

Chapter 5

CALIFORNIA LAW

The state of California has done a great job of making its primary sources of law widely available on the Internet. In addition, legal publishers produce a multitude of California secondary sources in print and in online subscription databases. This abundance of information makes researching California law easy for some and overwhelming for others. For those without a legal background (and most with one), it is usually advisable to start with a secondary source.¹

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¹ Secondary sources describe and explain the law and provide background information and citations to primary sources of law.

Secondary Sources

There are many California secondary sources geared specifically towards non-lawyers. [Nolo Press](#) is one of the most well respected legal self-help publishers. Titles such as *The California Landlord's Guide: Rights and Responsibilities*, *California Tenants Rights*, *How to Do Your Own Divorce in California*, and *U.S. Immigration Made Easy* are found in many public libraries and serve as an excellent starting place for non-lawyers doing their own legal research. The [Nolo Press](#) Web site also has a [Legal Encyclopedia](#) that offers brief entries on many legal topics. Chapter 10: Bibliography of Self-Help Resources includes an extensive list of self-help books and Web sites, including numerous Nolo Press publications, arranged by subject.

Another excellent resource for locating self-help materials is the California Judicial Council's [California Courts](#) Web site. The California Judicial Council created [The California Courts Online Self-Help Center](#) to assist self-represented litigants and others in learning about California law and court procedures. The [Self-Help Center](#) offers information on common legal matters such as divorce, child custody and visitation, landlord/tenant issues, and small claims court, in English, Spanish, Chinese, Korean, and Vietnamese. It includes guides for completing necessary court forms and links to legal service organizations and lawyer referral programs. It also provides links to state agencies that assist with legal problems such as employment discrimination.

The [Self-Help Center](#) provides access to [AskNow's Law Librarian Service](#), which connects users with county law librarians throughout the state. Law librarians may suggest strategies and resources to help individuals with their particular legal research needs.

Secondary sources that require subscriptions from publishers like Thomson Reuters (West), RELX Group (LexisNexis, Matthew Bender), and CEB may be available to the public online or in print at county or law school libraries. These subscription sources are geared for legal practitioners. Check with your local law libraries regarding access.

In addition, please refer to Chapter 3: Basic Legal Research Techniques, specifically the section on Free Internet Sources, for suggestions of legal Web sites that provide basic information about legal subjects. See Chapter 6: Bibliography of California Law Resources for information about California-specific secondary sources, including a legal encyclopedia, treatises, and formbooks.

Primary Sources

It is important to keep in mind that primary sources of law – constitutions, statutes, cases, regulations, and regulatory decisions – work together to form “the law” on a particular subject. A good secondary source will explain how these pieces of primary law fit together and which is most important for a particular legal issue.

A word of caution: while researchers often just want to read the text of the Vehicle Code section they allegedly violated or the text of a recent California Supreme Court decision, caution should be exercised in looking at any one of the primary sources of law in isolation when a broader topic is researched.

California Constitution

A group of forty-eight delegates drafted the first California Constitution in 1849. In 1878, a second constitutional convention met and in 1879, one hundred fifty-two delegates drafted the second California Constitution. Though amended numerous times, the 1879 Constitution continues to serve as the framework for California government and the rights of its citizens.²

The California Constitution appears in many sources, including the annotated California Codes. The California Legislative Counsel provides a searchable copy of the current [California Constitution](#) under the *California Law* button on the [California Legislative Information](#) Web site.

California Statutory Law

The statutory laws of California consist of acts passed by the California legislature and by the California electorate through the initiative process. See below for a section on the legislative process. For more information on the initiative process, see the California Secretary of State’s webpage, [History of California Initiatives](#).³

California’s laws are first published in chronological order as session laws, i.e., the laws of a particular legislative session. Then the laws are organized by subject and published in the California codes. Codes provide the current version of statutes arranged by topic.

² See *The California State Constitution: A Reference Guide* (Joseph R. Grodin, Calvin R. Massey, and Richard B. Cunningham, 1993) for a discussion of the history of the California Constitution and commentary on its provisions.

³ See also J. Fred Silva, [The California Initiative Process: Background and Perspective](#) (Public Policy Institute of California, 2000).

As discussed in Chapter 3, starting in mid-2015, the California Legislative Counsel began publishing an official and authenticated version of the California codes online on the [California Legislative Information](#) Web site under the [California Law](#) tab. This free online version is searchable by keyword, by particular code topic(s), or across the set of twenty-nine subjects. The table of contents for each code is also available to help you locate sections of interest. Regarding the currency of the online codes, the Web site states, “[o]n January 1st of each year, the California Law database is updated with all new laws that became effective on January 1st of that calendar year. The California Law database is also updated as bills are passed and become effective during the legislative session.”⁴

In addition, two unofficial versions of the codes, *West’s Annotated California Codes* published by Thomson Reuters and *Deering’s California Codes Annotated* published by LexisNexis contain all twenty-nine codes and are available in print or online at Westlaw or Lexis Advance, respectively. The print version is arranged alphabetically by code title and includes the California Constitution and the California Rules of Court. The annotated sets differ from the free online version in that they include references to cases, law review articles, and other materials that discuss and explain individual code sections. The print annotated sets are updated by yearly pocket parts, newspaper-like pamphlets inserted in the back of each volume, or by supplementary pamphlets.

Some individual code titles such as the Civil Code, Evidence Code, and Vehicle Code are also published in unannotated paperback versions, often called compact or desktop codes. These volumes are republished yearly to incorporate changes to the codes.

Both annotated and unannotated codes contain indexes to assist in locating particular sections. *West’s Annotated California Codes* and *Deering’s California Codes Annotated* contain indexes to each individual code title as well as general indexes to the entire set of codes. *LARMAC Consolidated Index to the Constitution and Laws of California* is a separate index to the California Codes published yearly. It may not be easy to guess in which code a particular statute will be found. Therefore, it is best to start in one of the general indexes or in *LARMAC* to locate relevant code sections.

⁴ “How can I tell how current a version of the code is?” [Frequently Asked Questions](#), Office of Legislative Counsel.

<i>CALIFORNIA CODES</i>	
Business and Professions Code	Insurance Code
Civil Code	Labor Code
Code of Civil Procedure	Military and Veterans Code
Commercial Code	Penal Code
Corporations Code	Probate Code
Education Code	Public Contract Code
Elections Code	Public Resources Code
Evidence Code	Public Utilities Code
Family Code	Revenue and Taxation Code
Financial Code	Streets and Highways Code
Fish and Game Code	Unemployment Insurance Code
Food and Agriculture Code	Vehicle Code
Government Code	Water Code
Harbors and Navigation Code	Welfare and Institutions Code
Health and Safety Code	

The California code subjects listed above are available free online at the California Legislative Information Web site under the [California Law](#) tab.

*Legislative Process*⁵

The laws that eventually become part of the California codes begin in the state legislature as bills. Bills passed by the legislature are enacted into law and become statutes. Statutes (or session laws) are published in chronological order in the official *Statutes and Amendments to the Codes*, which serves as the permanent record of all statutes passed by the California Legislature. These session laws are then incorporated into the subject arrangement of the codes. A single statute may affect (add to, revise, or repeal) more than one code section and, over time, one code section may be affected by many different statutes. *West's Annotated California Codes* and *Deering's California Codes Annotated* keep each code volume up-to-date with statutory changes through the use of pocket parts and supplementary pamphlets. Compact codes are republished each year so as to reflect any statutory change.

To understand why the legislature enacted a statute, researchers may wish to search for documents regarding the law's legislative history. Legislative history research involves collecting the documents generated at each step of the legislative process and reading them for evidence of the legislature's intent. Locating legislative history documentation requires that one understand the process by which a bill becomes a statute.⁶

The legislative process begins with the introduction of a bill on the floor of the Senate or the Assembly. Only a legislator may introduce a bill, but government agencies and community organizations, as well as individuals often propose the subject matter. The Legislative Counsel drafts the bill into the proper form and also provides a commentary in the preface of the bill, called the Legislative Digest.

Bills introduced in the Assembly are assigned a number preceded by *A.B.* Bills introduced in the Senate are assigned a number preceded by *S.B.* The Legislature meets in two-year sessions (e.g. 2017-2018), and bill numbers are assigned in sequential order during each session. Bill numbers start anew with each new legislative session. It is imperative when researching legislative intent to be able to specify:

- ✓ A.B. or S.B.
- ✓ the bill number
- ✓ the year the bill was introduced or passed

⁵ [California's Legislature](#), published by the Office of the Assembly Chief Clerk, is an in-depth introduction to the legislative process and to California state government. It is available free online or for \$5.00 from the [Legislative Bill Room](#) by calling (916) 445-2323.

⁶ The Legislative Counsel offers a detailed chart of the California legislative process, [The Life Cycle of Legislation – From Idea into Law](#).

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As a bill makes its way through the legislative process, it must follow certain rules. Once passed by the Assembly and the Senate, it is submitted to the Governor for his signature. If the Governor signs the bill, it becomes a law effective January 1 of the following year. If the act is not signed within twelve days and the Legislature is still in session, it becomes a law without the Governor's signature. If the Governor vetoes the bill, it can still become a statute on a two-thirds majority vote from each house of the Legislature. Once a bill becomes a statute, the Secretary of State assigns it a chapter number and it is placed chronologically in the official *Statutes and Amendments to the Codes*.

The Legislative Counsel makes the statutes (or session laws) available online starting in 1999 at the California Legislative Information Web site (under [Bill Information](#)), and from 1993 forward at the archived California Official Legislative Information Web site (at the [Statutes](#) page, or the [Bill Information](#) page, which requires searching by bill number). The session laws are also available at the California State Assembly Office of the Chief Clerk Web site under the Historical Information, Archived Publications, [Statutes](#) section, from 1850 to 2008.

During the legislative process, documents such as committee analyses and reports may be generated. These documents may offer evidence of the legislative intent behind a particular statute.⁷ Committee analyses, voting records, veto messages, and bill versions are available on the California Legislative Information Web site under the [Bill Information](#) tab (from the 1999 to the most present legislative sessions) and at the archived Official California Legislative Information Web site under the [Bill Information](#) page (back to the 1993-94 to the legislative session). Legislative information, both for bills that became law and for those that died, may be searched by bill number, bill author, or keyword.⁸ While not providing complete legislative history documentation, these Legislative Counsel Web sites make some legislative documents accessible and may provide insight into legislative intent.

For a (possibly) more complete legislative history, you could start your search in a library that serves as a state depository. There are also commercial legislative intent service companies that will research and prepare legislative histories for a fee.⁹ Fortunately, as described above, some legislative history documents are available free

⁷ However, compiling legislative documents can be a time-consuming and frustrating task, and the documents may fail to reveal the legislator's intent.

⁸ The newer version of the Web site also allows for searching by code section.

⁹ See the Selected Bibliography at the end of this chapter for examples of commercial California legislative intent research services.

online from government Web sites. The more recent the law, the more complete a history you will likely be able to compile. Some libraries that collect legislative intent materials have worksheets that guide the researcher through the process and reflect the materials available in their own collections. One example is the [California Legislative History Checklist](#) available from the [LA Law Library](#). The guide, [California Legislative History: Researching Legislative Intent](#), from the [Sacramento County Public Law Library](#) offers another good starting point.

There are numerous ways to research the history of a California session law. Locating relevant materials is easier if you know the year the law passed, its chapter number, and its bill number. If you know only the code section, i.e. Penal code section 654, check the parenthetical reference immediately following the section. This information tells you how many laws comprise the section and gives you the year and chapter number (and perhaps the bill number) for each of those laws. The first law in parentheses is the one that added the section. If any other laws are listed, those laws amended the section. If only one law is listed, the section has not been amended since it was added to the code.

So a code section may be comprised of just one statute (session law), or it may be the result of multiple laws. If the section consists of several session laws and you are not sure which one(s) to research, read the historical notes that follow the section in the annotated codes. In *West's Annotated California Codes*, these notes are called Historical and Statutory Notes. In *Deering's California Codes Annotated*, they are called Amendments, Historical. These historical notes summarize the changes that each law made to the section. Reading these notes may help you decide which statute or statutes to research based on how each statute affected the code section. Once you know which session law(s) you want to research, consider following these steps, based on your research needs:

1. Using the parenthetical reference immediately following the code section, note the year, chapter number, and bill number (if provided) for the law you are interested in.
2. If the bill number is not included in the parenthetical section, convert the chapter number into a bill number. Through 1979, check Volume 1 of the *Statutes and Amendments to the Codes*, Table of Laws Enacted. Starting in 1967, you can check the last volume of the *Statutes and Amendments to the Codes* for the Summary Digest. These resources provide the bill number for each chaptered law. *Statutes and Amendments to the Codes* is available online free at the California State Assembly Office of the Chief Clerk

Web site under the Historical Information, Archived Publications, [Statutes](#) section.

3. Read the original statute, as well as the Legislative Counsel's Digest that accompanies the law or the Summary Digest of the law in the *Statutes and Amendments to the Codes*. These materials are available online free at the California State Assembly Office of the Chief Clerk website under the Historical Information, Archived Publications, [Statutes](#) section (1850-2008), the California Legislative Information website (1999-current) under the [Bill Information](#) tab, or the archived version of the website (1993-2016) under the [Bill Information](#) section.
4. Read each version of the bill. Bill versions allow you to see how the language of the bill changed with each amendment, until the legislature settled on the final language in the enrolled version of the bill. Bill versions are available at the California Legislative Information website (1999-current) under the [Bill Information](#) tab, or the archived version of the website (1993-2016) under the [Bill Information](#) section. Check county and law school libraries for bills proposed before 1993.
5. Read the committee and floor analyses (i.e., hearings, reports) for the bill. These documents explain how the bill would change existing law and assess its fiscal impact on the state. The analysis typically includes arguments and organizations in support of and opposition to the bill, author's statements, the effect of amendments to the bill, etc. Analysis for each bill is available at the California Legislative Information website (1999-current) under the [Bill Information](#) tab, or the archived version of the website (1993-2016) under the [Bill Information](#) section.

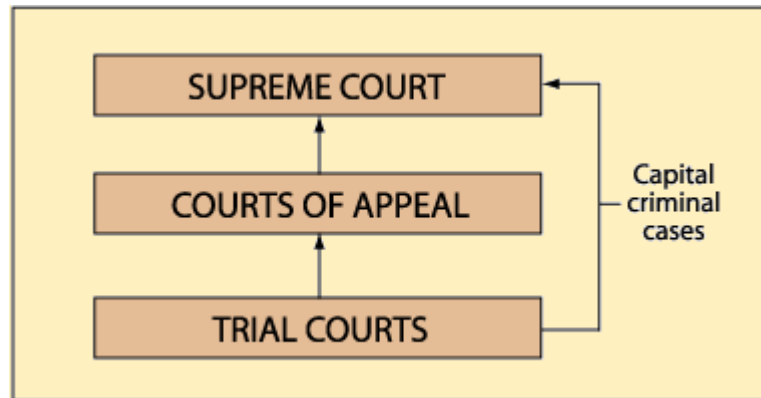
For analysis of bills proposed before 1993, you must determine which committees studied the bill. You can find this information by checking the Senate or Assembly Final History. Assembly histories are available at the California State Assembly Office of the Chief Clerk website under the Historical Information, Archived Publications, [Histories and Indexes](#) section. The History lists all actions that occurred on the bill, including which committee(s) the bill was assigned to. Once you determine which committees studied a bill passed before 1993, check county and law school libraries and the California State Archives for the availability of committee materials. (See #9 below for more information regarding the State Archives.)

6. Check the indexes to the *Journal of the Assembly* and the *Journal of the Senate* for references to Legislative Counsel Opinions or Statements of Intent regarding the bill. The Journals are available at the California State Assembly Office of the Chief Clerk website under the Historical Information, Archived Publications, [Journals](#) section from 1849-2011.
7. Check published sources of legislative intent:
 - a. *Pacific Law Journal* (1970-1997) renamed *McGeorge Law Review* (1998 – Present), Annual Review of Selected California Legislation. Covers legislation from 1970 to the present.
 - b. “The [California Law Revision Commission](#) is an independent state agency created by statute in 1953. It assists the Legislature and Governor by examining California law and recommending needed reforms.” The Commission’s [Web site](#) describes how its materials become part of the legislative history of a California law. The [Reports](#) section contains Commission documents that provide context for the origins of laws.
 - c. CEB’s *Review of Selected Code Legislation* covers some years prior to 1970.
8. Check the annotations to the code section in *West’s Annotated California Codes* and *Deering’s California Codes Annotated* for law review articles, cases, etc. that discuss legislative intent.
9. Contact the [California State Archives](#) in Sacramento at (916) 653-2246 or archivesweb@sos.ca.gov. The Archives maintains bill files that may contain correspondence, reports, caucus materials, the author’s file, the Governor’s chaptered bill file, etc. The Archives will compile a package of legislative documents for twenty-five cents per page. The process may take several weeks. In addition, the Archives is open to the public and staff will demonstrate how to compile a California legislative history.

California Case Law

Cases are written opinions rendered by judges in particular disputes. Cases resolve disputes between parties by interpreting statutes and regulations. They may establish the law in areas where there are no governing statutes or regulations. Not all cases result in a written opinion, nor are all opinions formally published or “reported.”

- *California State Court System*¹⁰



Like most states, California has a three-tiered court system. The [California Supreme Court](#) is the highest court for the state. Cases do not originate in the Supreme Court but arrive there on appeal from a lower court. The Supreme Court's reviewing power allows it to decide important legal questions and to maintain uniformity in California law. The Supreme Court is composed of a Chief Justice and six Associate Justices.

The [California Courts of Appeal](#) are the basic appellate courts for the state. There are six appellate districts: First District – San Francisco; Second District – Los Angeles and Ventura; Third District – Sacramento; Fourth District – San Diego, San Bernardino/Riverside and Santa Ana; Fifth District – Fresno; Sixth District – San Jose. Each district has a presiding justice and two or more judges.

[Superior Courts](#) are the trial level courts within California. All California cases must begin in a superior court. There is one superior court in each of California's fifty-eight counties. (Each court may maintain multiple branches.) Municipal courts were unified with superior courts in 2001.

As stated above, cases are written opinions rendered by judges in particular disputes. Superior Courts generally do not publish their decisions; those opinions must be retrieved directly from the court. Cases from the California Courts of Appeal and the California Supreme Court are published in both official and unofficial versions.¹¹ In either case, only the text of the opinions

¹⁰ This diagram comes from the California Courts Web site, [About California Courts](#).

¹¹ See Chapter 1: Introduction, p. 5-6 for more information about official versus unofficial publications. In short, official versions are published by the government itself or by a commercial publisher under

comes from the court itself; the editorial matter, such as the case summary and headnotes, differ between the official and unofficial versions.

It should also be noted that all California Supreme Court opinions are published, but the same is not true of California Court of Appeal opinions. Court of Appeal decisions are published if they meet one of the standards listed in California Rule of Court [8.1105\(c\)](#).

- ***California Case Law Publications***

Below is a chart that shows where California cases are published.

<i>COURT</i>	<i>PUBLICATION TITLE</i>
California Supreme Court	<i>California Reports</i> (Official) <i>West's California Reporter</i> (Unofficial) <i>West's Pacific Reporter</i> (Unofficial)
California Appellate Courts	<i>California Appellate Reports</i> (Official) <i>West's California Reporter</i> (Unofficial)
Trial Courts (e.g., Los Angeles Superior Court)	Decisions are not published.

[Published opinions](#) of the California Supreme Court and Court of Appeal dating back to 1850 are available free on the California Courts Web site in the [Official Reports Opinions database](#) provided by LexisNexis, the official publisher of California cases. In addition, [SCOCAL](#), a joint project between [Justia](#) and Stanford Law School Library, provides free access to California Supreme Court opinions (from 1934 to present), along with annotations, briefs, other documents, and news.¹² [Unpublished opinions](#) are also accessible at the California Courts Web site for several years after they are first issued.

contract with the government. Unofficial versions are not sanctioned by the government.

¹² Additional online sources which carry California cases include [Lexis Advance](#), [Westlaw](#), [Bloomberg Law](#), and [Fastcase](#) (for a fee); and [FindLaw](#) (free).

California Regulations & Regulatory Decisions

California regulations are rules and procedures promulgated by state agencies. These regulations assist in enforcing the laws passed by the legislature. Regulations are a binding source of law similar to statutes and cases.

California regulations are found in the *California Code of Regulations* (formerly called the *California Administrative Code*) published by the [California Office of Administrative Law](#). The *California Code of Regulations* (CCR) is divided into 27 numbered titles (excluding Title 24, see below) and then into sections. A typical citation might appear as 25 CCR 60, where 25 is the title number and 60 is the section number. The print version of the CCR is published in loose-leaf format by Barclays, a division of West Publishing Company (a Thomson Reuters business). Update pages are issued weekly. Regulations can be found by consulting the subject index or, where a relevant code section is known, by consulting the Statutes to Regulations Table.

The [CCR](#) is also available free online through the [Office of Administrative Law](#) (under the blue California Code of Regulations box). Regulations are accessible through a subject or agency list, a table of contents, or a keyword search through one or more titles. The [California Regulatory Notice Register](#) updates the CCR each week and is also available at the Web site.

Note that Title 24, the Building Code, is not published as part of either the print or the online version of the CCR. It has a different publisher. [California Building Standards Code](#) is available on the [California Building Standards Commission](#) Web site. The Building Code is published every three years and is updated by supplements in intervening years.

In addition to promulgating regulations, state administrative boards and agencies such as the Workers' Compensation Appeals Board and the Franchise Tax Board often have judicial or quasi-judicial authority and may issue administrative decisions. Finding these decisions can be challenging. Subject-specific practice books may include administrative decisions. Researchers should also check state agency Web sites for their regulations, decisions, forms, and other information of interest. The California State Web page offers a [listing of California agencies](#) and their Web sites.

City & County Municipal Codes

Article 11 of the [California Constitution](#) gives cities and counties the authority to pass legislative acts, called ordinances, relating to municipal affairs. These ordinances are collected and arranged by topic in municipal codes and county codes.

Most city and county Web sites contain their ordinances. U.C. Berkeley's Institute of Governmental Studies provides a list of [California Local Codes and Charters](#) and includes links to those available on the Internet.

Other Resources

California County Law Libraries

Because many public libraries have limited legal research resources, it may be necessary to refer users to a local county law library. By statute, each of the fifty-eight counties in California maintains a county law library whose mission is to provide free access to legal materials to all persons interested in the law. The county law libraries vary greatly in size and resources. Several, including the [LA Law Library](#), the [Bernard E. Witkin Alameda County Law Library](#), and the [San Diego Law Library](#) collect not only California legal materials, but materials for the federal system and for other states as well. The LA Law Library also has an extensive collection of foreign and international law materials.

The larger county law libraries maintain Web sites that provide access to their catalogs and include helpful research guides and lists of local legal providers. Some also provide in-person classes and training on legal research topics. The county law libraries also participate in [AskNow's Law Librarian Service](#), which provides real-time legal reference assistance online.

The [Council of California County Law Libraries](#) provides a list of [California county law libraries](#). More information about these libraries appears in Appendix C: California's County Law Libraries of this publication.

California Attorneys

To practice in California, an attorney must be a member of The State Bar of California. Furthermore, only active members of the State Bar are entitled to practice law within California.

The [State Bar](#) makes its member records available to the public through its [Attorney Search](#) feature. Information provided for individual attorneys includes current contact information, undergraduate and law school information, and, most importantly, status¹³ and disciplinary history. In addition, the State Bar's [Conduct & Discipline](#) page connects to a section on [How to File a Complaint Against an Attorney](#).

California attorneys can become certified legal specialists in one or more of twenty-two legal specialties including bankruptcy, elder law, family law, immigration law, and tax law. You can find attorneys who specialize in particular areas of the law by using the [Certified Specialist Search](#) or the Advanced Search link on the [Attorney Search](#) page.

Several other attorney directories may be of interest. [Martindale-Hubbell](#) is a national directory of lawyers. Its publisher, LexisNexis, makes the database available at no charge. Lawyers may be searched by name, specialty, and geographic region. The advanced search features allow searching by language or law school attended. Martindale-Hubbell's directory is also available through [Lawyers.com](#).

[Avvo.com](#) also provides a national database of lawyers. In addition to biographical information, Avvo.com provides ratings for attorneys based on its proprietary ratings system.

Lawyers identified through [Martindale-Hubbell](#), [Lawyers.com](#), or [Avvo.com](#) should be checked in the California State Bar [Attorney Search](#) database for active status and disciplinary history.

California Judges

Biographical information on California judges may be found on court Web sites. The Judicial Council of California provides a [list of courts](#) and their Web sites.

Biographical information may also be found in *Judicial Profiles* published by the Daily Journal Corporation. This multi-volume set includes information on state court judges and federal judges sitting in California. Check your local law library's catalog or call the reference desk to find out if you have access to the print volumes.¹⁴ The *Judicial Profiles* are also available on the [Daily Journal](#) Web site but require a subscription and payment.

¹³ Statuses include active, inactive, not entitled to practice law, disbarred, and resigned. Only active members can practice law.

¹⁴ For a directory of California County Law Libraries, see the [list](#) provided by the Council of California County Law Libraries or Appendix C of this publication.

The California [Commission on Judicial Performance](#) is an independent state agency responsible for investigating complaints of judicial misconduct and for disciplining judges. Its jurisdiction includes all judges of California's superior courts, justices of the California Courts of Appeal and California Supreme Court, and former judges for conduct prior to retirement and resignation. Its Web site has additional information, including instructions on [how to file a complaint](#) against a judge.



Selected Bibliography

Print Sources:

- Lisa Guerin & Patricia Gima. *Nolo's Guide to California Law*, 11th ed. (July 2011) (Nolo is not updating this title beyond 2011.)
- Daniel Martin. *Henke's California Law Guide*, 8th ed. (LexisNexis Matthew Bender, 2006)
- Larry D. Dershem. *California Legal Research Handbook*, 2nd ed. (W.S. Hein & Co., 2008).
- John K. Hanft. *Legal Research in California*, 7th ed. (Thomson West, 2011)

Internet Sources:

- ***Secondary Sources:***
 - Nolo Press: <http://www.nolo.com>
 - The California Courts Self-Help Center: <http://www.courts.ca.gov/selfhelp.htm>
 - AskNow's Law Librarian Service: http://www.247ref.org/portal/access_law3.cfm
- ***California Constitution:***
<http://tinyurl.com/y8bj3s4m>
- ***California Statutory Law:***
 - History of California Initiatives: <http://tinyurl.com/ycb5jdzh>
 - Legislative Counsel's Official California Legislative Information:
<http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/>
 - California Codes: <http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/calaw.html>

- ***California Legislative Process:***

- California's Legislature: <http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/califleg.html>
- Legislative Bill Room: <http://www.dgs.ca.gov/osp/Programs/BillRoom.aspx>
- Chart of Legislative Process: http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/pdf/Ch_09_CaLegi06.pdf
- California Legislative Information, Bill Information: <http://tinyurl.com/hm9vrqn>
- Official California Legislative Information, Statutes: <http://tinyurl.com/78tncmd>
- Official California Legislative Information: Bill Information: <http://tinyurl.com/fo2z>
- California State Assembly Office of the Chief Clerk, Statutes: <http://tinyurl.com/y79pc97a>
- California State Assembly Office of the Chief Clerk, Histories and Indexes: <http://tinyurl.com/yc39xyrr>
- California State Assembly Office of the Chief Clerk, Journals: <http://tinyurl.com/y756ue7a>
- California Legislative History Checklist, LA Law Library: <http://tinyurl.com/yad6vcdq>
- California Legislative History: Researching Legislative Intent,
 - Sacramento County Public Law Library: <http://tinyurl.com/y9fgxa3q>
- California Law Revision Commission Materials as Legislative History: <http://tinyurl.com/y9pb4my7>
- California Law Revision Commission Reports: <http://tinyurl.com/ya9zm7mn>
- California State Archives: <http://www.sos.ca.gov/archives/>

- ***California Legislative Intent Research Services:***

- Legislative Intent Service, Inc.: <http://www.legintent.com/> (800) 666-1917
- LRI History LLC: <http://www.lrihistory.com/> (916) 442-7660
- Legislative History & Intent: <http://www.lhclearinghouse.com/> (888) 676-1947

- ***California Cases:***

- California Courts Web site: <http://www.courts.ca.gov>
- California Supreme Court: <http://www.courts.ca.gov/courts/supremecourt.htm>
- California Courts of Appeal: <http://www.courts.ca.gov/courtsofappeal.htm>
- California Superior Courts: <http://www.courts.ca.gov/superiorcourts.htm>
- Published Opinions: <http://www.courts.ca.gov/opinions-slip.htm>
- Official Reports Opinions: <http://www.lexisnexis.com/clients/CACourts/>
- Unpublished Opinions: <http://www.courts.ca.gov/opinions-nonpub.htm>
- SCOCAL (Supreme Court of California Resources) : <http://scocal.stanford.edu/>

- **California Regulations and Regulatory Decisions:**
 - California Office of Administrative Law: <http://www.oal.ca.gov/>
 - California Code of Regulations: <http://tinyurl.com/yaq2qhhd>
 - California Regulatory Notice Register:
http://oal.ca.gov/publications/notice_register/
 - California Building Standards Code: <http://www.bsc.ca.gov/Codes.aspx>
 - California Building Standards Commission: <http://www.bsc.ca.gov/>
 - Find an Agency: <http://www.ca.gov/Agencies?page=1>
- **California City and County Municipal Codes:**
 - California Local Codes and Charters, U.C. Berkeley Institute of Governmental Studies: <http://igs.berkeley.edu/library/cagovdocs/calcodes.html>
- **California County Law Libraries:** (see also Appendix C)
 - Council of County Law Librarians: <http://www.ccll.org/>
 - Listing of County Law Libraries: <http://www.publiclawlibrary.org/law-libraries/>
 - AskNow's Law Librarian Service: http://www.247ref.org/portal/access_law3.cfm
 - LA Law Library: <http://www.lalawlibrary.org/default.aspx>
 - Bernard E. Witkin Alameda County Law Library:
<http://www.co.alameda.ca.us/law/index.htm>
 - San Diego Law Library: <http://www.sdcpll.org/>
- **California Attorneys:**
 - The State Bar of California: <http://www.calbar.ca.gov/>
 - Attorney Search: <http://members.calbar.ca.gov/fal/MemberSearch/QuickSearch>
 - Certified Specialist Search: <https://members.calbar.ca.gov/search/lsearch.aspx>
 - Conduct & Discipline: <http://www.calbar.ca.gov/Attorneys/Conduct-Discipline>
 - How to File a Complaint Against an Attorney: <http://tinyurl.com/yamhbcw7>
 - Martindale-Hubbell Law Directory: <https://www.martindale.com/> or
<http://www.lawyers.com/>
 - Avvo.com: <http://www.avvo.com/>
- **California Judges:**
 - California Courts (list of courts and Web sites):
<http://www.courts.ca.gov/courts.htm>
 - California Commission on Judicial Performance: <https://cjp.ca.gov/>
 - How to File a Complaint: http://cjp.ca.gov/file_a_complaint/
 - Daily Journal: <https://www.dailyjournal.co>