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1-11-2022

Appendix D: Hunting and Gathering on the Legal Information Savannah

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Citation Information

Susan Nevelow Mart, Adam Litzler, and David Gunderman, Hunting and Gathering on the Legal Information Savannah, 114 Law Libr. J. X1 (2022).

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Appendix D

Problem Solving & Interface Comments

Database	Problem	Problem Solved ¹	interface ²	Starting Point	Notes
BLAW	1	1	2	secondary	Difficult to navigate, only two relevant secondary sources
	2	2		secondary	NL searches turned up 1000s results; need T&C, lack of secondary sources means may have missed crucial primary law
	3	1	2, 3	secondary	Points of law sidebar helpful; no CO real estate resources
	4	1	2	secondary	
	5	2	2	Case law	unable to find relevant secondary resources. Started coding in case law. would normally want to supplement primary law with analysis from secondary sources
	6	1	2	secondary	difficult to narrow results to an appropriate treatise; did find sources that would allow me to complete problem
	7	1	2	secondary	located one secondary source that gave me what I needed. This felt like a tricky site to navigate
	8	4	2	secondary	secondary sources not useful. Wasting time trying to understand cases without understanding of area of law; may be lack of familiarity

	9	2	2	secondary	dearth of secondary sources. Not sure I would ever feel my research was complete without authoritative and current secondary sources
	10	4	4	secondary	Could not find relevant material – frustrated with search options
	11	2	2	secondary	inability to find relevant secondary material If had not already solved problem in other databases, would not be confident in research. Did find the same cases.
	12	1	2	secondary	navigating secondary sources somewhat difficult. More resources than anticipated. Case search relatively accurate
FC	1	1	2	secondary	Bare bones, hard to narrow practice topic
	2	3	2	secondary	Organization of secondary sources by publisher not helpful. No IBLA decisions
	3	1	2	secondary	Hard to get to secondary
	4	4	1	statutes	Ease of use, had to rely on cases, no relevant secondary sources
	5	1	1	secondary	Searches generally relevant, not enough CO resources
	6	1	1	secondary	Useful resources, once familiar with interface, easier to use, lack of practice topics to filter
	7	1	2	secondary	Very different, harder to navigate from home page, resources useful and found results
	8	4	2	secondary	Secondary sources not coded, could not locate, coded start as statutes, gave up on completion, Interface intuitive;; may be lack of familiarity
	9	3	1	secondary	Only law reviews for secondary; DOE regulations not in database; statutes complex to search
	10	1	2	secondary	Word cloud helpful, complicated to get to secondary sources

	11	2	2	secondary	Lack of CO sources made it hard to solve; would not have been confident in results if hadn't solved in other databases
	12	1	2	secondary	Not many secondary sources, accuracy case law results mixed, but think found relevant cases
LX	1	1	1	secondary	multiple access points and secondary sources. not necessary to search as navigation tools made it easy to locate required obligations. sidebar useful to narrow results
	2	1	1	secondary	immediately found comprehensive overviews. because of comprehensiveness of materials, consider this most complete answer. in cases, sidebar material helpful
	3	1	1	secondary	found answer easily in Colorado specific materials
	4	4	1, 4	secondary	Lots of helpful secondary sources. Need terms and connectors to narrow searches; coder stated did not solve
	5				easier to answer general question than Colorado specific part, but was finally able to locate an appropriate treatise
	6	1	1	secondary	easy to locate secondary sources on topic. Sidebar and access points helped make it simple to solve this problem
	7	1	1	secondary	number of relevant resources- relevant and broad in scope. Did not have to search to solve this problem
	8	1	1	secondary	Search for statutes did not get to relevant cases; many cases same as found in WL, and many relevant

	9	1	1	secondary	Search for statutes did not get to relevant cases; many cases same as found in WL, ad many relevant
	10	1	1	secondary	No comments
	11	2	1	secondary	Lack of Colorado specific secondary sources on point
	12	1	1	secondary	Lots of helpful secondary sources. Need terms and connectors to narrow searches
WL	1	1	3	Secondary	Easy to locate secondary sources; sidebar helped; TOC made it easy to locate answer
	2	1	1	secondary	Likes fact that Westlaw converts statutory search terms to collect all variations
	3	1	1, 4	secondary	Natural language searches were not very effective
	4	1	1	secondary	Robust secondary sources, narrow easier with T&C; search results mostly accurate. natural language searches more accurate than expected
	5	1	1,4	secondary	natural language searches better than T&C - have other relevant results
	6	1	1	secondary	easy to navigate – interface helpful
	7	1	2	secondary	Kind of hard to locate secondary sources
	8	1	1	secondary	Helpful in terms of search results
	9	1	1	secondary	Lacking Lexis's education resources; CJS helpful
	10	1	1,4	secondary	Can't figure out "search within" tool on sidebar
	11	1	1, 3	secondary	Colorado Practice and Key Numbers helped. Sidebar material relevant
	12	4	1, 4	secondary	Natural language more accurate than anticipated

¹ 1 = solved

2 = almost solved – coder not certain because of lack of secondary sources

3 = almost solved – specific materials needed to be complete not available

4 = not solved

² 1 = ease of use

2 = hard to find secondary sources

3 = sidebar material noted as relevant

4 = other interface problems or comments on search