Slide 1

Researching Statutes

Fall 2007

Slide 2

Sources of American Law

Statutory Law is enacted by the Legislatures.

Case Law is decided by the Courts.

Regulations are issued by the Executive Branch (Agencies).

Fall 2007

Slide 3

Summary of the Codification Process

Bill Passes Congress or State Legislature

President or Governor Signs Bill

Slip Law / Session Law (chronological)

Statutory Code (subject)

Legislative History Research … Later

Fall 2007

Slide 4

Statutes at Large

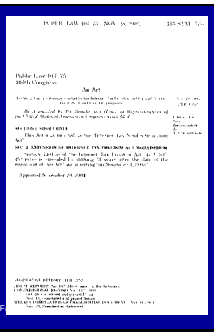
- Public & Private Laws in Chronological Order
- Time Lag 1-2 years & not supplemented
- Features in Each Volume
  - Subject Index
  - Popular Name Table
  - Legislative History Information
- Cite as 112 Stat. 670

Slide 5

Statutes at Large

A new volume is issued each legislative session

Slide 6



Statutes at Large

Slide 7

Sources of *Statutes at Large*

1) OCU holdings: in print KF 50.U52 (ref), microforms AA 131.
2) HeinOnline 1789-2004 (vol. 1-119) (pdf)
3) Westlaw (US-STATLRG) 1789- 1972) (vol 1-85) (pdf) Westlaw contains public laws from 1973 – present in the database (US-PL-OLD).
4) The Lexis database (STATLG) contains *Statutes at Large* from 1789-2005 (vol. 1-120) (pdf). LexisNexis Congressional allows full text searching and retrieval by citation).
5) The Library of Congress's American Memory Project contains the Statutes at Large from 1789 – 1875 http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/amlaw/lwsl.html
6) Yale's Avalon Project contains digitized Statutes beginning in 1789: http://www.yale.edu/lawweb/avalon/avalon.htm

Fall 2007

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USCCAN

- Public Laws in Chrono. Order
- No Time Lag
- Features
  - Legislative History Volumes
  - Legislative History Information
  - Index and Popular Name Table
  - Table Showing USC Classification
  - Updated With Pamphlets
- Available on Westlaw

Fall 2007

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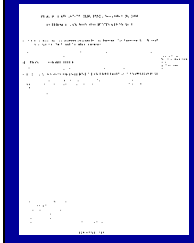
USCCAN Page



Fall 2007

Slide 10

Citing Session Laws

- *Bluebook* Rule 12.4.
- Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990, Pub. L. No. 101-336 § 501, 104 Stat. 327, 369 (codified at 42 U.S.C. § 12101).

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Slide 11

The United States Code

The *United States Code* (USC)

- 50 titles arranged by subject
- Issued every 6 years – old laws come out & new go in
- Is updated annually
- References the *Statutes at Large* citation
- Includes historical notes and cross-references to related sections
- Includes an index, popular name table, conversion tables, table of repealed and amended statutes going back to 1878 and table showing where laws are codified.
- Bluebook Rule 12: 28 U.S.C. § 1291 (1994).

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Citing Official &Unofficial Codes

- *Bluebook* Rule 12.3
- Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA) of 1970, 29 U.S.C. § 651 (2000)

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Sources of USC

1) OCU holdings: in print KF 62 (ref), microforms AA 362 (LLS)
2) GPO Access provides the *Code* from 1994 forward: ttp://www.gpoaccess.gov/uscode/index.html
3) Oklahoma State Courts Network http://www.oscn.net/applications/oscn/Index.asp?ftdb=FDSTUS&level=1
4) Cornell's Legal Information Institute provides access to the current version of the *United States Code* at: http://www4.law.cornell.edu/uscode/
5) LexisNexis and Westlaw provide access to the current version at (USC).
6) Members of the Oklahoma Bar can also access the USC in Fastcase

Fall 2007

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The United States Code Annotated (USCA)

- Updated faster than USC
- Annotations to cases & other authority
- Index & Popular Name Table
- Numerous Other Tables
- Updated with pocket parts
- In print and Westlaw

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United States Code Annotated

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Slide 16

United States Code Annotated

Credits (past session laws that enacted or modified the statute)

Historical and statutory notes
(You can take year reference from credits and read what changes were made in this section)

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United States Code Annotated

Cross-references
(to other USCA sections)

Library references (to many secondary sources)

References to topic and key numbers

Law review and journal commentaries

Texts and treatises

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Relevant Case Law

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Index

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Popular Name Table

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United States Code Service (USCS)

- Follows *Statutes at Large* – not USC
- Numerous Tables and Indices
- References to Lawyers Co-Op publications.
- Available on LexisNexis

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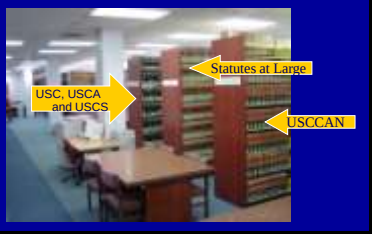
Location in the Library (Reference Wing)



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State Statutory Law

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Slide 24

State Sessions Law

- Oklahoma Sessions Laws are available in print next to the Oklahoma Statutes in LL South and in the Reference Wing.

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Slide 25

State Session Laws

- Session laws of other states may not be available in print.
- State session laws are also available in microform in LL South.
- Session laws are also available on HeinOnline.

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State Session Law

- Oklahoma Session Laws may also be accessed via Westlaw.

Slide 27

State Session Law

- Oklahoma Session Laws (1998-present) may also be accessed via Oklahoma State Courts Network (OSCN).

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State Statutes - LLSouth

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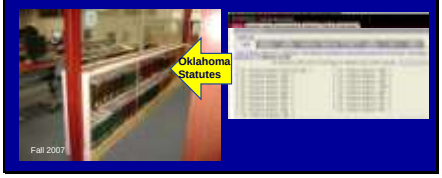
Slide 29

Oklahoma Statutes

- Available in print in LL South and in the Reference Wing
- Current and Statute Archive are available via subscription Lexis.



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Oklahoma Statutes

- Available at no cost via OSCN

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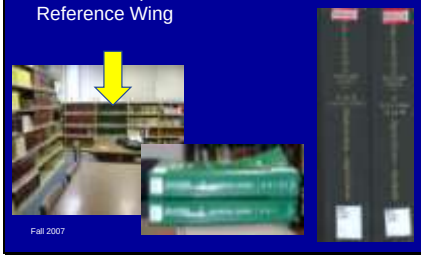
Oklahoma Statutes Annotated

- Available in print in LL South and in the Reference Wing



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Oklahoma Statutes Annotated

- Available in print in LL South and in the Reference Wing

Historical and statutory notes

Law review and journal commentaries

Library references

Notes of Decisions

Fall 2007

Slide 33

Oklahoma Statutes Annotated

- Current and Historical are available via subscription Westlaw.

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Slide 34

Oklahoma Statutes Annotated

- Provides text, historical and statutory notes, cross references …

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Remember

- Session Laws arranged by time, while Codes are arranged by topic
- Federal Session Laws are located by Public Law Number in the Statutes at Large.
- Oklahoma Statutes are available from OSCN and other sources
- Annotated statutes provide valuable information such as historical information, cross-reference, and library references.
- Statutes can be Shepardized and KeyCited

Fall 2007