

Legal Research Scavenger Hunt Workbook

NORTH CENTRAL REGION

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CAROLINA ACADEMIC PRESS
Durham, North Carolina

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Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Noyes, Dianna L.

Legal research scavenger hunt workbook : North Central Region / Dianna L. Noyes and Terri L. Lindfors.
p. cm.

Includes index.

ISBN 978-1-59460-747-9 (alk. paper)

1. Legal research--Middle West--Miscellanea. 2. Legal research--Middle West--Handbooks, manuals, etc. I. Lindfors, Terri L. II. Title.

KF240.N6968 2009

340.072'077--dc22

2009036285

CAROLINA ACADEMIC PRESS
700 Kent Street
Durham, North Carolina 27701
Telephone (919) 489-7486
Fax (919) 493-5668
www.cap-press.com

Printed in the United States of America

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Introduction

Legal Research Scavenger Hunt Workbook: North Central Region was created to be a companion to the many research books available to paralegal students. The book contains a series of exercises that increase the students' knowledge of the types of resources, their research skills, and their capabilities. Before beginning the assignments in the successive chapters, please review the current research text or the text that was used previously in a basic research course. It is important that students have a foundation on which to build in these assignments.

Chapters One through Ten contain exercises from the many different types of legal resources with which students must be familiar to work in the legal environment. The chapters contain one or more assignments regarding various research topics and resources so that the instructor can tailor the course to the course's primary text, style, format, and/or syllabus. Most of these exercises require the student to use the library for locating the resources required so they can answer the questions in each section. This workbook is written so that the student will have more "hands-on" time with the written legal works. The instructor will provide specifics as to which assignments may be completed using legal proprietary search engines and which must be done by visiting the library.

Chapters Six and Nine provide the student with specific exercises for various types of online research, both free and proprietary.

Chapter Eleven contains five legal memoranda assignments. The students will prepare one or more, at the direction of the instructor. These assignments require the students to use the knowledge and skills acquired in completing the exercises in the previous chapters as well as in the primary textbook. Students will prepare the memoranda according to the scenarios provided in the chapter, which are based on different types of law. They will need to research the numerous issues in each scenario and then write a memorandum to the attorney (instructor). The memorandum must contain citations for the case law, statutes, rules, and/or regulations that the student has located regarding the various legal issues and topics.

Chapter Twelve contains state specific modules. This chapter consists of a series of exercises for state statutes, codes, regulations, court rules, and case law by region. This workbook contains the North Central region as identified by the American Association for Paralegal Education. The region contains Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, Wisconsin.

The citations provided are consistent with *Bluebook* style. The instructor will advise the students which citation style manual should be used for this workbook so that it is consistent with the requirements of the school, the local court rule, and/or the primary textbook used by the student.

Students, I hope you enjoy the assignments and exercises in this workbook. They are meant to challenge, hone your research skills, and assist you in becoming more familiar with the numerous legal resources and how to use them efficiently and effectively.

About the Series

This regional workbook series provides practical assignments on both the federal and state levels to complement most research books on the market. Each workbook begins with a federal section with exercises that give students practice researching cases, statutes, regulations, and procedures. The second part of each workbook will feature state-specific exercises for that region. For example, the South Central Region includes state-specific exercises for Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas. State exercises include those on statutes, codes, regulations, court rules, and case law for each state.

The regional divisions correspond with the states represented by AAFPE regions — North Central, Pacific, South Central, Northeast and Southeast.