WestlawNext contains a wide variety of secondary sources, such as legal encyclopedias, treatises, and law reviews and journals. Although they are not binding like judicial opinions and statutes, they can nevertheless provide well-reasoned statements of the law. They are also a good starting point for research in an unfamiliar area. You can retrieve secondary sources by running a search at the home page or by using the Secondary Sources page.

Running a Search at the Home Page

When you run a search at the home page, you search all of the core legal content on WestlawNext by default. Because this content includes secondary sources, you can link to secondary sources from a search result. After running a search, click Secondary Sources in the left column of the result page (Figure 1). You can use the filters in the left column to narrow the list of secondary sources. Filters include jurisdiction, date, publication type, publication name, and forms.

Using the Secondary Sources Page

Click Secondary Sources on the All Content tab in the Browse section of the home page to access the Secondary Sources page (Figure 2), which organizes secondary sources by type, by state, and by topic. To browse an alphabetical index of secondary sources, click Secondary Sources Index in the right column. To access Black's Law Dictionary® on Westlaw®, click Black's Law Dictionary.

To search all secondary sources, type your terms, e.g., trademark infringement on the internet, in the tabbed Secondary Sources text box at the top of the page and click Search. To search secondary sources from a specific state or on a specific topic, click the state or topic name.

Note If you run a search from a state page, e.g., the Ohio Secondary Sources page, national sources are included in the search result. You can use the filters in the left column of the result page to restrict your result to your state’s secondary sources.
Browsing Content at the Secondary Sources page

In addition to running a search, you can use the Browse feature to retrieve secondary sources. When you click the name of a publication, one of the following will be displayed:

- a list of the 10 most recent documents
- the publication’s table of contents

Retrieving Journal and Law Review Articles

Click Law Reviews and Journals at the Secondary Sources page to display the Law Reviews and Journals page. To search all law reviews and journals, type a search in the tabbed Law Reviews and Journals text box at the top of the page and click Search. To search a specific law review or journal, click Law Reviews and Journals Index in the right column to browse an alphabetical index of law reviews and journals. Click the name of the law review or journal you want to search, e.g., Harvard Law Review. A list of the 10 most recent articles from that law review or journal is displayed (Figure 3). A corresponding tabbed text box is displayed at the top of the page. You can search all articles by typing a search in this text box and clicking Search.
When you want to retrieve an article using the author's name or the article's title, use the Advanced Search template. Click advanced next to Search at the top of the Law Reviews and Journals page or the page for a specific law review or journal. The Advanced Search page is displayed (Figure 4). Type your terms in the appropriate text box under Document Fields, using connectors to specify the relationship between the terms; then click Advanced Search. For example, to retrieve articles written by Christine Cimini, type christine /2 cimini in the Author text box; to retrieve the article titled, “Ask, Don’t Tell: Ethical Issues Surrounding Undocumented Workers’ Status in Employment Litigation,” type a search such as ethical /2 issues /3 undocumented /2 workers in the Title text box.

Using the Table of Contents Service

The Table of Contents service is available for most texts and treatises, forms, 50-state surveys, continuing legal education (CLE) and seminar materials, jury instructions, restatements, and KeyRules. To access the table of contents for a specific publication, click the appropriate links. For example, to access the table of contents for American Jurisprudence 2d, click Texts and Treatises at the Secondary Sources page to display the Texts and Treatises page. Then click American Jurisprudence 2d to display its table of contents at the American Jurisprudence 2d page (Figure 5). To browse the table of contents, click the links. To run a search, select Search all content, or select Specify content to search and select the check boxes next to the sections you want to search. Then type your terms in the corresponding tabbed text box at the top of the page and click Search.
Viewing a Search Result

Result Page

After you run a search, the result page is displayed (Figure 6). The result page lists the citations of documents retrieved by your search and enables you to view your highlighted search terms in the context of surrounding terms. Available filters are listed in the left column.

Searching Within Results

To narrow a search result by searching within the result, type your terms in the Search within results text box under Narrow in the left column and click Search. Both your original search terms and the terms used to narrow your result are highlighted in the documents.

To undo a search within a result, click Undo search within in the left column.

Filtering Search Results

You can narrow a search result by selecting a filter under Narrow in the left column. Filters vary by document type. For example, the filters available for law reviews and journals include jurisdiction, date, publication type, publication name, and author.

To undo all filters you have added, click Undo Filters under Narrow.

Figure 6. Result page with filters in left column