

QUESTIONS ON U.S. LAWS

Use print resources only.

1. Find a copy of P.L. 95-7 (original law without amendments). Where did you find it? What is the law about?

2. What is the penalty for making dies for counterfeit coins? What section of the law answers this question?

3. Find the current version of the Convention on Cultural Property Implementation Act. Where can it be found?

4. Look up the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1958 in the U.S. Code Annotated Popular Name Table. How many public laws are listed? ____ The first one is the original law. The others are amendments. How many times has this law been amended? ____ Where would it be found in the Code? List the first three sections. ____ These sections would include any amendments. Where could you go to find the original law all in one place? (Without any later amendments) Look it up for practice. Each of the amendments would also have to be looked up individually to get the entire law this way.

5. Look up 42 USC 9627. What is the topic?

6. Are there any court decisions on 21 USC 352 relating to the generic name of drugs? Name one and give the last set of citations listed.

Use LexisNexis Congressional only.

7. Find a copy of P.L. 95-13 (original law without amendments). Where did you find it? What is the law about?

8. Find the section of the law that prohibits any individual from owning or using a chemical weapon.

9. Where would you look to find the current version of the Immunity of Witnesses Act? Can you do this online?

10. Look up 42 USC 12112. What is the topic?

11. Can you find any court decisions on 21 USC 352? Is the same court decision found in question 6 above found in the online resource?

QUESTIONS ON U.S. COURT DECISIONS

Use print resources:

1. Look up 331 U.S. 440. What is the name of the case?
2. Look up 109 S Ct 2746. What is the name of the case?
3. Look up 462 U.S. 416. What is the name of the case?
4. A contractor agreed with a city to construct a golf course for \$230,329.88 by Sept. 1986. Due to heavy rains during the spring, construction was delayed and the golf course was not ready in Sept. Is the contractor liable for the delay in performance of the contract?

This is a typical class assignment question about a general legal situation. Students are usually supposed to discuss and cite court decisions. Legal encyclopedias are the best way to answer such questions. Digests may also be used if necessary. Try using American Jurisprudence 2d. Start with the general index. Select subject or keywords that represent the principle involved, rather than the specific situation. It is not always possible to find an exact answer or a case that exactly matches the situation. But one can find encyclopedia sections that give general statements regarding the broad principle involved. It is usually necessary to experiment with subject/keywords, try several index references, and review several possible encyclopedia chapters to find the chapter and section that seems closest.

What subject chapter and section seems closest to this situation?

Many of the statements in the encyclopedia are footnoted. Find a footnote that would likely relate to this situation and give the name and citation of the court case.

Check the pocket supplement in American Jurisprudence for the section you found. Are there any newer cases?

Find a copy of the case you found.

Use LexisNexis Legal Research:

5. Find 351 F.Supp 537. What is the name of the case?

6. Find 493 F2d 204. What is the name of the case?

7. Find a Supreme Court case called French vs. Taylor. What are its citations? Which of these do we have in print format?

8. Find Supreme Court cases on the Amish and education. What is the earliest case you found? Give its citations.

9. In 1977 the Supreme Court issued a decision on water pollution relating to EPA authority to establish uniform effluent limitations. What was the name of the decision and where can it be found?

10. Find a lower U.S. court case called Lattanzio vs. United States. Write down the citation.

11. Find U.S. appellate court decisions on sexual harassment dated July –Dec. 1997. What is the first case listed? Do we have a print copy of it in the law collection?

12. Find law review articles that mention Adarand Constructors v. Pena within the last 6 months. What journal is the first article listed found in? What volume and page? (HINT: do a keyword search using the name of the case – but do not put a “v” between the two party names. Replace the “v” with “w/10” (no quotes). That means the two parts of the name must be within (w) 10 words of each other. This is the only way to do a full-text court case name search).

13. Find U.S. Supreme Court cases involving the confidentiality of letters received in support of tenure. What is the name and citation of the first decision found?