - » [Sovereignty Forms and Instructions Manual, Form #10.005](#)
 - » [Tax Fraud Prevention Manual, Form #06.008](#)
 - » [Nontaxpayer's Audit Defense Manual, Form #06.011](#)

Keeping Up with Changes to Our Materials (cont)

- We also provide an area in the [SEDM Member Forums](#) where you can go to view an ongoing, chronological record of all the changes we make to the materials on our website. The title of the topic is “Website Updates” and it is the first topic in the forums, to make it easy to keep up to date. The direct address is:
Forum 1.1: Website Updates
<http://sedm.org/forums/forum/1-announcements-members-may-view-but-not-post/11-website-updates/>

Digging Deeper

If you would like to investigate the subject of legal research and writing deeper, we recommend the following resources:

- **Legal Research DVD**, Form #11.201-SEDM. Provides all the major government practice guides, the complete U.S. Code, and many federal regulations.
<http://sedm.org/Forms/FormIndex.htm>
- **Federal Tax Research: Guide to Materials and Techniques**, Fifth Edition; Gail Levin Richmond, Foundation Press, 1997, ISBN 1-56662457-6.
- **Trial Advocacy Before Judges, Jurors, and Arbitrators**, Second Edition, Roger Haydock and John Sonsteng, West Publishing, 1999, ISBN 0-314-23743-7.

Pop Quiz!

- **Describe what each of the following IMPORTANT abbreviations stands for and what government entity publishes them:**
 - Art. 1, Section 8
 - U.S.C.
 - C.F.R.
 - F.R.
 - F.
 - F.2d.
 - F.3d
 - U.S.
 - S.Ct.
 - F.Supp.
 - Stat.
- **Decode the following references:**
 - 26 U.S.C. §7701
 - 26 C.F.R. §1.1441
 - 10 F.R. 10356
 - 10 Stat. 12

Pop Quiz!

- **Describe the sequence you would use to learn all the statutes, case law, and reference information available for a particular legal subject.**
- **Describe the first page on the SEDM Website where you would go to start your search for legal references on any given subject.**

Get FREE and SOVEREIGN!

- If you want to apply what you have learned here to your specific situation to becoming FREE and SOVEREIGN, then we recommend:
 - Path to Freedom, Form #09.015
<http://sedm.org/Forms/FormIndex.htm>
 - SEDM Liberty University: Complete free curricula on freedom and sovereignty
<http://sedm.org/LibertyU/LibertyU.htm>

Sovereignty Education and Defense Ministry (SEDM)

- Founded in 2003
- A non-profit Christian/religious ministry
- Mission statement found at:
<http://sedm.org/Ministry/AboutUs.htm>
- *SEDM Articles of Mission*, Form #01.004 available at:
<http://sedm.org/Forms/FormIndex.htm>
- Managed by a board of ordained ministers
- Ministry offerings are completely consistent with materials found on the [Family Guardian Website](#)
- Educational course materials available only to “members”, who must be “nonresident aliens” and “nontaxpayers” not engaged in a “[trade or business](#)” and who believe in God
- All educational materials obtained online only
- Signed [Membership Agreement, Form #01.001](#) required to join or obtain any ministry offerings
- Based out of (but NOT domiciled in) Canada and outside of jurisdiction of United States government
- Focus exclusively on human beings and not “[persons](#)” or businesses
- See the “[About Us](#)” page for further details on the ministry
- See our Frequently Asked Questions page, which answers most questions to or about us:
 - <http://sedm.org/FAQs/FAQs.htm>

Sovereignty Education and Defense Ministry (SEDM)

- **WE DO NOT:**

- Interact directly with the IRS on your behalf
- Offer asset protection, trusts, or corporation soles
- “Represent” anyone using IRS 2848 Power of Attorney forms
- Prepare or advise in the preparation of tax returns for anyone
- Offer educational materials or services to statutory “[taxpayers](#)”, “[U.S. citizens](#)”, “[U.S. persons](#)”, “U.S. residents”, or any instrumentality of the federal government, including especially “[public officers](#)”
- Provide legal advice or representation (but do provide “assistance of counsel”). See our article on [Unlicensed Practice of Law, Form #05.029](#)
- Connect ourselves with a “[trade or business in the United States](#)”
- Offer any kind of investment or “[tax shelter](#)” or engage in any kind of commerce
- Engage in factual or actionable speech. All of our offerings constitute religious beliefs and opinions that are not admissible as evidence pursuant to [Federal Rule of Evidence 610](#). Only you can make them admissible as evidence by signing them under penalty of perjury as part of an affidavit
- Advocate or endorse any of the Flawed Tax Arguments identified by the courts in the following document:

Flawed Tax Arguments to Avoid, Form #08.004

<http://sedm.org/Forms/FormIndex.htm>

Getting Connected: Resources

- **Ministries**

- Family Guardian Website: <http://famguardian.org>
- Sovereignty Education and Defense Ministry (SEDM): <http://sedm.org>
- Nike Insights: <http://nikeinsights.famguardian.org/>
- Sheldon Emry Memorial Library: <http://sheldonemrylibrary.famguardian.org/>
- Constitution Research: <http://constitution.famguardian.org/>
- Ben Williams Library: <http://www.benwilliamslibrary.com/>
- John Weaver Library: <http://johnweaverlibrary.famguardian.org/>
- Foreign Tax Status Information Group (FTSIG): <https://ftsig.org>

- **Organizations:**

- We the People Foundation for Constitutional Education:
<http://givemeliberty.org>

- **Legal Research Sources**

- Legal Research Sources:
<http://famguardian.org/TaxFreedom/LegalRef/LegalResrchSrc.htm>
- Legal Research DVD-very complete legal reference library on one DVD. Includes all titles of U.S.C, regulations, organic documents, etc.
<http://sedm.org/ItemInfo/Disks/LegalResearchDVD.htm>
- Cornell University Legal Information Institute (LII): <https://www.law.cornell.edu/>
- Code of Federal Regulations (CFR): <http://law.justia.com/us/cfr/>
- FindLaw: <http://www.findlaw.com/>