Researching Intellectual Property Topics Using Electronic Resources

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Legal Research Tools

• Secondary Sources
  – Treatises, Articles, Books, Practitioner Materials ... 

• Primary Sources
  – Statutes, Regulations, Judicial Opinions (cases) ...
ABC News: Christian Louboutin Sues YSL Competitor Over Trademark

http://lib.law.washington.edu/
Getting Started

What’s the best way to begin researching topics when you don’t have many citations or know much about the subject?

SECONDARY SOURCES!

Let’s start here: http://lib.law.washington.edu
Practice: Find an Article

Issue: trademark infringement in the fashion industry

1. Use Westlaw Next
2. Find an article
3. Use “Citing References” to find more recent articles
Practice: Find a Treatise

Issue: copyright infringement of music

1. Use Lexis Advance
2. Browse Table of Contents of a major copyright treatise
3. What chapter deals specifically with music?
Practice: Find a Book

Issue: Lanham Act

1. Use the Law Library Catalog
2. Search
3. Sort by Date—newest
Browsing Topics: LexisAdvance

1. Find a topic for **Trade dress protection**
2. Retrieve the summary report
3. Is this summary useful?
4. Find the most recent 9th Circuit Court of Appeals opinion citing Duraco
Browsing Practice Areas: Westlaw

1. Click on “Practice Areas”
2. Where is trademark law?
3. Find the most recent case involving Louboutin
Advanced Searching

Issue: Patent infringement involving computers

2. Advanced
3. Synonyms
4. Term frequency
5. What is the most cited 9th Circuit opinion?
Need help?

Ask a Reference Librarian!
Visit the Reference Office in the Library
Telephone the Reference Desk: (206)543-6794
Schedule an individual appointment:

http://tiny.cc/askGallagher

or

Click here:

http://lib.law.washington.edu/questions.html