

**QUICK TIPS: SEARCHING FOR LEGAL
INFORMATION USING *LEXISNEXIS ACADEMIC*
SHAKE LIBRARY, VINCENNES UNIVERSITY**

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November 2007

To access *LexisNexis Academic* on-campus, you need to logon to <http://www.vinu.edu/>, then select the Academic Resources tab at the top of the page, then click VU Libraries, then Find Articles, and then select *LexisNexis Academic* found under **Journals, Magazines and Newspapers**. To access *LexisNexis Academic* from off-campus, you must logon to your MyVU account with your user name and password. After gaining access to your MyVU account, select VU Libraries found under VU Links on left side of page.

Case Law

- Click **Legal** at the top of the page in the area colored in red.
- Click **Federal & State Cases** link located on far right side of page.
- Select search type: **Terms and Connectors** or **Natural Language**.
- If you use **Terms and Connectors**, you must use a connector (see **View Connectors** for listing of connectors) between search terms (example: poaching **and** deer, poaching **w/5** deer).
- If you use **Natural Language**, just type in your terms. You can also search words as a phrase by enclosing your phrase inside double quotation marks: **"hunter harassment act."**
- Select Sources – Select a source to search. To search Indiana cases, select **IN Federal & State Cases Combined**.
- To search within document sections, click **Show**, and then select a section and enter terms, and then click **Add to Search**. Next, click the search button in far right corner of page.
- You can search by case name: **shuger v. state**.
- You can search by citation number: **479 n.e.2d 1264**.

Codes and Regulations

- Click **Legal** at the top of the page in the area colored in red.
- Click **Federal & State Codes** link located on far right side of page.
- Select search type: **Terms and Connectors** or **Natural Language**, and then follow the directions on how to use each found above under Case Law.

Federal Code – Search within Document Sections

- Select Sources – Use **United States Code Service – Titles 1 through 50**.
- Click **Show** to search within document sections.
- From Section menu, select **Cite** and type in USCS citation you want to search, and then click **Add to Search**. Format your USCS citation like the following: **16 uscs sec 703**. Next, click the Search button in far right corner of page.

State Codes – Search within Document Sections

- Select Sources – Use **State Codes, Constitutions, Court Rules...**
- Click **Show** to search within document sections.
- From Section menu, select **Cite** and type in the Indiana Code citation you want to search, and then click **Add to Search**. Format your Indiana Code citation like the following: **14-22-6** or **14-22-6-2**. After adding to search, be sure the connector button for **And** is

checked. Next, from the Section menu, select **State** and type in **Indiana**, and then click **Add to Search**. Next, click the Search button in far right corner of page.

State Attorney General Opinions – Search within Document Sections

- Select Sources – Use **Attorney General Opinions, All States**.
- Click **Show** to search within document sections.
- From Section menu, select **Cite** and type in the attorney general opinion citation you want to search, and then click **Add to Search**. Format your Indiana Attorney General citation like the following: **1985 op. atty gen. ind. 68** or **1985 ind. ag lexis 15**. Next, click the Search button in far right corner of page.

Federal Register – Search within Document Sections

- Select Sources – Use **Federal Register**.
- Click **Show** to search within document sections.
- From Section menu, select **Cite** and type in the Federal Register citation you want to search, and then click **Add to Search**. Format your Federal Register citation like the following: **72 fr 63123**. Next, click the Search button in far right corner of page.

Law Reviews

- Click **Legal** at the top of the page in the area colored in red.
- Select search type: **Terms and Connectors** or **Natural Language**, and then follow the directions on how to use each found above under Case Law.
- Select Sources – Select a source to search. To search within document sections, click **Show**, and then select a section to search.
- You may also search by title of article, title of journal, author, and article citation.
- Go to **Year** and specify all years or a specific year. You can also limit your search to a specific date range by using **Specify Date**. Next, click the Search button in far right corner of page.

Legal News

- Click **News** at the top of the page in the area colored in red.
- Select search type: **Terms and Connectors** or **Natural Language**, and then follow the directions on how to use each found above under Case Law.
- Select Sources – Scroll down the menu and select **Legal News Group File**. You may select an individual source to search such as *ABA Journal*.
- To search a specific industry, subject or geographic region, go to **Add Index Terms** and click **Show**, and then select your preferences.
- Specify date range you want to search, and then click the Search button in far right corner of page.

Shepard's Citations (Shepardizing Cases)

- Click **Legal** at the top of the page in the area colored in red.
- Click **Shepard's Citations** link located on far right side of page.
- Type in a citation you want to Shepardize. To view citation formats, click **Citation Formats** to the right of the search textbox.
- Format your citation like the following: **479 n.e.2d 1264**, and then click the **Check** button in far right corner of page.