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ADVANCED SEARCH GUIDE

Introduction

You can enter search queries in the universal search bar at the top of the site:

A screenshot of the universal search bar. It contains the text "News, cases, companies, firms" and a blue search button with a magnifying glass icon. To the right of the search bar is a link labeled "Advanced Search".

Using this search box will provide results across news, cases, companies, law firms, and agencies. To limit your search to one of those categories, click Advanced Search, and select the category of interest on the Advanced Search page.

Basic Searches

Searches on Law360 follow typical Boolean logic. That means you can search for keywords, groups of words, and exact phrases, along with AND, OR, and NOT operators.

Search a keyword:

A search bar containing the keyword "discrimination" and a blue search button with a magnifying glass icon.

Result: Anything that contains the term “discrimination.”

Search a group of words:

A search bar containing the phrase "(employment discrimination)" and a blue search button with a magnifying glass icon.

Result: Anything that contains both “employment” and “discrimination.”

Search an exact phrase:

A search bar containing the exact phrase “employment discrimination” and a blue search button with a magnifying glass icon.

Result: Anything that contains “employment discrimination” as a distinct phrase

The AND operator is included by default between two elements of a search query. For example, if you search (*employment discrimination*), the search engine assumes you want results that include both terms.


Otherwise, you should use OR or NOT operators to broaden or narrow the search:

A search bar containing the query "(civil OR criminal) NOT administrative" and a blue search button with a magnifying glass icon.

Result: Anything that contains “civil” or “criminal,” but not “administrative”

Advanced Searches

Some less common search functions include:

Result: Anything that contains “patent” and “infringement” within five words of one another

Result: Anything that contains a word that starts with “pa”

Result: Anything that contains a word that starts with “st” and ends with “al,” such as “statistical”

It’s also possible to build more complex search queries using Boolean logic. The main thing to remember is to organize terms and close phrases properly, or you’ll get a search error.

Result: Anything that contains “patents” and either “remote” or “drug”

Result: Anything that meets **all** of these criteria:

- contains either “remote” or “drug”
- contains “patent” and “infringe” within five words of one another
- contains a word that starts with either “trade” or “copy”
- does not contain “trade dress”


Search Fields

The search engine defaults to search all fields within news articles and cases, however you can also limit your search to specific fields by using a prefix to the search query:

Result: News articles with “SCOTUS” in the headline

If you want to use operators such as AND, OR, or NOT, you’ll need to include the terms in parentheses after the field name:

Result: News articles with “bias” or “conflict” in the headline

These are most useful when used through the Advanced Search tool, as part of a search specific to news or cases. You can also use them as part of a more complex search query:

News & Expert Analysis »

Cases »

Industries »

Companies »

Firms »

Government Agencies »

News & Expert Analysis

company:"NewCompany Inc." AND firm:(“Securities Firm” OR IP Firm”

[+] Advanced options

Search

Result: News articles that include the company NewCompany Inc. and either the law firm Securities Firm or IP Firm

News & Expert Analysis »

Cases »

Industries »

Companies »

Firms »

Government Agencies »

Cases

Search active federal civil cases and set up alerts on new case filings.

Q Search the full text of patent complaints.

plaintiff:(“NewCompany Inc.” AND OldCo) NOT counsel:“IP Firm”

*Covers civil federal cases with activity since January 2011.

Search

Result: Cases in which NewCompany Inc. and OldCo are both plaintiffs, and none of the parties is represented by IP Firm

Fields you can specify within each search engine include:

News fields

- headline
- summary
- body
- section
- company
- ticker_symbol
- sector
- industry
- firm
- agency

Case fields

- title
- subject_nature
- cause
- court
- state
- judge
- party
- plaintiff
- defendant
- counsel
- plaintiff_counsel
- defendant_counsel
- company
- ticker_symbol
- industry
- sector
- firm
- agency

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