

Coleman Karesh Law Library

Internet Legal Resources*

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Our Legal System [Top of Page]

- About the U.S. Government
 - [USA.Gov](#): Links to resources about the three branches of the U.S. government
 - InfoUSA: U.S. Dept. of State: [U.S. Government](#)
 - Findlaw: [Introduction to the U.S. Legal System](#)
 - GPO Access: [U.S. Government Manual](#): Official Handbook of the Federal Government (comprehensive information on the agencies of the legislative, judicial, and executive branches)
 - [Ben's Guide to U.S. Government for Kids](#)
- About S.C. Government
 - SC.GOV: [South Carolina Government](#)
 - [South Carolina Legislative Manual](#): Click on *View Legislative Manual*

Constitutions [Top of Page]

- United States
 - GPO Access: [Constitution of the United States, Analysis & Interpretation](#)
 - National Archives: [United States Constitution](#)
 - America.gov: [U.S. Constitution](#)
- South Carolina
 - South Carolina Legislature Online: [South Carolina Constitution](#)
- US & States
 - Cornell: Constitutional Law
 - [Overview](#) of U.S. Constitution
 - [Resources](#) (text of U.S. Constitution with annotations & links to state constitutions)
 - FindLaw: Cases & Codes: [U.S. Constitution & links to state constitutions](#)

The Legislative Branch [Top of Page]

Federal Statutes

- The Legislative Process: U.S. House of Representatives: [Tying it all Together: Learn about the Legislative Process](#)
- The Library of Congress: [THOMAS](#)
 - Bills
 - Public Laws
 - Committee Reports
 - Congressional Record
- GPO Access: [Legislative Branch Resources](#)
 - Bill History- legislative actions-current volume of Congressional Record.
 - Text of Bills- Current Congress
 - Congressional Record (1994-present) & Congressional Record Index (1983-present)
 - Committee Reports
 - Public & Private Laws- Current Congress
 - Statutes at Large - 108th Congress (2003-2004)
 - United States Code (2000) and Supplements
- FDsys (GPO's Federal Digital System)
 - GPO is in the process of migrating its collections to <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/>
- U.S. House of Representatives: Office of the Law Revision Counsel: Searchable [United States Code](#)
- Cornell's LII: [U.S. Code Collection](#)
- FindLaw: [Searchable U.S. Code](#)

- [Federal Agencies Directory \(LSU\)](#): Each agency links to major legislation they enforce.
- [Hein Online](#): Congressional Record, U.S. Statutes at Large & U.S. Federal Legislative History Library*
- LexisNexis Academic: [Legal & Congressional \(U.S.C.S.\)](#)*
- The Center for Congress at Indiana University: [Learn About Congress](#)

Congressional Documents

- GPO Access
 - Congressional Committees
 - [Committee Hearings \(1995-96-present\)](#)
 - [Committee Prints \(1997-98- present\)](#)
 - [Conference Reports \(109th Congress-present\)](#)
 - Congressional Serial Set
 - [Congressional Documents \(1995-96- present\)](#)
 - [Congressional Reports \(1995-96- present\)](#)
- FDsys (GPO's Federal Digital System)
 - GPO is in the process of migrating its collections to <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/>
- Library of Congress
 - THOMAS
 - [House, Senate, Joint & Conference Reports \(104th -present\)](#)
 - [American Memory: U.S. Serial Set](#)
- LexisNexis Academic: [Congressional](#)
- [Open CRS](#): Congressional Research Reports for the People
- [U.S. Congressional Bibliographies](#): meetings held and documents released by House and Senate Committees since 1985

State Statutes

- South Carolina Legislature Online: [SC Code of Laws](#)
- [South Carolina's Legislative Process](#)
 - [Live broadcasts](#) of SC House & Senate
- Cornell's LII: [Law by source: State](#)
- FindLaw: [State Resources](#)
- LexisNexis Academic: [Legal](#)*
- LLSDC's Legislative Source Book: [State Legislatures, State Laws and State Regulations](#)
- National Conference of State Legislatures: [State Legislatures Internet Links](#)
- Indiana University School of Law Library: [State Legislative History Research Guides on the Web](#)
- [Stateline.org](#): Research tool for state issues and trends.

Uniform Laws & Model Acts

- Uniform Law Commission: [Final Acts & Legislation](#)
- Cornell's Law by source: Uniform laws: [Uniform Business and Financial Laws Locator](#)
- South Carolina Legislature Online: [SC Code of Laws](#) (if adopted by SC)

Legislative Tracking

- Federal
 - United States [House of Representatives](#)
 - United States [Senate](#)
 - The Library of Congress: [Thomas](#)
 - GPO Access: [Legislative Branch Resources](#)

- [GovTrack.us](#): Independently Tracking the United States Congress
- [OpenCongress](#): Merger of government data, news, and social networking to encourage government transparency.
- State
 - South Carolina Legislature Online: [Legislative updates and agency reports](#) and [Current Legislation](#)
 - [National Conference of State Legislatures](#)

Municipal Ordinances

- American Legal Publishing Corporation: [Code Library](#)
- Municode.com: [Online Library](#) (Also check city & county websites) American Legal Publishing Corporation: Library: <http://www.amlegal.com>
- National Association of Counties: Examples of [codes and ordinances](#) throughout the U.S by subject.
- SC.GOV: Government>[Cities & Counties](#)

The Executive Branch [\[Top of Page\]](#)

Regulations

- Federal Regulations
 - GPO Access
 - [Code of Federal Regulations](#)
 - [Federal Register](#)
 - [List of CFR Sections Affected](#)
 - FDsys (GPO's Federal Digital System)
 - GPO is in the process of migrating its collections to <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/>
 - Federal Agencies Directory (LSU): <http://www.lib.lsu.edu/gov/fedgov.html>
 - [Hein Online](#): Federal Register Library (FR & CFR)*
 - LexisNexis Academic: [Legal & Congressional](#)*
- Tracking Federal Regulations
 - [The Unified Agenda](#) (regulatory plans of federal agencies)
 - [Regulations.gov](#) (to comment on proposed regulations)
 - [Govpulse](#) (browse and search the Federal Register and act)
- State Regulations
 - [South Carolina Regulations](#)
 - [South Carolina State Agencies](#)
 - [SC Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation](#)
 - [ACR: Administrative Codes and Registers Section of NASS](#)
 - [Cornell's Law by source: State](#)
 - [LLSDC's Legislative Source Book](#): State Legislatures, State Laws and State Regulations
 - [FindLaw](#): State Resources
 - LexisNexis Academic: [Legal](#)*

Administrative Decisions

- Federal
 - UVA Library: Government Information Resources: [Administrative Decisions by Agency & Subject](#)
- State
 - [South Carolina Administrative Law Court](#)

Agency Websites

- Federal
 - [LSU Libraries Federal Agencies Directory \(LSU\)](#)
- State
 - [SC State Agencies](#)
- Both
 - [USA.gov](#): Federal, state, local & tribal: Cross-agency portals by topic

Agency Statistics

- [DATA.Gov](#): Public access to data generated by the Executive branch.
- [FEDSTATS](#): Statistics from over 100 federal agencies by subject, state, & agency
- [STAT.USA](#): federal business, trade & economic information from the Dept. of Commerce
- U.S. Census Bureau: [The Statistical Abstract of the United States](#)
- [USA.gov](#): Statistics at state & local levels
- SC Budget & Control Board: [South Carolina Statistical Abstract](#)
- SC Budget & Control Board: [Office of Research & Statistics](#): SC State Budget & Control Board
- LexisOne: [Zimmerman's Research Guide](#): Links for U.S. & Foreign Statistics:
- [LexisNexis Academic](#): Statistical Insight*

Executive Materials

- Federal
 - [The Whitehouse](#): Executive Orders, Proclamations & Major Speeches
 - [The American Presidency Project](#): University of California, Santa Barbara
 - GPO Access
 - [The Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents](#)
 - [Daily Compilation of Presidential Documents](#)
 - [Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States](#)
 - FDsys (GPO's Federal Digital System)
 - GPO is in the process of migrating its collections to <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/>
 - [Hein Online](#): U.S. Presidential Library: Addresses, Papers & Documents (Colleges & Universities) *
- State
 - [The Governor of SC](#): Executive Orders, Proclamations, Veto Messages & State of the State Addresses *
 - [The National Governors Association](#)

Attorneys General

- Federal
 - [U.S. Attorney General](#)
 - [U.S. Attorney General Opinions](#)
 - [Hein Online](#): Official Opinions & Opinions of the Office of Legal Counsel*
- State
 - [South Carolina Attorney General](#)
 - [SC Attorney General Opinions](#): Current Opinions Only; 1959-present through pay databases
 - LexisNexis Academic: [Legal](#)*
 - [National Association of Attorneys General](#)

The Judicial Branch [Top of Page]

Cases

- United States Supreme Court
 - [U.S. Supreme Court](#): Docket, Oral Argument Transcripts, Briefs & Opinions (including bound volumes of U.S. Reports)
 - ABA's Supreme Court Preview: [Supreme Court Primer, Briefs & Highlights](#)
 - Cornell's [Supreme Court Collection](#)
 - [The Supreme Court Database](#) (information on cases from 1953-2008)
 - [Hein Online](#): U.S. Supreme Court Library (U.S. Reports & Slip Opinions)*
 - Justia: [US Supreme Court Center](#)
 - OYEZ: [U.S. Supreme Court Decisions, News, & Audio of Oral Arguments](#)
 - SCOTUSBLOG: [Supreme Court of the United States Blog](#)
- Federal
 - [U.S. Courts Website](#): Court Locator
 - U.S. Courts.gov: [Understanding the Federal Courts](#) (Structure, Jurisdiction & Common Legal Terms)
 - [Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals](#)
 - U.S. District Court: [District of South Carolina](#)
 - FindLaw: [Cases and Codes](#)
 - [Federal Court Statistics](#): U.S. Courts Website
 - [Federal Judicial Center](#): Biographies of federal judges & histories of courts
 - [A Journalist's Guide to the Federal Courts](#)
 - [Media Alerts](#) on Federal Courts of Appeals (ABA)
- State
 - South Carolina Judicial Department: [Appellate Court Opinions](#)
 - SC Trial Law Blog: [Using Technology to be a Better Trial Lawyer](#)
 - [Conference of Chief Justices](#)
 - Cornell's LII: [Law by source: State](#) (includes links to judicial opinions)
 - FindLaw: [State Resources](#)
 - Justia: Laws: [Cases & Codes](#)
 - National Center for State Courts: [State Court Web Sites](#) (with state court structure charts)
 - National Center for State Courts: [Court Statistics Project](#)
- Federal and State
 - LexisOne: [Free Case Law](#): Last ten years of state & federal court cases and U.S. Supreme Court cases from 1781 to present
 - [Public Library of Law](#), powered by fastcase™ (U.S. Supreme, federal & state court cases)
 - [Google Scholar](#): Legal opinions and journals (U.S. Supreme, federal & state court cases)
 - LexisNexis Academic: [Legal: Federal & State Cases](#) plus Shepard's*

Appellate Court Briefs

- ABA Preview of US Supreme Court Cases: [Merit Briefs-2003-present](#)
- [FindLaw](#): Supreme Court Briefs
- South Carolina Supreme Court [Case of the Month](#): Briefs and streaming video of oral arguments
- Robert J. Ambrogi: [A Brief Summary: Finding Briefs on the Web](#)
- LLRX: [Free and Fee Based Appellate Court Briefs Online](#)

Rules, Forms, & Practice Aids

- Federal
 - Cornell's [Rules of the Supreme Court of the United States](#)

- Federal Rule Making: [Federal Rules of Procedure, Practice & Evidence](#)
- US Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit: [Links to Rules & Procedures and Forms & Notices](#)
- SC Federal District Court: [Rules & Forms](#)
- SC Federal District Court: [Information on Representing Yourself in a Civil Action](#)
- State
 - SC Judicial Department: [Court Rules](#) and [Forms](#) for all trial and appellate courts in SC and links to [SC Clerk of Court Websites](#)
 - SC Judicial Department: [Self Represented Litigant Simple Divorce Packets](#)
 - [Children's Law Center](#)-USC School of Law (forms, publications & other resources & training)
- LLRX.com: [Court Rules, Forms and Dockets](#)
- [FindLaw Forms](#)
- [Justia Forms](#): Federal and State Court & Government
- LexisOne:LexisNexis Research for Small Firms Online Form Center: [List of Free Forms](#)

Self-Help & Legal Services Websites

- South Carolina Access to Justice Commission [Weblog](#)
 - ABA Access to Justice Resource Center: [State Commissions & Structures](#)
- [South Carolina Legal Services](#)
 - For the Public: Self-Help [Legal Library](#)
- [South Carolina Appleseed Legal Justice Center](#) (Advocacy Group)
- South Carolina Bar: [Public Services: Free Clinics, Publications, Self-Help Resources & Pro Bono Services](#)
- [Your Guide to Magistrate Court](#): SC Bar Association
- [Self-Represented Litigants Simple Divorce Packets](#): SC Judicial Department Forms
- South Carolina Department of Corrections: [Inmate Search](#)
- State of South Carolina Department of Probation, Parole and Pardon Services: [Pardon Information & Applications](#)
- LawHelp.org/SC: [Legal Information & Forms](#)
- [FindLaw](#) for the Public
- LawHelp.org: [Links for all states](#)
- National Center for State Courts: [Self-Representation Resource Guide](#)
- Unauthorized Practice of Law: SC Bar: What is the [Unauthorized Practice of Law](#) in SC?

Find a Lawyer

- South Carolina Bar: [Lawyer Referral Service](#)
- Martindale.com: [Lawyer Locator](#)
- FindLaw: [Find a Lawyer](#)

Secondary Sources [\[Top of Page\]](#)

Law Reviews & Journals

- ABA's [Free Full-text Online Law Review/Law Journal Search Engine](#)
- [Directory of Open Access Journals](#) (scholarly and scientific journals, including Law and Political Science)
- FindLaw: [Academic Law Journals and Law Reviews](#) (by topic)
- [Legal Journals](#): University of Southern California Law Library (designates full-text, abstract or table of contents)
- Law Library of Congress: [Law Reviews Online](#) (free & complete full-text access)

- New York Law School Mendik Library: [Law Reviews with Online Content](#) and [Top Law Reviews-Current Issues](#)
- [Hein Online](#): Law Journals Scanned full-text images of law journals from the date of their inception*
- [LegalTrac](#): DISCUS: Search legal Journals across the country (Public, College & University University Library Websites)
- LexisNexis Academic: [Legal*](#)
- South Carolina
 - [Journals & Publications at the USC School of Law](#) (Abstracts)
 - [South Carolina Lawyer](#): Index by Author & Subject (Citation only)

&

Treatises

- Georgetown Law Library [Treatise Finder](#)
- Harvard Law School Library: [Legal Treatises by Subject](#) (identify treatises on particular legal topics)
- New York Law School Mendik Library: [Treatises](#) (by subject with identifiers for Westlaw & LexisNexis)

Legal Dictionaries & Encyclopedias

- Cornell's WEX: [legal dictionary & encyclopedia](#)
- Gale [Encyclopedia of Everyday Law](#)
- Georgetown Law Library: [Legal Research Definitions](#)
- [LAW.COM Dictionary](#)
- Merriam-Webster [Dictionary of Law](#)
- Nolo's [Plain English Law Dictionary](#)
- SIU Law Library's [Glossary of Legal Research Terms](#)
- Zimmerman's Research Guide: [Online Encyclopedia for Legal Researchers](#)

Legal Citation

- [The Bluebook](#) (subscribe online or get tips and view its table of contents and index for free)
- Cornell's [Introduction to Basic Legal Citation](#)
- [Cardiff Index to Legal Abbreviations](#) (includes U.S.)
- South Carolina Appellate Court Rule 268: [Citation of South Carolina Authority](#)

Legal News

- [Global Legal Monitor](#): Law Library of Congress
- [Jurist Legal News & Research](#): University of Pittsburgh School of Law
- Law.com: [Legal News & information](#)
- [SC Bar: E-Blast](#): SC Bar-legal information and upcoming activities
- SC Judicial Department : [Court News](#)
- [SC Lawyers Weekly](#): SC legal news & court opinions (subscription only)

Blawgs

- ABA's [Blawg Directory](#): Directory of law blogs by topic, author type, region, and law school.
- [beSpecific](#): Daily law and technology news with links to reliable primary and secondary sources on e-government, copyright, privacy, government documents, etc.
- [Blawg](#): Directory of law and legal related weblogs
- [BlawgSearch](#): Directory and search engine by Justia.
- [Bloglines](#): Subscribe, Search & Publish Blogs

- [Inter alia](#): An Internet legal research weblog
 - Subscribe to [Internet Legal Research Weekly](#)
- Law.com [Legal Blog Watch](#)
- [Library Law Blog](#): Issues concerning libraries and the law - with latitude to discuss any other interesting issues
- [Robert Ambrogi's Law Sites](#): Tracking New and Intriguing Web Sites for the Legal Profession
- University of South Carolina School of Law: [Cocky Law Blog](#)

RSS

- [U.S. Government RSS Library](#): USA.gov
- The Virtual Chase: [RSS Feeds for Legal Topics](#)

Finding Tools [\[Top of Page\]](#)

Government Websites

- Federal
 - [GPO Access](#): Government Printing Office
 - [InfoUSA](#): US Dept. of State
 - [Library of Congress](#)
 - [THOMAS](#): Legislative information from the Library of Congress
 - [FedWorld.gov](#): US Dept. of Commerce : Links to Top Government Web Sites
 - [Forms.gov](#): The US Government's Official Hub for Federal Forms
 - [USA.gov](#): Official U.S. Government Portal
- State
 - [State and Local Governments on the Net](#)
 - GovSpot.com: [State Government Home Pages](#)
 - South Carolina: [SC.GOV](#)

Legal Research Websites

- [Cornell Law Library-Basics of Legal Research](#)
- [How to Research a Legal Problem: A Guide for Non-Lawyers \(AALL LISP-SIS\)](#)
- Law Library Resource Xchange: [LLRX.com](#)
- [The Virtual Chase](#): Ballard Spahr Andrews & Ingersoll, LLP
- [10 Easy Steps to Legal Research](#): Washington State Law Library

Search Engines

- [Google](#)
 - [Google Guide](#)
 - [Google Scholar](#)
 - [Google Scholar: Advanced Scholar Search: legal opinions & journals](#)
 - [Google U.S. Government Search](#)
- [Yahoo](#): Search Engine & Directory
- [Search Engine Watch](#)
- UC Berkeley Library: [Finding Information on the Internet: A Tutorial](#)

Legal Search Engines & Directories

- Cornell Law Library's [Legal Research Engine](#)
- Cornell University Law School [Legal Information Institute](#)
- FindLaw's [LawCrawler Legal Web & Database Search](#)
- [FindLaw for Legal Professionals](#)
- Google Scholar: Advanced Scholar Search: [legal opinions & journals](#)
- [HG.org](#): Worldwide Legal Directories
- [Justia.com](#): Legal Web Directory
- LAWGURU: [Legal Research Tool](#)
- [LexisOne](#) Legal Web Site Directory
- The [Public Library of Law](#), powered by fastcase™
- [USA.gov](#): Government Search Engine & Directory
- [USA.gov](#): Government Information by Topic
- [WashLaw Legal Web Directory](#)

Legal Research Guides

- Coleman Karesh Law Library: USC School of Law: [Research Guides & Tutorials](#)
 - [Internet Legal Resources](#)
 - [SC Legal Bibliography](#)
- Cornell's Legal Information Institute: [WEX=Law About Articles & Search Legal Research Guides](#)
 - [Basics of Legal Research](#)
- Georgetown Law Library: [Research Guides](#) by Topic & Jurisdiction
 - [Free & Low Cost Legal Research](#)
- [How to research a Legal Problem: A Guide for Non-Lawyers \(AALL-LISP\)](#)
- Law Library of Congress's Guide to Law Online: [Federal & State & International](#)
- Pace Law School: [Free and Low Cost Resources for Legal Research](#)
- UCLA School of Law: [Online Legal Research: Beyond LexisNexis & Westlaw](#)
- University of Washington's Gallagher Law Library: [Legal Research Guides](#)
- Zimmerman's Research Guide: [Online Encyclopedia for Legal Researchers](#)
- [Public Libraries Toolkit \(AALL LISP-SIS\)](#)
 - [South Carolina](#)

Catalogs

- GPO Access: [Catalog of U.S. Government Publications](#)
- Library of Congress [Online Catalog](#)
- WashLaw: [Law Library Catalogs](#)
 - [USC School of Law : Coleman Karesh Law Library](#)
- [WorldCat.org](#)
- [Library Thing](#): Catalog & Share Your Own Books Online

Foreign, International & Comparative Legal Research

- [Foreign Relations](#) of the United States
- U.S. Department of State: [Reporting International Agreements under the Case Act](#)
- U.S. Department of State: [Treaty Affairs](#)
- Treaties and Agreements Library: [HeinOnline*](#)
- [HG.org](#): Worldwide Legal Directories

- [GlobaLex](#): International, Comparative & Foreign Law Research (includes federal US guide)
- Law Library of Congress: [Global Legal Information Network \(GLIN\)](#): searchable database
- [World Legal Information Institute](#) (search and link to LLIs of several countries)

Evaluating Internet Resources [\[Top of Page\]](#)

- Beck, Susan. "Evaluation Criteria." *The Good, The Bad & The Ugly: or, Why It's a Good Idea to Evaluate Web Sources*.
- LLRX: [How to Evaluate a Website](#)
- Maryland's People's Law Library: [Legal Websites: Separating the "Good from the Bad and the Ugly"](#)
- Southern Illinois University School of Law Library: [Evaluating and Rating Websites and Other Information Resources](#)

* **Note:** Hein Online and LexisNexis Academic are pay databases accessible through the Coleman Karesh Law Library's public access computers by visiting its [Electronic Resources- Limited Access](#) webpage.