

Guide to Researching White Collar Crime

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We will discuss:

- Sources and methods for conducting research of secondary sources, including treatises from Law Library and Graduate Library, and law review articles
- Sources and methods for conducting research on primary sources, including case law and statutes



We will discuss:

- How to find other Federal Government documents, such as DOJ guidelines, SEC decisions, independent counsel reports, and legislative history materials
- Sources covering philosophical/theoretical approaches



Secondary Source Research

- Do not reinvent the wheel – use books, law reviews, etc. to learn from and cite to the legal experts
- Good way to obtain citations to relevant case law, statutes, regulations, etc.



Secondary Source Research

- Books in the Law Library – Always start with **the MLaw Catalog**:
<http://umil.iil.com/>
 - ◆ Keywords/Table of Contents
 - ☞ E.g., Insider Trading; Tax Fraud; Obstruction of Justice, RICO
 - ◆ Subject Headings
 - ☞ E.g., White Collar Crime – United States



Secondary Source Research

- Books in other libraries on campus, such as Graduate Library – **Mirlyn** covers all libraries *except* Law and Business:

<http://mirlyn.lib.umich.edu/>

- ◆ Keyword
- ◆ Covers legal aspects and non-legal aspects, such as moral/ethic issues



Secondary Source Research

- Law Reviews/Journals – See **Law Library's Electronic Resource List:**

<http://www.law.umich.edu/library/es/ereslist/ereslistindex.htm>

- ◆ Full- text:

- ☞ *Lexis/Westlaw*

- ☞ *HeinOnline*

- ☞ *JSTOR*



Secondary Source Research

◆ Indexes:

- *Criminal Justice Abstracts*
- *Index to Legal Periodicals*
(current and retrospective)
- *Index to Foreign Periodicals*
- *Legal Trac*



Primary Source Research & Related Documents

- Case law: *Lexis & Westlaw*
- U.S. Records & Briefs – cases pending before the US Supreme Court:
 - ◆ *Lexis & Westlaw*
 - ◆ Microfiche (Micro-10 S1): See: <http://www.law.umich.edu/library/refres/howdoi/pdfs/records.pdf> or Ref Desk for help



Primary Source Research & Related Documents

- Statutes: *United States Code Annotated* (USCA) – paper copy in Ref Coll & Fed Coll
- U.S. Federal Legislative History
 - ◆ May want to explore legislative intent/historical research on a law(s)



Primary Source Research & Related Documents

- ◆ Start with “history” section of each law in USCA to find relevant information (i.e., public law numbers relating to enactment and amendments)
- ◆ Public Laws appear in paper in *U.S. Statutes at Large* (STAT), found in Fed Coll



Primary Source Research & Related Documents

- ◆ For historical congressional documents (such as bills, reports, hearings, committee prints, etc.) use:
 - ➔ LexisNexis Congressional (<http://web.lexis-nexis.com/congcomp/>) to access **CIS Index** online; OR
 - ➔ Paper **CIS Index** in Ref Coll (see Ref Desk for help)



Primary Source Research & Related Documents

- For further explanation, see online ***U.S. Legislative History Research Guide***:

<http://www.law.umich.edu/library/refres/resguides/pdfs/uslegmats.pdf>



Other Government Documents

- SEC Decisions – e.g., Insider Trading
 - ◆ In paper: *Decisions and reports* (US S44 E9d)
 - ◆ Online:
<http://www.sec.gov/litigation/opinions.shtml>



Other Government Documents

- DOJ/U.S. Attorney General Guidelines – e.g., Prosecutorial process
 - ◆ In paper: Conduct “Author” search in MLaw for “United States Department of Justice Office of the Attorney General”
 - ◆ Online:
<http://www.usdoj.gov/olp/>



Other Government Documents

- Independent Counsel Reports - e.g., Clinton Impeachment case
 - ◆ In paper: Conduct “Subject” searches in MLaw
 - ☞ Special prosecutors -- United States;
 - ☞ Governmental investigations -- United States;
 - ☞ Corruption investigation -- United States;



Other Government Documents

☞ [United States. Office of Independent Counsel -- History](#)

◆ Online:

<http://icreport.access.gpo.gov/>



Philosophical Approach

- May want to explore the theory behind white collar crime, including moral and ethical issues
- *Philosopher's Index* (online) for books and articles:
<http://www.lib.umich.edu/eresources/user.php?about=627&q=char%3DP>
- **Mirlyn** for books:
<http://mirlyn.lib.umich.edu/>



Comparative Approach

- May want to compare U.S. law to laws of a foreign jurisdiction(s) or an international organization/supranational union, such as European Union (EU)
- Selected U.S. Laws with an international scope:
 - ◆ Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA)



Comparative Approach

- ◆ International Anti-bribery and Fair Competition Act
- ◆ International Anti-corruption and Good Governance Act of 2000



U.S. Related Websites

- **National White Collar Crime Center (NWCCC):**
<http://www.nw3c.org>
- **U.S. Securities & Exchange Commission(SEC) Enforcement Division:**
<http://www.sec.gov/divisions/enforce.shtml>



U.S. Related Websites

- **Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)(Library & Reference Section contains reports on white collar crime):**

<http://www.fbi.gov>

- **Government Accountability Project:**

<http://www.whistleblower.org>



Finals Tips

- Keep a research log!
- Be sure to properly cite your sources – do not plagiarize!
- Stop by the Reference Desk for further help:
 - ◆ Staffed 9am-midnight, 7 days/week
 - ◆ Librarians available Mon-Wed, 10-6pm; Thur-Fri, 10-5pm, and Sunday, 2-6pm

