

Iowa
Legal Research

CAROLINA ACADEMIC PRESS
LEGAL RESEARCH SERIES

Suzanne E. Rowe, Series Editor



- Arizona, Second Edition — Tamara S. Herrera
- Arkansas, Second Edition — Coleen M. Barger, Cheryl L. Reinhart & Cathy L. Underwood
- California, Third Edition — Aimee Dudovitz, Hether C. Macfarlane & Suzanne E. Rowe
- Colorado — Robert Michael Linz
- Connecticut — Jessica G. Hynes
- Federal, Second Edition — Mary Garvey Algero, Spencer L. Simons, Suzanne E. Rowe, Scott Childs & Sarah E. Ricks
- Florida, Fourth Edition — Barbara J. Busharis, Jennifer LaVia & Suzanne E. Rowe
- Georgia — Nancy P. Johnson, Elizabeth G. Adelman & Nancy J. Adams
- Idaho, Second Edition — Tenielle Fordyce-Ruff & Kristina J. Running
- Illinois, Second Edition — Mark E. Wojcik
- Iowa, Second Edition — John D. Edwards, Karen L. Wallace & Melissa H. Weresh
- Kansas — Joseph A. Custer & Christopher L. Steadham
- Kentucky — William A. Hilyerd, Kurt X. Metzmeier & David J. Ensign
- Louisiana, Second Edition — Mary Garvey Algero
- Massachusetts, Second Edition — E. Joan Blum & Shaun B. Spencer
- Michigan, Third Edition — Cristina D. Lockwood & Pamela Lysaght
- Minnesota — Suzanne Thorpe
- Mississippi — Kristy L. Gilliland
- Missouri, Third Edition — Wanda M. Temm & Julie M. Cheslik
- New York, Third Edition — Elizabeth G. Adelman, Theodora Belniak
Courtney L. Selby & Brian Detweiler
- North Carolina, Second Edition — Scott Childs & Sara Sampson
- North Dakota — Anne Mullins & Tammy Pettinato
- Ohio, Second Edition — Sara Sampson, Katherine L. Hall
& Carolyn Broering-Jacobs
- Oklahoma — Darin K. Fox, Darla W. Jackson & Courtney L. Selby
- Oregon, Third Edition Revised Printing — Suzanne E. Rowe
- Pennsylvania — Barbara J. Busharis & Bonny L. Tavares
- Tennessee, Second Edition — Scott Childs, Sibyl Marshall & Carol McCrehan Parker
- Texas, Second Edition — Spencer L. Simons
- Washington, Second Edition — Julie Heintz-Cho, Tom Cobb
& Mary A. Hotchkiss
- West Virginia — Hollee Schwartz Temple
- Wisconsin — Patricia Cervenka & Leslie Behroozi
- Wyoming, Second Edition — Debora A. Person & Tawnya K. Plumb



Iowa Legal Research

Second Edition

John D. Edwards
Karen L. Wallace
Melissa H. Weresh

Suzanne E. Rowe, Series Editor



CAROLINA ACADEMIC PRESS

Durham, North Carolina

Copyright © 2016
Carolina Academic Press, LLC
All Rights Reserved

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Names: Edwards, John (John Duncan), 1953- author. | Wallace, Karen L., author. | Weresh, Melissa H., author.

Title: Iowa legal research / John D. Edwards, Karen L. Wallace, and Melissa H. Weresh.

Description: Second Edition. | Durham, NC : Carolina Academic Press, [2016] |

Series: Legal Research Series | Includes bibliographical references and index.

Identifiers: LCCN 2016027274 | ISBN 9781611638837 (alk. paper)

Subjects: LCSH: Legal research--Iowa.

Classification: LCC KFI4275 .I587 2016 | DDC 340.072/0777--dc23

LC record available at <https://lccn.loc.gov/2016027274>

Carolina Academic Press, LLC
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

Summary of Contents

List of Tables and Figures	xvii
Series Note	xxiii
Foreword	xxv
Preface and Acknowledgments	xxvii
Chapter 1 · The Research Process and Legal Analysis	3
Chapter 2 · Legal Research Sources and Techniques	19
Chapter 3 · Secondary Sources	53
Chapter 4 · The Constitution	85
Chapter 5 · Judicial Opinions, Reporters, and Digests	99
Chapter 6 · Statutes, Court Rules, and Ordinances	133
Chapter 7 · Legislative History	159
Chapter 8 · Administrative Law	189
Chapter 9 · Updating with Citators	213
Chapter 10 · Practice Aids	231

Chapter 11 · Legal Ethics	243
Chapter 12 · Research Strategies	257
Appendix · Legal Citations	271
About the Authors	279
Index	281

Contents

List of Tables and Figures	xvii
Series Note	xxiii
Foreword	xxv
Preface and Acknowledgments	xxvii
Chapter 1 • The Research Process and Legal Analysis	3
I. Introduction to Iowa Legal Research	3
II. The Intersection of Legal Research and Legal Analysis	3
III. Types and Sources of Legal Authority	5
IV. Court Systems	7
V. Overview of the Research Process	9
A. Ethical and Professional Considerations	9
B. Getting Started on a Research Project	10
1. Identify the Issues, Jurisdiction, and Scope of the Project	11
2. Gather Facts and Identify Preliminary Search Terms	12
3. Identify, Prioritize, and Consult Relevant Sources	13
4. Expand and Update Your Research	14
5. Make Sure Your Research Is Responsive to the Question(s) Presented	14
6. Determine When to Stop	15
C. Keeping an Efficient Research Trail	15
D. The Most Overlooked Research Resource in the Law Library	15

VI. Researching the Law — Organization of This Text	16
VII. Legal Research in Context	16
Chapter 2 · Legal Research Sources and Techniques	19
I. Introduction	19
II. Key Resources	19
A. Librarians and Library Catalogs	19
B. Government, Organization, and Educational Websites	22
C. Commercial Databases	24
III. Efficient and Effective Searching	26
A. Cost-Effective Searching	27
B. Commercial Database Considerations	28
IV. Overview of Commercial Database Searches	29
A. Introduction	29
B. Developing a Search Strategy	30
1. Searching with Natural Language	30
2. Searching with Terms and Connectors (Boolean)	31
3. Field and Segment Searches	32
4. Working with Search Results	34
C. Starting with a Citation	35
D. Topic Searches	35
V. Bloomberg Law	36
VI. Lexis	38
VII. Westlaw	39
VIII. Using Special Features and Techniques	41
IX. Print Search Techniques	44
A. Why Use Print?	44
B. Indexes	45
C. Tables of Contents	47
D. Understanding and Using Legal Citations	48
X. Updating	50
XI. Recording Legal Citations	51

Chapter 3 · Secondary Sources	53
I. Introduction	53
II. Types of Secondary Sources	54
A. Treatises and Other Books	54
1. Updating Treatises	56
2. Finding Relevant Treatises	56
B. Restatements of the Law	57
C. Uniform Laws and Model Codes	59
D. Legal Periodicals	62
1. Introduction	62
2. Types of Legal Periodicals and Their Use	63
3. Finding Articles by Topic: Indexes and Full-Text Databases	63
4. Finding an Article When You Already Have a Citation	67
5. Locating Recent and Forthcoming Articles	69
E. Looseleaf Services and Portfolios	69
1. Using Looseleaf Services	70
2. Using Portfolios	71
F. <i>American Law Reports</i>	72
G. Legal Dictionaries	74
H. Legal Encyclopedias	75
1. Use the Index to Find Encyclopedia Articles	76
2. Using the Topic Outline to Find Encyclopedia Articles	80
3. Conducting a Keyword Search to Find Encyclopedia Articles	81
I. Research Guides	81
1. Finding Guides Using Web Search Engines	83
2. Finding Guides Using Law Library Catalogs	83
3. Finding Guides Using Law Journal Article Indexes	84
Chapter 4 · The Constitution	85
I. Introduction	85
II. Historical Context and Constitution of 1857	86
III. Constitutional Amendments	87
IV. Interpreting the Iowa Constitution	88
V. Researching the Iowa Constitution	90
A. Print Sources for the Iowa Constitution	90

1. <i>Iowa Code Annotated</i>	90
2. <i>Code of Iowa</i>	95
B. Free Online Sources of the Iowa Constitution	95
C. The Iowa Constitution in Westlaw, Lexis, and Bloomberg Law	95
1. Finding Relevant Provisions	95
2. Using a Citator	96
VI. United States Constitution	97
Chapter 5 · Judicial Opinions, Reporters, and Digests	99
I. Introduction	99
II. Court Systems	100
A. Iowa Courts	100
1. Iowa District Courts	100
2. Iowa Court of Appeals	101
3. Iowa Supreme Court	101
B. Federal Courts	102
C. Courts of Other States	103
III. Published Case Law	103
A. Slip Opinions	104
B. Advance Sheets	104
C. Reporters	105
1. Features of a Reported Case	107
2. Other Features of a West Reporter	111
D. Reporters for Iowa Cases	111
E. Other Sources for Finding Iowa Cases	112
F. Reporters for Federal Cases	112
1. United States District Courts Cases	114
2. United States Court of Appeals Cases	114
3. United States Supreme Court Cases	116
IV. Finding Cases	117
A. Digest/Topic Analysis Concepts	117
1. Subject Classification	117
2. Headnotes	118
3. Print Digests	120
B. Finding Cases Using a Digest/Topical Analysis Approach	120
1. Beginning with a Relevant Case	122

2. Browsing the Classification System	123
3. Searching the Classification System	125
4. Using Words and Phrases	126
C. Keyword Searching	129
V. Updating Your Research	131
VI. Reading and Analyzing Cases	131
Chapter 6 · Statutes, Court Rules, and Ordinances	133
I. Introduction	133
II. Session Laws and Codification	133
III. Iowa Statutory Publications	134
A. Iowa Slip Laws	135
B. Iowa Session Laws	135
C. Iowa Statutes	135
IV. Iowa Statutory Research	140
A. In Print	140
B. Online	144
C. Updating Your Research	146
V. Interpreting Statutes	147
VI. Statutes of Other States	148
VII. Federal Statutes	149
A. Slip Laws	149
B. Session Laws	150
C. Codified Statutes	150
VIII. Court Rules	154
A. Iowa Court Rules	154
B. Federal Court Rules	155
IX. Local Ordinances	155
A. Finding Local Ordinances	157
B. Updating Ordinances	157
Chapter 7 · Legislative History	159
I. Introduction	159

II.	Iowa Legislative Process	159
III.	Iowa Legislative History Research	162
	A. Introduction to Iowa Legislative History Research	162
	B. Sources of Iowa Legislative History	163
	1. Overview	163
	2. Compiled Legislative History: Annotated Codes and Index to Legal Periodicals	164
	3. Code Section History	165
	4. Session Laws	167
	5. Bill Books	168
	a. Bill Versions	168
	b. Bill Explanations	169
	c. Fiscal Notes	170
	d. Sources of Bill Books and Older Bill Text	170
	e. Navigating Bill Books	171
	6. General Assembly Actions: House and Senate Journals	173
	7. Committee Minutes	175
	8. Reports	175
	9. Bill Drafting Files	177
	10. Newspaper Articles	177
IV.	Iowa Bill Tracking	178
	A. Alert Services	179
	B. Search Options	179
	C. Post-Session Publications	180
V.	Federal Legislative Research	180
	A. Federal Legislative Process	180
	B. Federal Legislative History	181
	1. Federal Legislative Documents and Their Uses	181
	2. Compiled Legislative History	181
	3. Finding Legislative Documents	183
	C. Federal Bill Tracking	184
	Appendix: Iowa Legislative History Excerpts	185
	Chapter 8 • Administrative Law	189
I.	Introduction	189
II.	Administrative Agencies	190

III. Administrative Rules	190
IV. Iowa Administrative Rules	191
A. Finding Iowa Rules	191
1. <i>Iowa Administrative Code</i>	192
2. <i>Iowa Administrative Bulletin</i>	194
B. Researching Iowa Rules	195
1. Starting with a <i>Code of Iowa</i> Section	195
2. Electronically Searching the IAC or IAB Full Text	196
3. Using the <i>Iowa Administrative Code</i> Index	200
C. Currentness of Iowa Rules	200
V. Iowa Attorney General Opinions	201
VI. Federal Regulations	201
A. Finding Federal Regulations	202
1. <i>Code of Federal Regulations</i>	203
2. <i>Federal Register</i>	205
B. Researching Federal Regulations	205
C. Updating Federal Regulations	207
1. Online	207
2. In Print	208
VII. Other Documents from the Executive Branch	209
A. Decisions of Agencies	209
1. Iowa	209
2. Federal	209
B. Executive Orders and Proclamations	210
1. Iowa	210
2. Federal	210
Chapter 9 · Updating with Citators	213
I. Introduction	213
II. Purposes of Updating	213
A. Ethical and Professional Considerations	214
B. Practical Considerations	215
III. Updating: An Overview	215
A. Using Shepard's on Lexis	216
1. Accessing the Citator	216

2. Selecting a Citation Category	216
3. Analyzing the Citing Symbols and Sorting the Search Results	219
4. Reading and Analyzing the Citing References	221
B. Using KeyCite on Westlaw	221
1. Accessing the Citator	221
2. Selecting a Citation Category	221
3. Analyzing the Citing Symbols and Sorting the Search Results	222
4. Reading and Analyzing the Citing References	224
C. Using BCite on Bloomberg Law	225
D. Using Authority Check on Fastcase	227
E. Using “Cited By” on Google Scholar	228
F. Caution: Additional Limitations on the Use of Citators to Update	229
Chapter 10 • Practice Aids	231
I. Practice Aids: Types and Use	231
II. Finding Practice Aids	231
III. Bar Manuals and Practice Guides	232
A. Introduction to Bar Manuals and Practice Guides	232
B. Iowa Manuals and Practice Guides	232
C. Federal and General Practice Guides	234
IV. Legal Forms and Sample Documents	235
A. Introduction to Form Books	235
B. Iowa-Specific Form Books and Electronic Resources	236
C. Other Form Books and Electronic Resources	238
D. Other Sample Materials	239
V. Continuing Legal Education (CLE) Publications	240
A. Introduction to CLE Materials	240
B. Iowa-Specific CLE Resources	241
C. Other CLE Resources	241
VI. Jury Instructions	241
A. Introduction to Jury Instructions	241
B. Iowa-Specific Instructions	242
C. Other Instructions	242

Chapter 11 • Legal Ethics	243
I. Introduction to Legal Ethics Research	243
II. Regulating the Conduct of Attorneys— An Overview	244
A. Sources of Regulation	244
1. ABA Model Code and Model Rules	244
2. Legal Ethics Opinions	245
3. Other Sources of Law Relating to Attorney Ethics	246
B. State Regulation of Attorney Conduct	246
C. Regulation of Judicial Conduct	247
III. The Process of Legal Ethics Research	247
A. Overview	247
B. Iowa Rules of Professional Conduct	247
C. Iowa Ethics Opinions	250
1. Iowa Ethics Opinions	250
2. Disciplinary Actions	252
D. American Bar Association Materials	253
1. Model Rules of Professional Conduct	253
2. Model Code of Professional Responsibility	253
3. ABA Ethics Opinions	254
E. Materials from Other States	255
F. Secondary Sources for Legal Ethics Research	255
Chapter 12 • Research Strategies	257
I. Introduction	257
II. Developing and Implementing a Research Strategy	258
A. Reflect on the Research Process	258
B. Getting Started	258
C. Structuring a Plan	261
D. Implementing Your Plan	261
1. Assess and Update	261
2. Organize and Document	261
3. Utilize Research Trails	262
E. Working with Particular Sources	263
1. Secondary Authorities	263
2. Primary Authorities	263
a. Taking Notes on Statutes	265

b. Taking Notes on Cases	265
F. Updating	266
III. Outlining Your Analysis	266
IV. When to Stop Researching	269
Appendix • Legal Citations	271
I. Introduction	271
II. The <i>Bluebook</i>	272
III. <i>ALWD Guide</i>	273
IV. Legal Citation in Iowa	274
A. Introduction	274
B. Cases	275
C. Statutes	276
D. Constitutions	276
E. Administrative Regulations	276
F. Books and Periodicals	277
About the Authors	279
Index	281

List of Tables and Figures

Tables

Table 1-1. Examples of Authority in Iowa Research	7
Table 1-2. Basic Research Process	11
Table 1-3. Generating Research Terms	13
Table 2-1. Iowa Law Library Catalogs	21
Table 2-2. Commonly Used Terms and Connectors	33
Table 3-1. Secondary Source Overview	55
Table 3-2. Additional Sources for Uniform/Model Law Information	62
Table 3-3. Resources for Locating Recent and Forthcoming Articles	69
Table 3-4. Selected Legal Dictionaries	75
Table 3-5. Selected Internet Sources for Legal Research Guides	83
Table 4-1. Articles of the Iowa Constitution	86
Table 4-2. Iowa Bill of Rights and Corresponding U.S. Constitutional Provisions	91
Table 4-3. Selected Websites Providing Access to the U.S. Constitution	97
Table 5-1. West's National Reporter System	106
Table 5-2. Reporters for Federal Court Cases	113
Table 5-3. Selected List of Free Internet Sources Containing Court of Appeals and District Court Decisions	115

Table 5-4. Selected List of Free Internet Sources of Supreme Court Opinions	116
Table 5-5. West Digest System	121
Table 5-6. Outline for Digest Research with the Descriptive-Word Index	126
Table 6-1. Research Strategy for Statutory Research	134
Table 6-2. Titles in the <i>Code of Iowa</i>	136
Table 6-3. Iowa Legislature General Assembly Online Resources for Iowa Statutes	141
Table 6-4. Free Online Resources for Federal Statutes	153
Table 6-5. Free Online Resources for Iowa Court Rules and Iowa-Related Federal Courts	156
Table 7-1. General Process for Researching Iowa Legislative History	164
Table 7-2. Iowa Bill Book Color Coding	169
Table 8-1. Example from the Table of Contents of the <i>Iowa Administrative Code</i>	193
Table 8-2. Researching Federal Regulations	206
Table 8-3. Updating a CFR Citation Using FDsys	208
Table 8-4. Partial List of Iowa Agency Decisions Available on the Web	209
Table 10-1. Iowa State Bar Association Manuals	233
Table 10-2. Topics in West's Iowa Practice Series	234
Table 10-3. Selected Internet Sources for Iowa Forms	239
Table 11-1. Basic Process for Legal Ethics Research	248
Table 12-1. Sample Analysis Chart— Issue and Statute	267
Table 12-1. Sample Analysis Chart, <i>continued</i> —Cases	268
Table A-1. Purposes of Legal Citation	272

Figures

Figure 2-1. Screenshot of Drake Law Library Catalog: Results List	22
Figure 2-2. Screenshot of Drake Law Library Catalog Record	23
Figure 2-3. Screenshot of Bloomberg Law Search & Browse	37
Figure 2-4. Screenshot of Lexis Advance® Browse	39
Figure 2-5. Screenshot of Westlaw Browse	40
Figure 2-6. Westlaw Screenshot Showing Star Pagination	43
Figure 2-7. Excerpt from <i>Iowa Practice General Index</i>	46
Figure 2-8. Excerpt from <i>Iowa Practice: Criminal Law</i>	48
Figure 2-9. Excerpt from <i>Iowa Practice: Criminal Law Index</i>	49
Figure 3-1. Screenshot of Westlaw Law Reviews & Journals Search Results	67
Figure 3-2. Screenshot of Drake Law Library Journal Finder Search Results	68
Figure 3-3. ALR Outline Excerpt	74
Figure 3-4. Excerpt from AmJur	77
Figure 3-5. Excerpts from AmJur General Index	78
Figure 3-6. Excerpt from AmJur Table of Abbreviations	79
Figure 4-1. Excerpt of Iowa Constitution from <i>Iowa Code Annotated v. 1</i>	93
Figure 4-2. Sample Case Annotation from ICA	94
Figure 5-1. Case Excerpt from <i>North Western Reporter 2d</i>	108
Figure 5-2. Case Excerpt from Westlaw	110
Figure 5-3. Example of the Analysis Outline from the <i>North Western Digest</i>	119
Figure 5-4. Example from the <i>North Western Digest 2d</i>	124
Figure 5-5. <i>Descriptive-Word Index</i> Excerpt from <i>North Western Digest 2d</i>	127
Figure 5-6. Example from Words and Phrases	128

Figure 6-1. <i>Code of Iowa</i> Example	138
Figure 6-2. <i>Iowa Code Annotated</i> Example	139
Figure 6-3. Sample from <i>Iowa Code Annotated</i> Index	143
Figure 6-4. Sample of <i>United States Code</i> Index	151
Figure 6-5. Sample Entry in <i>United States Code</i>	152
Figure 7-1. Iowa Legislative Process Flowchart	161
Figure 7-2. Iowa Code § 4.6	163
Figure 7-3. Excerpt from <i>Code of Iowa</i> History with Explanation	166
Figure 7-A. Screenshot of Old Version of Iowa Code § 598.35 on Westlaw	185
Figure 7-B. Sample <i>Acts and Joint Resolutions of the General Assembly</i>	186
Figure 7-C. Screenshots Excerpting S.F. 500 (65 G.A.)	186
Figure 8-1. Advanced Search Form in the <i>Iowa Administrative Code</i>	198
Figure 8-2. Advanced Search Results in the <i>Iowa Administrative Code</i>	199
Figure 8-3. Example from the <i>Iowa Administrative Code</i>	199
Figure 8-4. Example from the <i>Code of Federal Regulations</i>	204
Figure 9-1. <i>Shepard's</i> ® Appellate History Result for <i>Santi v. Santi</i>	217
Figure 9-2. <i>Shepard's</i> ® Appellate History Results for <i>Cuno v. DaimlerChrysler, Inc.</i>	217
Figure 9-3. <i>Shepard's</i> ® Citing Decisions Results for <i>Santi v. Santi</i>	218
Figure 9-4. <i>Shepard's</i> ® Citing Decisions Results Narrowed by “Unconstitutional by”	219
Figure 9-5. KeyCite Citing References for <i>Santi v. Santi</i>	222
Figure 9-6. KeyCite History Results for Iowa Code § 598.35 (1999)	223
Figure 9-7. Headnote KeyCite Option in Document View	224
Figure 9-8. BCite Case Analysis for <i>Santi v. Santi</i> , 633 N.W.2d 312 (Iowa 2001)	225

Figure 9-9. BCite Citing Documents for <i>Santi v. Santi</i> , 633 N.W.2d 312 (Iowa 2001)	226
Figure 9-10. Case Analysis and Table of Authorities Indicators for BCite	227
Figure 10-1. Sample Forms	236

Series Note

The Legal Research Series published by Carolina Academic Press includes titles from states around the country as well as a separate text on federal legal research. The goal of each book is to provide law students, practitioners, paralegals, college students, laypeople, and librarians with the essential elements of legal research in each jurisdiction. Unlike more bibliographic texts, the Legal Research Series books seek to explain concisely both the sources of state law research and the process for conducting legal research effectively.

Foreword

Chief Justice Mark S. Cady
Iowa Supreme Court

Lawyers and law students endure years of formal education in a wide variety of subjects and are institutionally trained in the art of critical analysis and precise communication. These tools are refined for years following graduation, and they are tested outside the classroom with issues affecting citizens of our state every day. Of course, these trials in research can be motivated to excellence by the desire to more efficiently serve clients in order to make a living, and every lawyer in Iowa has an obligation to the client, the courts, and the profession to uphold the established standards of service to society. But Iowa lawyers have long been committed to providing legal service above and beyond the call of duty. When the rule of law is critically examined in each new factual circumstance, well-trained servants of the law can also be agents of change in our laws because they have a new understanding of the world in which we live. This ability to provide legal counsel that constantly challenges established principles is our strength as a community. It is only through a spirited commitment to resolving the legal issues presented in each case that our law develops over time. As advocates for this standard of practicing law, it is essential that the most effective method of performing legal research be the cornerstone of our practice.

Because effective legal research is so fundamental, a lawyer's education is not complete without it. For over one hundred years, the Iowa legal community has had the benefit of the Drake University Law School's legal research program, which has been at the forefront of both technological and methodological innovations. True to their reputations as dedicated legal research educators, Dean John Edwards and Professors Karen Wallace and Melissa Weresh have tirelessly worked to produce this invaluable guide for law students and Iowa lawyers. *Iowa Legal Research* was the first comprehensive re-

search book that synthesized various sources of Iowa law with the process necessary to isolate a research path among those sources and follow it confidently to its conclusion. The second edition follows that foundation and highlights the expanded electronic options researchers have today in addition to print. I am honored to have the opportunity to introduce such an exemplary piece of the work done to advance Iowa legal research.

The book begins where all legal practice should: by keeping the client's problem central to the research process. As a result, the researcher's understanding of the issue will sharpen as the research evolves. Effective research does not always unveil a definitive answer to the problem that is presented like a treasure at the end of a rainbow; instead, effective research typically creates more need for research. This book identifies that the sustainable practice of legal research starts with the recognition that research and analysis are intertwined and their development is codependent. As the authors point out, "[l]egal research cannot be divorced from legal analysis." Yet, under the direction of this Iowa-specific guide, researchers in Iowa can begin the intricate process of research and analysis without first having to spend countless hours acquainting or reacquainting themselves with methods for finding the applicable sources of law.

The authors have left no practical stone unturned. Consistent with the practice in most other industries today, much of Iowans' legal work is done electronically. Researchers unfamiliar with local web hosts need not spend time attempting to assess the credibility of these sources on their own; this book includes reputable Iowa-specific online databases and websites for lawyers and law students looking for Iowa-specific practice aides at little or no charge. Additionally, this book presents information about researching legal ethics opinions and disciplinary actions in Iowa. Sources of law related to professional regulation can be particularly difficult to locate as a new attorney, but this thorough guide lightens the burden of the search considerably.

The legal community is enriched by the publication of this book, which gives law students, practitioners, and anyone seeking the sources of Iowa law a firm foundational tool for any research task that lies before them.

Preface and Acknowledgments

Much has changed in the field of legal research since the publication of the first edition of *Iowa Legal Research* in 2011. This edition incorporates those changes to help the reader better understand the nature of legal research today. Perhaps the most significant trend has been the expansion of online resources. In particular, governmental websites increasingly provide a wealth of digital information. These sites, as well as subscription research services, constantly evolve. Keeping up with this evolution can be a challenge, and this edition reflects several changes that occurred as this book was in final production.

The U.S. Government Publishing Office (GPO) released the beta version of govinfo.gov with an indication that it would be replacing FDsys.gov. In the text you may see references to FDsys, but we have also provided select references to govinfo.gov where information was available about the new site. Westlaw eliminated Westlaw Classic and released WestlawNext. During production of the current edition Westlaw announced that WestlawNext was being renamed Thomson Reuters Westlaw. This edition therefore refers to the Thomson Reuters product as Westlaw, the name with which most users are familiar. Lexis announced that it was discontinuing Lexis.com, leaving Lexis Advance as its premier product. This text calls that product Lexis, consistent with its well-known moniker. Lexis, Lexis Advance, and Shepard's are now part of RELX Inc., formerly known as Reed Elsevier Inc. The transition from Thomas.gov to Congress.gov continues, and this edition reflects that process; at some point the few remaining Thomas references in this book may lead to a site no longer available.

The screen shots and descriptions of governmental and other websites are current as of the manuscript completion date. Based on the number of upgrades in just the past few years, you can expect that sites may differ somewhat from what is described or illustrated here. Should that occur, the authors are confident that you will be able to adapt, successfully navigating the up-

dated site and applying the general research techniques and processes suggested throughout the book.

This edition would not have been possible without the support from the exceptional personnel at Drake University Law School. Thanks to the assistance from research assistants, librarians, library staff, and law school support personnel, our job was made easier. Special thanks goes to administrative assistant Kristi Longtin for her meticulous review of the page proofs, to research assistant Kelli Orton for her keen eye in reviewing the draft and her assistance with the compilation of the index, and to administrative assistant Amy Cutler for her work on copyright permissions. We also wish to thank series editor Suzanne Rowe, who has been extraordinarily helpful throughout the work on both editions.