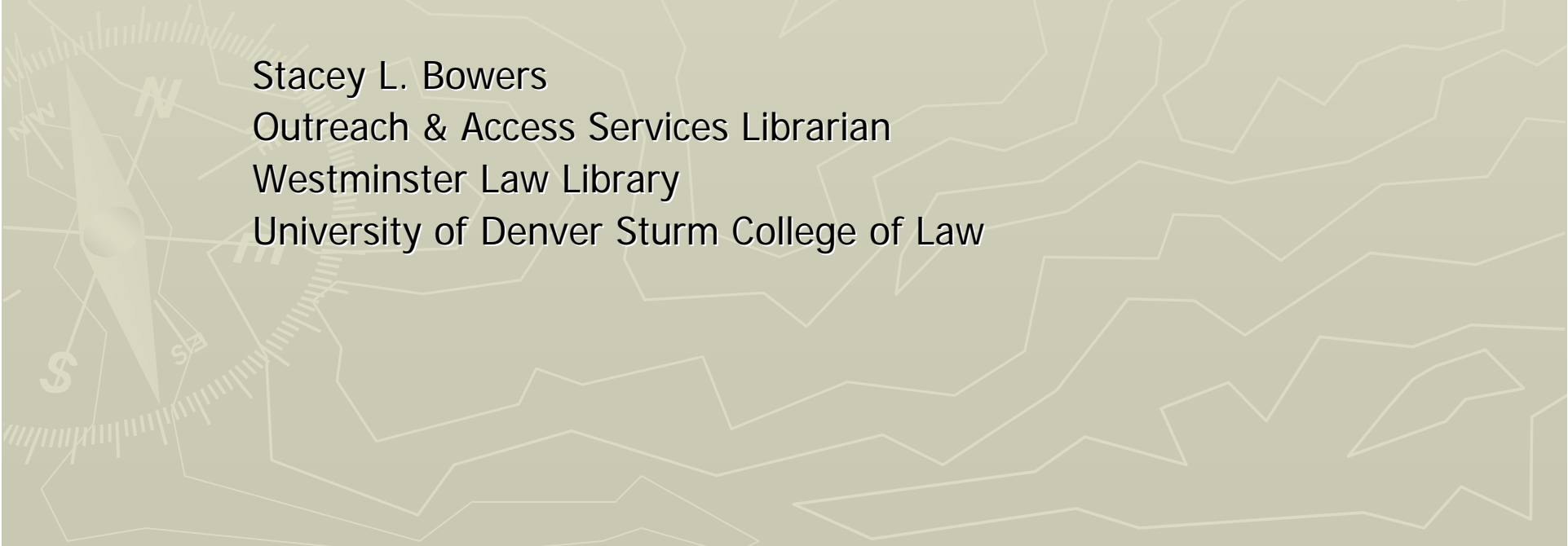


Research Skills



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Research Assignment

- ▶ You receive the research assignment
 - In person meeting
 - Via e-mail
 - Via voice mail

Getting Started

- ▶ Identify issues and specific questions
 - Do I have all the facts?
 - Do I need more information?
 - What are the applicable areas of law?
 - What questions am I addressing?

Getting Started

- ▶ Brainstorm your research assignment
 - Key words
 - Phrases
 - Legal terms
 - Terms of art
- ▶ Potential synonyms

Types of Resources

► Primary Resources

- Statutes
- Case Law
- Administrative Law

Types of Resources

▶ Secondary Resources

- Legal encyclopedias, reports, and digests
- Treatises, hornbooks, and restatements
- Law journals
- Form books and jury instructions

Library's Website

▶ Library's Catalog

- Keyword search

(<http://www.law.du.edu/index.php/library>)

- Advanced search

(<http://pacman.law.du.edu/>)

Library's Website

▶ E-Journals

- Allows you to locate a journal and determine through which database it is accessible

▶ Databases/Indexes

- Through our catalog you have access to over 60 databases
- Through the Penrose catalog you have access to over 300 databases

Library's Website

► Web Research Links

(<http://www.law.du.edu/index.php/library/research/web-research-links>)

- Links to free resources
- Links are categorized

Library's Website

▶ Subject Guides

(<http://www.law.du.edu/index.php/library/research/subject-guides>)

- Guides on specific topics

Free Internet Resources

- ▶ GPO Access (<http://www.gpoaccess.gov>) – Code of Federal Regulations, Federal Register, Congressional Record, Congressional Bills and Session Laws.
- ▶ THOMAS (<http://thomas.loc.gov/>) – Federal laws, regulations and legislation. Basic information about the Supreme Court, the legislative process, the Constitution and other historical documents.

Free Internet Resources

- ▶ U.S. Courts (<http://www.uscourts.gov/>)
 - Information on the U.S. Supreme Court, U.S. Courts of Appeals, U.S. District Courts and U.S. Bankruptcy Courts.

Free Internet Resources

- ▶ Altlaw (<http://www.altlaw.org>) – Access recent U.S. case law.
- ▶ The Public Library of Law (<http://www.plol.org/Pages/Search.aspx>) – Access case law, statutes, regulations, court rules and more.

Free Internet Resources

- ▶ Colorado General Assembly
(<http://www.leg.state.co.us/>) – Access information regarding the Colorado legislature.
- ▶ Colorado Judicial Branch
(<http://www.courts.state.co.us/>) – Information about the Colorado court system.

Free Internet Resources

- ▶ Full-Text State Statutes & Legislation on the Internet (<http://www.whpgs.org/f.htm>) – Links to sites containing the full text of many state constitutions, statutes, legislation and administrative rules.
- ▶ Casemaker (<http://www.cobar.org/index.cfm/ID/1749/dpmem/Casemaker/>) – Provides access to over 12 million legal documents through the local bar association.

Free Internet Resources

- ▶ Internal Revenue Service
(<http://www.irs.gov/>)
- ▶ U. S. Copyright Office
(<http://www.copyright.gov/>)
- ▶ U.S. Securities & Exchange Commission
(<http://www.sec.gov/>)

Librarians

- ▶ Librarians can be a great resource, whether you are undertaking a school project or an externship assignment
 - Law school librarians
 - Firm librarians
 - Court librarians