

## VI. LEXISNEXIS, WESTLAW AND OTHER FEE-BASED ELECTRONIC

☞ *LexisNexis*, <http://www.lexis.com/>, and ☞ Westlaw, <http://www.westlaw.com>, are the two major commercial electronic legal research services. Both systems provide extensive coverage of U.S. primary and secondary legal materials. These databases can be powerful tools for quickly and conveniently searching large masses of data; but they can also prove prohibitively expensive if used in certain research scenarios or without experience. Both major services now allow limited access by credit card. Users can employ this access to retrieve documents online. In addition, LexisNexis has begun to offer its ☞ *LexisOne* service, <http://www.lexisone.com>, for free. LexisOne allows free retrieval and basic searches for federal and state cases decided after January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1997.

In this guide, we have attempted to include the most prominent electronic sources that can be accessed freely over the web, or that are available to patrons at no cost at one of the major Wisconsin law libraries.

For access to information on a number of other fee-based resources, please see ☞ *Sources of Legal Information for the Wisconsin Attorney*, The University of Wisconsin Law Library, at <http://library.law.wisc.edu/guides/bibliographies/legalinfo.htm>.