

THE SUPREME COURT *of* OHIO
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Information Series



Ohio Case Law
Where to Find It



Finding Ohio case law became much easier with the advent of online searching. However, because libraries have books, CD-ROMs and microfiche, and usually do not charge for using them, it is still useful and cost-effective to have a working knowledge of how to find cases using these resources. This guide will help you locate the case law you need for your research.

HOW TO FIND A CASE

If you already have a case citation, proceed to **WHERE TO FIND A CASE**. If you have a case name (parties' names), there are multiple sources available. Titles are located in the Reading Room (RR), the Ohio section (OH) or both.

Ohio Jurisprudence 3d (KFO80.O4)
(RR & OH)

The volumes of tables of cases at the end of the set contain only Ohio cases included within *Ohio Jurisprudence*.

West's Ohio Digest (KFO57 .W4) (RR & OH)
An exhaustive table of cases is located at the end of the set. There is also a defendant/plaintiff volume.

Ohio Appellate Decisions Indexes (KFO49)
and the 12th Floor AV Room

Unreported appellate decisions from 1981 to 1992. Can be searched by party, subject or district. Full texts of decisions are available on microfiche.

Ohio CD-ROM products

The library subscribes to the West Publishing product, which uses premise search software similar to Westlaw. Click on the "CD Law" icon and choose the Ohio products for a table of cases to search.

LexisNexis / Westlaw

Full text of all cases from the Supreme Court of Ohio, Ohio appellate courts, Ohio miscellaneous reporters and unreported appellate coverage beginning in the 1970s.

WHERE TO FIND A CASE

Ohio cases can be found in a book, within an online database, on the Internet or on microfiche. The following list contains pointers for all available Ohio cases.

ONLINE DATABASES

LexisNexis / Westlaw

Subscription-based, full-text, fully searchable databases. Court staff have passwords for both systems. Public patrons have access to Lexis through library computers.

INTERNET

Supreme Court of Ohio Web Site

www.supremecourtsohio.gov/rod/newpdf/

Contains all Supreme Court cases back to 1992. Also includes cases from the 12 Ohio appellate districts with varying start dates, usually around 2000.

OSBA Casemaker

www.ohiobar.org/casemaker

Includes case law and a verdict reporter. Ohio Bar members have access as part of their membership. Casemaker is not available to the general public.

MICROFICHE

Ohio Unreported Appellate Decisions

Located in the AV Room on the 12th Floor.

BOOKS

The following list is a roadmap for Ohio case reporters. Some of the materials date back to the early 1800s. Many of the cases are located within more than one reporter, so refer to West's *Ohio Digest Table of Cases* or Shepard's *Ohio Citations* (KFO59) for parallel cites if a volume is missing from the shelf. *The Ohio Blue and White Book* (KFO41.O4) also offers parallel cites from Ohio cases to the *Northeastern Reporter* (KF135 .N6).

Ohio State Reports (KFO45 .A2)

- 1st Series Volumes 1-177
- 2nd Series Volumes 1-70

Also located within *Ohio Official Reports* (orange band) KFO45 .A2.

- 3rd Series Volumes 61 and beyond

Volumes 1 through 60 are located within *Ohio Official Reports* (gray books) (KFO45 .A2). Volumes 1 through 31 are also located within *Ohio Bar Reports* (KFO47 .A35).

Ohio Appellate Reports (KFO48 .A2)

- 1st Series Volumes 1-120
- 2nd Series Volumes 1-70

Also located within *Ohio Official Reports* (orange band) (KFO45 .A2).

- 3rd Series Volumes 61 and beyond
- Volumes 1 through 60 are in *Ohio Official Reports* (gray books) (KFO45 .A2). Volumes 1 through 31 are also located within *Ohio Bar Reports* (KFO47 .A35).

Ohio Miscellaneous Reports (KFO51 .A2)

- 1st Series Volumes 1-70

Also located within *Ohio Official Reports* (orange band) KFO47.A2

- 2nd Series Volumes 61-63

Volumes 1 through 60 are located within *Ohio Official Reports* (gray books) (KFO47 .A2). Volumes 1 through 31 are also located within *Ohio Bar Reports* (KFO47 .A33 O35). Volumes 64 and beyond are located within *Ohio Appellate Reports 3d* (KFO48 .A2), starting at Volume 93.

OTHER OHIO REPORTERS

- Cincinnati Superior Court Reports
- Cleveland Law Reporter
- Dayton Reports
- Disney's Reports
- Northeastern Reporter
- Ohio Bar Reports
- Ohio Cases
- Ohio Court of Appeals Reports
- Ohio Circuit Court Reports
- Ohio Circuit Decisions
- Ohio Decisions
- Ohio Decisions Reprint
- Ohio Federal Decisions

- Ohio Nisi Prius & New Series
- Ohio Law Abstract
- Ohio Law Reporter
- Ohio Official Reports
- Ohio Opinions
- Ohio Reports
- Ohio Supplement (Look on the spines of *Northeastern Reporter 2d* and the Ohio Cases version of the same)
- Ohio Trial Reporter
- Ohio Unreported Judicial Decisions Prior to 1823
- Weekly Law Bulletin

Please check the library's catalog for exact locations. Some may be located in the Rare Books Room. Others will either be in the Reading Room or the Ohio section.

Locally Bound Appellate Cases (KFO49)

These large black volumes are located in the Ohio section and organized by date within each of the 12 appellate districts.

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- 2. Legal Periodicals: Print, Microform and Online
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- 5. Federal Legislative History
- 6. The U.S. Supreme Court
- 7. Law Library Collection Guide
- 8. The Online Catalog
- 9. Ohio Legal Research
- 10. Reading Room Murals
- 11. History of the Rule of Law Oil Paintings
- 12. The Ohio Constitution
- 13. The Supreme Court of Ohio
- 14. Ohio Practice Materials
- 15. Reading Room Art: Chihuly Sculptures



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