

Public Libraries Toolkit Connecticut

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Primary Sources

Constitution

The state constitution is set forth in print at the beginning of the *General Statutes of Connecticut* (see below), and it is available online through the [Connecticut General Assembly](#).

State Statutes

State Statutory Code

The state statutes are the laws currently in effect organized by subject. They are the best starting point for most statutory research. In Connecticut, there are two statutory compilations:

- [General Statutes of Connecticut](#) (also available in [print](#))
- *West's Connecticut General Statutes Annotated* ([print](#) only)

State Session Laws

State session laws are entire acts as passed into law by the legislature in chronological order. They are best used to see an enacted law in full in one place or for historical research. Connecticut's session laws are published in:

- [Public and Special Acts of Connecticut](#) (also available in [print](#))

State Bills

State bills, committee materials, hearing/debate transcripts, and other legislative materials from both chambers are available through the [Connecticut General Assembly](#). For additional legislative history materials, contact the [Connecticut State Library](#).

State Administrative Code

Administrative regulations are laws created by state agencies. The state legislature delegates the power to agencies to make and enforce rules in specific areas. The state administrative code reflects the regulations currently in effect organized by subject. Connecticut's administrative code compilation is available online only:

[Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies](#)

For a full list of the state agencies in Connecticut, with a brief description of each one, see the [Connecticut State Library](#).

County/Municipality/City Codes

Local charters, ordinances, and regulations by town are available through the [Connecticut Judicial Branch Law Libraries](#).

State Case Law

Organization of Courts

Connecticut has a three-level court system: a trial court (Connecticut Superior Court), an intermediate-level appellate court (Connecticut Appellate Court), and an appellate court of last resort (Connecticut Supreme Court). The Connecticut Appellate Court hears all appeals from the trial courts, while the Connecticut Supreme Court hears only a select number of cases per term.

Online Access

Cases from the Connecticut Supreme Court and the Connecticut Appellate Court are available online through the [Connecticut Judicial Branch](#).

Print Reporters

Judicial opinions are published in case reporters as they are released. The opinions in reporters are not organized by subject. (See the “Print Digests” section immediately below for how to find case law by subject in print.) Connecticut has several print reporters:

- [West’s Atlantic Reporter](#) (Connecticut Supreme Court and Connecticut Appellate Court decisions)
- [Connecticut Reports](#) (Connecticut Supreme Court decisions)
- [Connecticut Appellate Reports](#) (Connecticut Appellate Court decisions)
- [Connecticut Supplement](#) (Connecticut Superior Court decisions)

Print Digests

Finding case law in print by topic requires the use of a digest, which organizes the major points of law in judicial opinions by subject. In Connecticut, there are two main digests:

- [West's Connecticut Digest: Covering Cases from State and Federal Courts](#)
- [West's Atlantic Digest 2d](#)

State Court Rules

The [Connecticut Practice Book](#) (also available in [print](#)) includes: the Rules for the Superior Court, the Rules of Appellate Procedure, the Rules of Professional Conduct, and the Code of Judicial Conduct, along with sample forms.

Secondary Sources by Subject

Appellate Procedure

Tait, [Connecticut Appellate Practice and Procedure](#), 5th ed., 2016
 Horton, et al., [Rules of Appellate Procedure](#), Connecticut Practice Series, 1993-

Business Law

Ford, [Connecticut Corporation Law & Practice](#), 2000-
 Langer, [Unfair Trade Practices, Business Torts, and Antitrust](#), Connecticut Practice Series v. 12, 2010-
 Siegel, [A Practical Guide to Organizing a Business in Connecticut](#), 2013

Civil Practice

[Connecticut Elements of an Action](#), Connecticut Practice Series, v. 16-16A, 2007-
[Connecticut Motions in Limine](#), Connecticut Practice Series, v. 17, 2007-
[Connecticut Summary Judgment and Related Termination Motions](#), Connecticut Practice Series, v. 18, 2008-
[Connecticut Trial Practice](#), Connecticut Practice Series, v. 6, 1987-
[Dupont on Connecticut Civil Practice](#), 1998-
 Taylor & Krisch, [Encyclopedia of Connecticut Causes of Action](#), 2016
 Horton, [Superior Court Civil Rules](#), Connecticut Practice Series, v. 1, 2001-
 Kim, et al., [A Practical Guide to Discovery and Depositions in Connecticut](#), 2011

Criminal Practice

[Connecticut Motions in Limine](#), Connecticut Practice Series, v. 17, 2007-
[Connecticut Trial Practice](#), Connecticut Practice Series, v. 6, 1987-
Borden & Orland, [Criminal Procedure](#), Connecticut Practice Series, v. 4, 2008-
Owens & O'Brien, [Defending DWI Cases in Connecticut](#), 2007

Criminal Law

Borden & Orland, [Criminal Law](#), Connecticut Practice Series, v. 10, 2007-
[Connecticut DUI Law](#), Connecticut Practice Series, v. 21, 2008-

Education Law

Mooney, [A Practical Guide to Connecticut School Law](#), 2018.

Elder Law

[Connecticut Elder Law](#), Connecticut Practice Series, v. 20, 2008-
Nobleman & Dost, [Practical Guide to Issues in Connecticut Elder Law](#), 2012

Employment Law

Janus, [Connecticut Labor and Employment Law](#), 2004
Moore, [Connecticut Employment Law](#), 2018
Harris, [Connecticut Employment Law](#), Connecticut Practice Series, v. 14-14A, 2005-
Hirsch, [Labor and Employment in Connecticut: A Guide to Employment Laws, Regulations, and Practices](#), 2000-

Family Law

Rutkin, [Family Law and Practice with Forms](#), Connecticut Practice Series, v. 7-8A, 1999-
[Connecticut Family Law Statutes and Rules](#), 2004-
Stark, [Friendly Divorce Guidebook for Connecticut: Planning Negotiating, and Filing Your Divorce](#), 2003
[Connecticut Family Law Citations: A Reference Guide to Connecticut Family Law Decisions](#), 1984-

Foreclosure

Caron, [*Connecticut Foreclosures: An Attorney's Manual of Practice and Procedure*](#), 2019

Hoheb, [*A Practical Guide to Residential Real Estate Transactions and Foreclosures in Connecticut*](#), 2012

Wills & Probate

[*Connecticut Estate and Probate Law Pamphlet*](#), Connecticut Practice Series, 1996-

Cohn, [*Connecticut Estate Planning, Wills, and Trusts Library: Forms and Practice Manual*](#), 2005-

Wilhelm & Beck, [*Death Taxes in Connecticut*](#), 2017-

Folsom & Wilhelm, [*Revocable Trusts and Trust Administration in Connecticut*](#), 2017-

Wilhelm, [*Connecticut Probate Deskbook*](#), 2003-

Folsom, [*Probate Litigation in Connecticut*](#), 2d ed., 2002-

Wilhelm, [*Settlement of Estates in Connecticut*](#), 3d ed., 2010-

Jason, [*Julie Jason's Guide to Connecticut Probate: What Every Connecticut Family Needs to Know About Probate*](#), 2007

Workers Compensation

[*Connecticut Workers Compensation Law*](#), Connecticut Practice Series, v. 19-19A, 2008-

Sevarino, [*Connecticut Workers Compensation After Reforms*](#), 2017

Forms

Official

Connecticut Judicial Branch [Official Court Forms](#)

Model

Kaye & Efron, [*Practice Book Annotated, Forms*](#), 2004-

[*Library of Connecticut Civil Discovery Forms*](#), 2011

[*Library of Connecticut Employment Law Forms*](#), 2011

Marano, [Connecticut Criminal Legal Forms](#), updated through 2007
Allen, [Connecticut Landlord and Tenant Law With Forms](#), 2014
Colin, [Library of Connecticut Family Law Forms](#), 2015
Koskoff, [Library of Connecticut Personal Injury Forms](#), 2014
[Library of Connecticut Collection Law Forms](#), 2016

Jury Instructions

Wright & Ankerman, [Connecticut Jury Instructions \(civil\)](#), 4th ed., 1993-
Borden & Orland, [Criminal Jury Instructions](#), Connecticut Practice Series, v. 5-5A, 2007-
Pellegrino, [Connecticut Selected Jury Instructions](#), 2001
Judicial Branch [Civil Jury Instructions](#)
Judicial Branch [Criminal Jury Instructions](#)

Legislative History

Legislative histories for Connecticut public acts consist of House and Senate Proceedings and Joint Committee Hearing Testimony.

Where to Find Legislative Histories

[Connecticut State Library](#): full legislative histories from 1953 to the present; select committee testimony from 1899. Select compiled digitized [legislative histories](#).

[Judicial Branch Libraries](#): 1980-2009 available on microfiche.

General Assembly [legislative document search](#): unofficial, unpaginated transcripts from 1988 to the present.

How to Find a Law Library

The following law libraries are open to the public:

[Judicial Branch Law Libraries](#)

Various [locations](#)

[Connecticut State Library](#)

231 Capitol Avenue, Hartford CT 06106
860-757-6500

[University of Connecticut School of Law Library](#)

39 Elizabeth Street, Hartford, CT 06105
860-570-5200

[Quinnipiac University School of Law Library](#)

370 Basset Rd., North Haven, CT 06473
202-582-3301

How to Find an Attorney

Referral Programs

Hartford County Bar [Lawyer Referral](#) (for Hartford, Middlesex, Litchfield, and Tolland counties)

New London County Bar [Lawyer Referral](#)

New Haven County Bar [Lawyer Referral](#)

Fairfield County Bar [Lawyer Referral](#)

Legal Aid and Advocacy Groups

A list of Connecticut legal aid and advocacy groups is available [here](#).

Online Attorney Directories

Connecticut Judicial Branch database of [attorneys licensed to practice in Connecticut](#).

[Martindale.com](#)

[Avvo.com](#)

[Lawyers.com](#)

Other Resources

Federal Depositories

The State Library is the regional federal depository. There are a number of selective depositories in Connecticut, listed [here](#).

Research Guides

University of Connecticut School of Law [Research Guides](#): cover a wide variety of legal topics, some specific to Connecticut.

Judicial Branch [Research Guides](#): focused on Connecticut law; helpful for laypersons.

Connecticut State Library Law/Legislation [Research Guides](#): focused on Connecticut law and legislation and other government information.