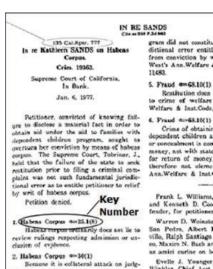
# CHAPTER 7

# § 7.3

# **Books: Primary Authority**

# The Law



mens, habeas corpus does not lie unless as-serted defect in proceedings constitutes fundamental jurisdictional or constitutional

State's failure to seek restitution prior to filing criminal complaint charging ac-cused with knowing failure to dictore ma-terial fact in order to obtain aid under aid to families with dependent children pro-

gram did not constitute fundamental juris-dictional error entitling accused to relief from conviction by writ of habeas corpus. West's Ann.Welfare & Inst.Code, 55 11482,

Restitution does not constitute defense to crime of welfare fraud. West's Ann. Welfare & Inst.Code, § 11482.

Crime of obtaining aid to families with dependent children aid by misrepresenting or encealment is completed with taking of money, not with state's subsequent domand for return of money, and such demand is therefore not element of crime. West's. Ann. Welfare & Inst Code, § 11482.

Frank L. Williams, Jr., Public Defender, and Kenneth D. Cook, Deputy Public De-fender, for potitioner.

Warren D. Weinstein, Daniel S. Brunner, San Pedro, Albert H. Meyerhoff, Marys-ville, Ralph Santiago Abascal San Francis-to, Maxim N. Bach and Bach & Bach, Chico, as amici curine on behalf of petitioner.

Evelle J. Younger, Atty. Gen., Jack R. Winkler, Chief Asst. Atty. Gen., Daniel J. Kremer, Asst. Atty. Gen., Alan S. Meth and Patricia D. Benke, Deputy Attys. Gen., for

3. Habeas Coopus 40:28

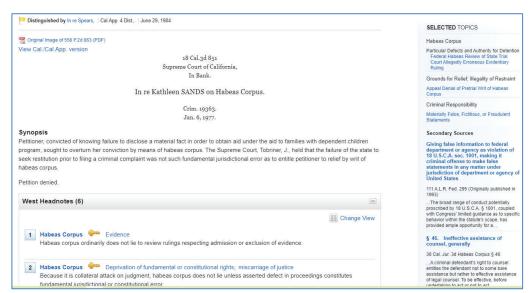
Concept of fundamental jurisdictional
corr, for purpose of writ of habeas corpus
is not strictly limited to cases in which trial
court whelly lacks jurisdiction over person
of defendant or subject matter of process
of defendant or subject matter of process
in the concept encompasses any ereor of
sefficient magnitude that trial court may
be said to have acted in excess of jurisdiction. violation of Welfare and Institutions Code section 11482, which protectles among other things the knowing failure to disclose a material fact in order to obtain aid under the aid to families with dependent children program (hereafter referred to as the AFDC program). Affirming the conviction, the appellate department of the superior court refuned to certify the case to the Court of Appeal for further appeal. Petitioner now seeks to overturn her conviction by means of habeas corpus. Primary authority is law. This section introduces the major law library publications that publish the law, and their online counterparts published on Westlaw and Lexis.

#### CASES: REPORTS AND REPORTERS

A case is a published court opinion. West is the major reporter of case law, although there are a few exceptions. The Reporter System is how West Publishing Company publishes cases from various regions of the country, in addition to the federal cases found in the Federal Reporter (first, second, and third series), the Federal Supplement (first and second series), and the Supreme Court Reporter. Other publications containing federal cases include the Federal Rules Decisions, the Federal Appendix, and subject matter reporters, such as the Bankruptcy Reporter and the Military Justice Reporter.

Lawyer's Cooperative Publishing Company also publishes cases, but only the U.S. Supreme Court Reports, Lawyer's Edition (first and second series). All the publications mentioned above are unofficial publications because they are published privately, not by the government.

Opinion from law library book



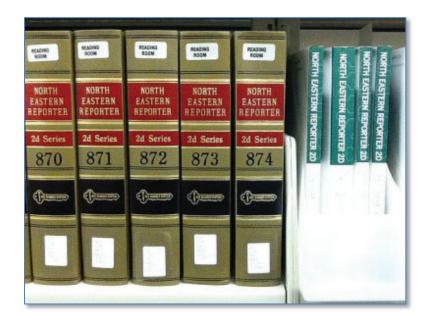
Opinion from online research site



Many states also publish court opinions. The *Washington Reports* are published by the state of Washington and are an official publication. Some states also publish appellate court opinions within their state. Michigan has the *Michigan Reports* for Michigan Supreme Court cases and the *Michigan Appellate Reports* for the Michigan Court of Appeals. Cases are law and are therefore primary authority.

#### **Advance Sheets**

This softbound pamphlet is published in advance of the hardbound publication to give the reader quick access. (See green and white pamphlets in the image.) Advance sheets are usually associated with reports and reporters and are placed at the end of the set. The advance sheet is discarded when the new hardbound book is published.



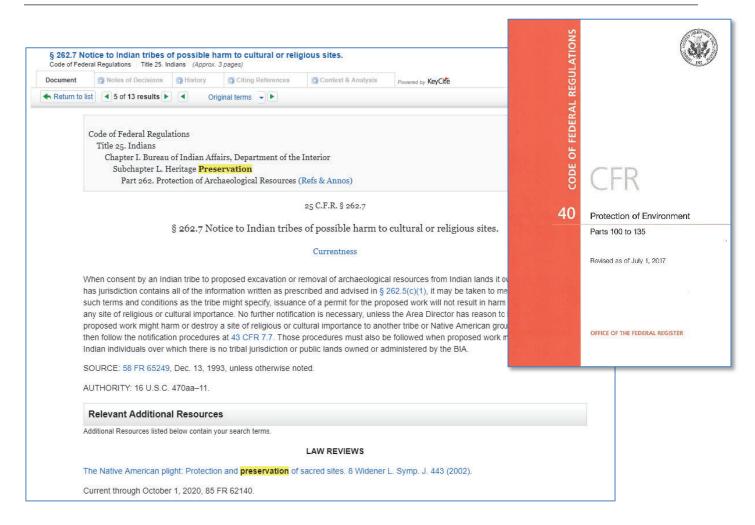
While critical when researching cases in the law library, *Advance Sheets* are irrelevant in online legal research since cases are digitally published almost immediately. Thus, there is no longer the driving need to maintain a system for delivering opinions prior to hardbound volumes being printed.

#### **Reports and Reporters Functions**

- ☑ available on Westlaw [Database: ALLSTATES, ALLFEDS, other]
- ☑ available on *Lexis* [CASES]
- ☐ helps to find the law
- ☑ contains the law
- ☐ helps to use the law
- □ acts as a reference, form book, or other usage



#### **CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS (CFR)**



The C.F.R. is a collection of softbound pamphlets containing regulations for federal agencies. These regulations are law; hence, primary authority.

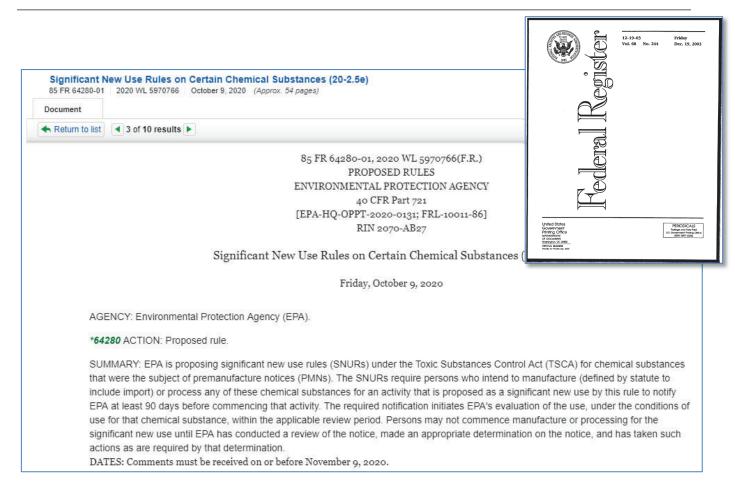
#### **Code of Federal Regulations Functions**

| <b>⊻</b> a | vallable | on <i>vves</i> | tlaw [D | atabase: | CFK |
|------------|----------|----------------|---------|----------|-----|
| <b>☑</b> a | vailable | on Lexis       | [Datab  | ase: CFR | ₹]  |

- ☐ helps to find the law
- ☑ contains the law
- ☐ helps to use the law
- □ acts as a reference, form book, or other usage



#### FEDERAL REGISTER (FED. REG.)

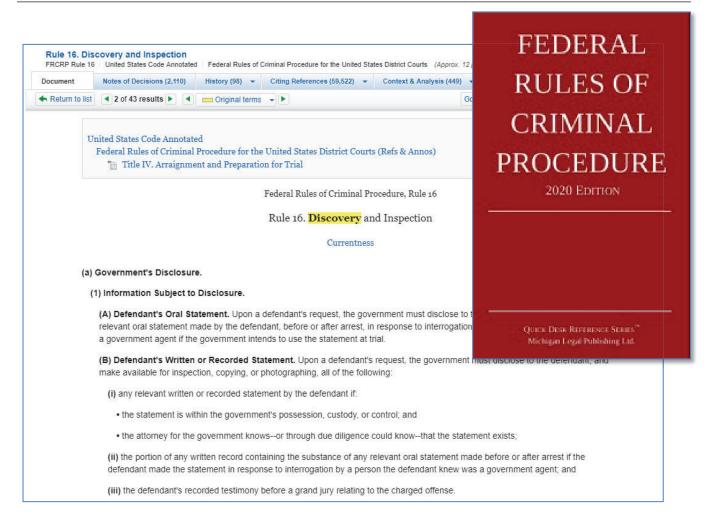


The Federal Register reports daily summaries of administrative agencies, including proposed laws and actions taken by those agencies.

#### **Federal Register Functions**

| $\checkmark$ | available on Westlaw [Database: FR]            |
|--------------|--|
| $\checkmark$ | available on <i>Lexis</i> [Database: FEDREG]   |
|              | helps to find the law                          |
| $\checkmark$ | contains the law                               |
|              | helps to use the law                           |
|              | acts as a reference, form book, or other usage |

#### **RULES OF COURT**

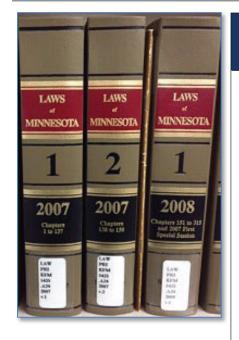


Rules of court govern the procedural aspects of civil or criminal trials. Court rules are law, therefore, primary authority. The court rules for every state and federal court are published on *Westlaw* and *Lexis* and are also available by using a Google search. In addition, it is likely that your law firm will have a physical copy of the rules.

#### **Rules of Court Functions**

☑ available on Westlaw
☑ available on Lexis
☐ helps to find the law
☑ contains the law
☐ helps to use the law
☐ acts as a reference, form book, or other usage

### **SESSION LAWS (STATUTES AT LARGE)**



# **LEGISLATION**

# **3-STEP PUBLICATION MODEL**

1. SLIP LAWS

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2. SESSION LAWS



3. CODIFICATION

Individual Bulls and Resolutions passed by the legislature and signed into law by the President

or Governor

Example:

Administration of Late Ballots HB20-1313 Federal Trade Commission Act of 1914

At the end of the legislative year (session), slip laws are compiled into Session Laws

Example:

Colorado Session Laws 2020 HB20-1313 United States Statutes at Large 2013

Public Session Laws are then incorporated into the U.S. Code or state statutes

Example:

Colorado Revised Statutes § 1-13-804 15 U.S.C. § 41

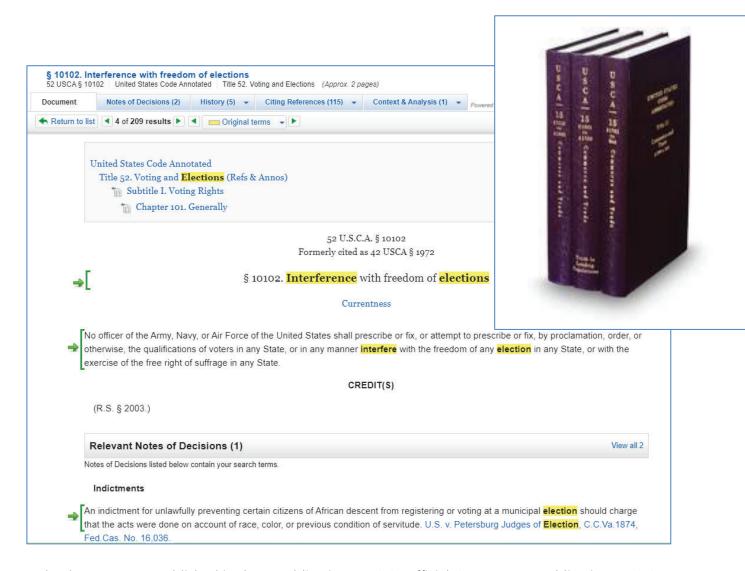
Legislative acts and bills are first published as individual "slip laws," and are then collected in sets of hardbound books called Session Laws, Statutes at Large, or some similar term. Most legislatures meet every year and each year has its own set of Session Laws. The acts or bills will then be incorporated within the regular set of statutes for that state the next time they are published. The researcher rarely uses or quotes the Session Laws since they are quickly included in the published statutes.

#### **Session Laws Functions**

- ☐ helps to find the law
- ☑ contains the law
- ☐ helps to use the law
- □ acts as a reference, form book, or other usage



#### **UNITED STATES CODE -UNITED STATES CODE ANNOTATED - UNITED STATES CODE SERVICE**



Federal statutes are published in three publications: U.S.C. (official Government publication), U.S.C.A. (*West*), and U.S.C.S. (*Lawyers Coop.*) Only U.S.C. is official, but all three publications contain primary authority. However, always cite to the official, U.S.C. The United States Code can be found on both *Westlaw* (U.S.C.A.) and *Lexis* (U.S.C.S.). You may also conduct a Google search to find the U.S. Code.

#### **United States Code Functions**

☑ available on Westlaw [Database: USCA]
 ☑ available on Lexis [Database: USCS]
 ☐ helps to find the law
 ☑ contains the law
 ☐ helps to use the law
 ☐ acts as a reference, form book, or other usage

# **CHAPTER 7**

| Wrap-Up              |   |  |  |  |  |
|----------------------|---|--|--|--|--|
| WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW |   | ASSIGNMENTS                                |  |  |  |
| After re             | ading this chapter you should know the following:       | There are no assignments for this chapter. |  |  |  |
|                      | How to locate databases on Westlaw                      |  |  |  |  |
|                      | How to locate databases on <i>Lexis</i>                 |  |  |  |  |
|                      | The various publications containing secondary authority |  |  |  |  |
|                      | The various publications containing primary authority   |  |  |  |  |