Finding Federal Statutes in the Classic Versions of Lexis and Westlaw

(Note: the same basic process can be used on state statutes as well, by starting with the state material databases.)

How to find the correct database:

**Lexis:** Legal tab > Federal Legal – U.S. > United States Code Service – Titles 1 through 51

**Westlaw:** Directory > U.S. Federal Materials > Federal Statutes > United States Code Annotated

Using the Popular Name Table:

**Lexis:**


**Search or Browse** – link to right of search box

**Westlaw:**

Directory > U.S. Federal Materials > Federal Statutes > USCA Popular Name Table

**Search or Browse** – link on the right at the top of the tab (Table of Contents)

Using the Index:

**Lexis:**


(Search or Browse – link to right of search box)

**Westlaw:**

From the USCA, click on Statutes Index

(Search or Browse)

Using the Table of Contents:

**Lexis:**

**Browse:**
Select USCS – United States Code Service – Titles 1 through 51 > click the Browse TOC link to the right of the search box

**Search** (terms and connectors or natural language):

Choose Table of Contents (TOC) only > type search terms > [optional] check box next to appropriate Title/Chapter in TOC and click Search Selected only > click Search

**Westlaw:**

**Browse:**

From the USCA, click on Table of Contents

**Search:**

To search the whole USCA: From the Table of Contents, click Search in the menu across the top of the tab > enter search terms (terms and connectors or natural language) > hit Search

To search specific titles of the USCA: Check box next to appropriate title/chapter in TOC > at bottom of page, under Selection(s), click on Search > enter search terms (terms and connectors or natural language) > hit Search

**Full Text Searching**

**Lexis:**

Terms and connectors or natural language search

Check the box next to USCS – United States Code Service – Titles 1 through 51 > click Search Selected > enter search terms > hit Search

Hint: use the Restrict by Document Segment feature to determine where your search terms must be found (ex: to find search terms in the statutory text only)

**Westlaw:**

Terms and connectors or natural language

Check the box next to United States Code Annotated > enter search terms > hit Search

Hint: in terms and connectors mode, use ‘te’ to search only the statutory text (ex: te(environment))