

Indiana Public Library Legal Toolkit

For the American Association of Law Libraries
Legal Information Services to the Public Special Interest Section

By Steven Richardson, Information Services Librarian,
Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law at the University of Memphis

Constitution & Codes

When most people want to know “the law”, this is what they are looking for. These are the laws of the state as they have been written.

Indiana Constitution

<http://iga.in.gov/legislative/laws/const/>

The state constitution is the basis for the entire state government, and no law passed in Indiana may conflict with it. The current version, as amended in 2010 is available on the state government website. Citations to the Indiana Constitution will read as either, “IND. CONST. art. #, §#.” or “IND. CONST. amend. #, §#.”

Indiana Code

<http://iga.in.gov/legislative/laws/2019/ic/>

The Indiana Code is a compilation of all general laws currently in force in Indiana, arranged by topic. Laws that have expired, been removed, or were of limited effect are not included in the code. Citations to the Indiana Code will be in order of Title, Article, Chapter, and Section, so they will look something like: IC §#-#-#-# (year). West’s Indiana Code is published by Thompson Reuters, while the Burns Indiana Statutes Annotated is published by Lexis.

Indiana Administrative Code

<http://www.in.gov/legislative/iac/>

The Indiana Administrative Code is made of regulations promulgated by administrative agencies under the authority granted to them by the legislature and compiled by topic. As such, they tend to be very focused and narrow. Citations to the Indiana Administrative Code are in the form of Title, Indiana Administrative Code, Article, Rule, Section, so they look like # IND. ADMIN CODE #-#-# or # IAC #-#-#. West also publishes an unofficial Indiana Administrative Code.

Indiana Building, Electrical & Plumbing Codes

<http://www.in.gov/dhs/2490.htm>

Excerpted from the Indiana Administrative Code are these specialized sections relating to buildings and maintenance. This is particularly useful for those people who are mostly interested in ensuring compliance when making home repairs or additions.

Indiana Municipal Codes

<https://library.municode.com/in>

These are the codes of city ordinances for Indiana. They are similar to the state statutes, but more limited in scope and application. This is not a comprehensive list, but will include many of the larger cities and towns.

Current Bills

<http://iga.in.gov/legislative/2019/bills/>

These are bills under consideration during the current legislative session. If they are passed by the legislature, signed into law by the governor, and are of general and enduring importance, they will be compiled into the statutory code.

Cases & Case Law Tools

While statutes are what the law says, the courts interpret what that actually means. Therefore, important cases are listed in books called reporters. Case law is binding in the jurisdiction where it was made, and so patrons should be directed to ensure that they find cases, not just code sections that relate to their matter. Most reporters are not available online for free, but many of the included cases may be obtained from services such as [Google Scholar](#).

Case citations are recognizable by having the case name; the volume, title and page number of their reporter; and the court and date. They will look something like: Party 1 v. Party 2, ## N.E./N.E.2d./N.E.3d. ### (yyyy). Party names (such as Smith v. Jones) may also be replaced with procedural terms such as: *ex parte*, *ex rel*, or *in re*.

Indiana Attorney General's Opinions

Attorney General's Opinions are not binding law, like the decisions of a court. They are advisory opinions given to the government by the attorney General as guidance.

Attorney General's Opinions from 2017-Present

<http://www.in.gov/attorneygeneral/2355.htm>

Attorney General's Opinions from 2001-2016

<http://www.in.gov/attorneygeneral/2358.htm>

Attorney General's Opinions 1931-1976

<https://scholarworks.iupui.edu/handle/1805/237>

Indiana Court Decisions (Supreme, Appellate, and Tax)

<http://www.in.gov/judiciary/2730.htm>

This page allows you to browse decisions of the state Supreme, Appellate, and Tax courts. These decisions are binding law, and modify the state code or administrative code. They are organized chronologically, with references to the lower court case numbers.

Indiana Digest

The Indiana Digest is the finding aid for Indiana Cases. It is very similar to the North Eastern Digest as listed below.

North Eastern Reporter & Indiana Cases

The North Eastern Reporter is a regional reporter, meaning it covers state cases from Illinois, Indiana, Massachusetts, New York, and Ohio. It is published by Thompson-Reuters, formerly Thompson-West. Not all cases are included, only ones important enough to serve as precedent are reported. Indiana Cases, also published by Thompson-Reuters, contains only the Indiana cases from the North Eastern Reporter.

North Eastern Digest

The Indiana Digest is the finding aid for cases included in the North Eastern Reporter. It organizes cases by topic according to the West Key Number System. It is also published by Thompson-Reuters, and is similarly not available for free online. As a finding tool, one generally does not cite to this series.

Shepard's Indiana Citations

Shepard's Citations is a type of book called a citator. It is used to see what cases have cited a given case or statute to determine if a point of law is still good or not. Like the digest, one does not typically cite to Shepard's or any electronic citatory service.

Secondary Sources

Indiana House and Senate Journals

<http://www.in.gov/legislative/session/archives.html>

These are the official records of the activities of the state legislature. The results of votes, speeches made on the floor and reports of committees are all contained in this series.

Indiana Law Encyclopedia

This is an encyclopedia of legal topics, but which cites to Indiana statutes, regulations, and cases. It is not available for free online.

The Indiana Lawyer

<http://www.theindianalawyer.com/>

This is a biweekly newspaper devoted to happenings in the legal profession in Indiana. It focuses more on changes in the law or legal practice, than in depth analysis of particular legal topics, as one would find in an encyclopedia.

Indiana Practice Series

These are a series of form books for lawyers. Many public libraries will have books that contain legal forms written for non-practitioners, but these are the version that lawyers turn to when drafting documents. They also contain explanations of the relevant areas of Indiana law.

Indiana Register

Current: <http://www.in.gov/legislative/iac/irtoc.htm>

Archive: <http://www.in.gov/legislative/iac/showIRArchive>

This is where rules and regulations are posted as they are officially promulgated and before they are codified. Opinions or actions by the Governor or Attorney General regarding them are also posted here.

Listing of Law Libraries in Indiana

Of course, some patrons will require more in-depth assistance. In those instances, referring them to a specialized law library, or calling a reference librarian at a law library, which will have the additional resources necessary may be the best option. For your convenience, a list of law libraries is included in this toolkit.

Indiana Supreme Court Law Library

Supreme Court Law Library

State House, Room 316

200 W. Washington Street

Indianapolis, IN 46204

Tel: 317-232-2557

Fax: 317-233-8693

Website: <http://www.in.gov/judiciary/supreme/2329.htm>

Jerome Hall Law Library

Indiana University

Maurer School of Law – Bloomington

211 S. Indiana Ave.

Bloomington, IN 47405

Tel: (812) 855-2938

Please contact them by e-mail via their website's Ask a Librarian function

Website: <http://www.law.indiana.edu/lawlibrary/index.shtml>

Kresge Law Library
 University of Notre Dame
 P.O. Box 535
 Notre Dame, IN 46556-0535
 Tel: 574.631.7024
 Fax: 574.631.6371
 E-mail: askus@nd.edu
 Website: <https://law.nd.edu/faculty-scholarship/kresge-law-library/>

Ruth Lilly Law Library
 Indiana University
 Robert H. McKinney School of law
 530 W. New York St.
 Indianapolis, IN 46202
 Tel: 317-274-4026
 Website: <http://mckinneylaw.iu.edu/library/>

William H. Miller Law Library
 Civic Center Complex
 City-County Courts Building, Room 207
 825 Sycamore Street
 Evansville, IN 47708-1849
 Tel: 812-435-5175

ORALL

The Ohio Regional Association of Law Libraries is the local chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries covering Indiana, Kentucky and Ohio. Their website is <http://orall.org/>.

Federal Depository Libraries in Indiana

Federal depository libraries collect legal materials as published by the federal government. The size and content of the collection are determined by the level of the depository library.

Depository Type & Number	Library	Location
Regional - 0170	Indiana State Library	Indianapolis
Selective - 0171	Purdue University HSSE Library	West Lafayette
Selective - 0171A	Indiana Supreme Court Law Library	Indianapolis
Selective - 0172	DePauw University Roy O. West Library	Greencastle
Selective - 0172A	IU Northwest, John W. Anderson Library	Gary
Selective - 0173	IU Bloomington, Herman B. Wells, Library	Bloomington
Selective - 0173A	IU Kokomo Library	Kokomo
Selective - 0173B	University of Notre Dame, Kresge Law Library	Notre Dame

Selective - 0174	Gary Public Library, Main Library	Gary
Selective - 0174A	Hammond Public Library	Hammond
Selective - 0176	University of Notre Dame, Hesburgh Libraries	Notre Dame
Selective - 0176A	IU South Bend, Franklin D. Schurz Library	South Bend
Selective - 0177	Allen County Library	Fort Wayne
Selective - 0177A	IPFW Walter E. Helmke Library	Fort Wayne
Selective - 0177B	IU Maurer School of Law Library	Bloomington
Selective - 0178	Anderson University	Anderson
Selective - 0178A	Huntington University	Huntington
Selective - 0179A	Indiana State University, Cunningham Memorial Library	Terre Haute
Selective - 180	Ball State University, Alexander M. Bracken Library	Muncie
Selective - 180A	Earlham College, Lilly Library	Richmond
Selective - 181	Evansville-Vanderburgh Public Library, Main Library	Evansville
Selective - 181A	IU Southeast Library	New Albany
Selective - 182	Hanover College, Duggan Library	Hanover
Selective - 182A	University of Southern Indiana, David L. Rice Library	Evansville
Selective - 183	Morrison-Reeves Library	Richmond
Selective - 183B	IUPUI Library	Indianapolis
Selective - 184	Indianapolis Public Library, Central Library	Indianapolis
Selective - 184B	IU Robert H. McKinney School of Law, Ruth Lilly Law Library	Indianapolis

Bar Associations

Indiana State Bar Association

<https://www.inbar.org/default.aspx>

This is the official bar association for the state of Indiana. Only members admitted to the bar here may practice law in the state, with the exception of certain federal law issues, as defined by the federal government. The ISBA maintains the official roll of attorneys in the state, but does not offer a referral service.

Specialized Bar Associations

These bar associations are based on common interests or areas of practice. They may also provide referrals to member attorneys.

Indiana Trial Lawyers Association

<https://www.indianatriallawyers.org/index.cfm>

Indiana Chapter, National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys, Inc.

<http://www.innaela.org/>

Woman Lawyers Association of Indiana

<http://indianawomenlawyers.org/>

Local Bar Associations

COUNTY	CONTACT	PHONE	WEBSITE
Adams	Cory Sprunger	260-589-2338	
Allen	Gina Zimmerman	260-423-2358	http://www.allencountybar.org/
Bartholomew	Stan Gamso	812-379-2331	http://www.columbusindianalawyers.com/
Benton	Hon. Rex Kepner		
Blackford	Bruce C. Bade	765-347-8211	
Boone	Jennifer Bays Beinart	317-769-0630	
Brown	Ruth Johnson	317-784-1244	
Carroll	Hon. Kurtis G. Fouts	765-564-2316	
Cass	Yamir Gonzalez Velez	574-722-3730	
Clark	Anna K. Murray	812-725-7533	
Clay	B. Lee Reberger Jr.	812-442-0974	
Clinton	Alicia Albertson	765-654-4438	
Crawford	See Harrison County		
Daviess	Brandon Smith	812-254-0050	
Dearborn-Ohio	Jeffrey Wilson	812-537-8884	
Decatur	Jennifer Sturges	812-663-4441	
DeKalb	J. Darrick Brinkerhoft	260-357-5111	
Delaware	Judi L. Calhoun	765-425-9106	
Dubois	Bernadette Kovacs	812-367-1120	
Elkhart-Elkhart City	Ryan Fountain	574-258-9296	
Elkhart-Goshen City	Donald R. Shuler	574-533-3181	
Fayette	Nicole D. Fraley	765-827-5700	
Floyd	Marc Sedwick	812-944-7670	
Fountain	Daniel Askren	765-762-6741	
Franklin	Melinda Hartzler Bundy	765-647-4161	

Fulton	T. Andrew Perkins	574-223-4292	
Gibson	Sharon H. Werne	812-385-5497	
Grant	Happi C. Johnston	765-668-3213	
Greene	Ryan McDonald	812-384-3527	
Hamilton	Melanie Reichert	317-571-3601	http://www.hamiltoncountybar.com/
Hancock	Cody Coombs	317-462-3434	http://hancockbar.org/
Harrison-Crawford	Sunnye Bush-Sawelle	812-596-4897	
Hendricks	Christopher Arrington	317-745-4494	http://www.hendrickscountybar.org/
Henry	Joel Harvey	765-529-3787	
Howard	Jeffrey Elftman	765-457-6671	
Huntington	Justin Wall	260-504-2714	
Jackson	Brett M. Hays	812-405-1800	
Jasper	Lori James	219-866-4171	
Jay	Gregory W. LeMaster	260-726-2470	
Jefferson	Patrick Magrath	812-273-5230	
Jennings	Brad Kage	812-346-6566	
Johnson	Heather George Myers	317-287-4965	
Knox	Andrew Kopatich	812-882-8600	
Kosciusko	Dana Leon	574-267-6116	
LaGrange	Travis J. Glick	260-499-6326	
Lake-Lake	Lawyer Referral	219-738-1905	http://www.lakecountybar.com/
Lake-East Chicago	Luis F. Sanchez	219-397-4000	
Lake-Hobart	Jeffrey V. Cefali	219-942-2920	
Lake-South Lake	Peggy Jo Stamper	219-663-0015	
Lake-Hispanic	M. Elizabeth Flores	219-881-6671	
Lake-Kimbrough	Renee Hatcher	219-614-7408	
LaPorte	Amber Poff	219-326-1264	

Lawrence	Katie Kleihege-Simon	812-277-1950	
Madison	Kevin Eads	765-640-9000	http://madisoncountybar.org/
Marion-Indianapolis	Julie Armstrong	317-269-2222	http://www.indybar.org/
Marion-Marion	Carlton Martin	317-232-2475	http://www.mcbaindy.org/
Marshall	Adam Lukenbill	574-936-2007	
Martin	J. David Lett	812-295-3647	
Miami	Brandon Rush	765-472-7702	
Monroe	Matthew Schulz		http://monroecountybar.org/
Montgomery	Patricia Sosbe	765-362-6811	
Morgan	Tonisha Jerrett		
Newton	Charles P. Dargo	219-345-3114	
Noble	Steven Clouse	260-463-7154	
Ohio	See Dearborn County		
Orange	Marilyn Tucker Fullen	812-723-2313	
Owen	MaryAnn Williams	812-585-4869	
Parke	James O. Hanner	765-569-3122	
Perry	Jeffrey W. Hagedorn	812-547-7081	
Pike	Brian K. Mahoney	812-354-8121	
Porter	Lisa A. Moser		http://portercountybar.org/
Posey	William H. Bender	812-874-3636	
Pulaski	Blair Todd	574-946-4600	
Putnam	Scott F. Bieniek	765-653-6601	
Randolph	Gabriel Winkle	765-964-6293	
Ripley	John L. Kellerman II	812-934-4334	
Rush	Philip T. Morgan	765-932-2000	
St. Joseph	Amy McGuire	574-235-9657	http://sjcba.org/
Scott	Raleigh Campbell Jr.	812-752-5869	
Shelby	Kyle M. Baker	317-825-5110	
Spencer	David E. Price	812-937-4444	

Starke	Martin R. Lucas	574-896-5800	
Steuben	Marylyn K.L. Ernsberger	260-319-5520	
Sullivan	Kathryn A. Springer	812-268-4356	
Switzerland	Monica L. Hensley	812-427-2909	
Tippecanoe	Susannah Hall-Justice	765-742-2987	http://www.lafayettelawyers.org/
Tipton	Matthew B. Quigley	765-675-4675	
Union	Gursaran S. Shoker	765-732-3753	
Vanderburgh-Evansville			
Vermillion	Jill Wesch	765-487-0031	
Vigo-Terre Haute	Scott Craig	812-232-6003	
Wabash	Albert J. Schlitt	260-982-7373	
Warren	John A. Larson	765-762-2625	
Warrick	Jonathan M. Yong	812-858-2915	
Washington	Douglas C. Leatherbury	812-883-2291	
Wayne	Edward O. Martin	765-855-5311	
Wells	David Crell	260-824-4049	
White	John T. Million	574-583-5077	
Whitley	P. Brad Baber	260-244-4422	

Legal Services Programs

Pro bono legal services, those made available for free or at a reduced cost, are available through several different programs throughout the state. Many of them are restricted in the types of cases they can handle and/or the income level of the clients represented. Many of those income restrictions are based on the federal poverty guidelines, which can be found at: <https://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty-guidelines>

Indiana Foreclosure Prevention Service

<http://www.877gethope.org/>

This organization is devoted entirely to foreclosure matters. They do not work on other landlord-tenant matters or general legal services. Clients may have to meet certain conditions to be eligible for services.

Indiana Legal Answers

<https://indiana.freelegalanswers.org/>

Indiana Legal Answers is a joint project of the Indiana Bar Foundation and the Indiana Pro Bono Commission. The system allows qualifying clients to post a question to a private messaging system to be answered by volunteer attorneys. All information other than the name of the client is anonymous to insure complete privacy.

Indiana Legal Services

<https://www.indianalegalservices.org/>

Legal Services Corporations (LSC's) are non-profit organizations who receive substantial funding from the federal government to provide legal representation to low-income individuals. They usually handle civil matters, like consumer protection, family law and landlord-tenant issues.

Indiana Pro Bono Commission

<https://www.in.gov/judiciary/selfservice/2353.htm>

The state Pro Bono Commission is not a legal service provider, but they maintain a tool for finding services throughout the state. Their website also has a list of providers for other services, such as assistance for people representing themselves in court.

Indianapolis Legal Aid Society

<https://www.indylas.org/>

The Indianapolis Legal Aid Society is a non-governmental non-profit organization which handles primarily family law, but will take on other civil cases as well. Clients must be below 125% of the federal poverty guidelines.

Legal Lines

In some locations throughout the state, there are free phone services where people can call for a mini-consultation with an attorney to get information about legal matters. Times and dates vary by location.

Allen County: (260) 423-2358

Marion County: (317) 269-2000 (See also:

<https://www.indybar.org/index.cfm?pg=LegalAdvice-LegalLine>)

Neighborhood Christian Legal Clinic

<https://www.nclegalclinic.org/>

The NCLC offers free legal assistance to those who meet their financial criteria. They offer support in immigration, bankruptcy, tax, housing and limited family law issues, but not criminal matters nor divorce cases.

Volunteer Lawyer Program

www.vlpnei.org

The Volunteer Lawyer Program provides legal assistance in many areas of civil law including divorce, bankruptcy, contracts, consumer issues, real estate, health care and estate law for persons of minimal resources. They do not provide help with criminal law or Children in Need of Services (CHINS). They are only available to residents of Adams, Allen, DeKalb, Huntington, LaGrange, Noble, Steuben, Wells, & Whitley counties.

Legal Self-Help Resources

These sites and agencies can provide some guidance on the legal system for people who choose to represent themselves *pro se* (also called *in propria persona*). However, the assistance that can be provided in such cases is, necessarily, limited.

Indiana Forms & Court Rules

<http://www.in.gov/icpr/2362.htm>

The first page links to many of the forms needed to file for permits, licenses or otherwise needed to work with state administrative agencies. If you do not have a form's name or number, it may be most helpful to search all agencies, and simply select an agency in the field at the bottom. Searching without any other information will return a list of all of their publicly available forms.

Indiana Court Forms & Rules

<http://www.in.gov/judiciary/2684.htm>

The second page links to many of the forms needed in legal practice, as below, but also contains the rules for appearing before and filing in Indiana courts.

Indiana Non-Profit Corporations

<http://www.in.gov/attorneygeneral/2991.htm>

This page not only provides the forms needed for incorporating a non-profit organization in Indiana, but also provides some general information about how non-profits must be organized and how they must operate.

Indiana Self-Service Legal Center

<http://www.in.gov/judiciary/selfservice/>

The Indiana Legal Self-Service Center is a project of the state court system which provides direction in determining what resources are available for many different types of *pro se* representation. It also has links to many of the most commonly needed legal forms available through the state judiciary's website.

State Government Links

These are some of the most important law-related links at [In.gov](http://www.in.gov), the official state website. For any agency not listed, please see the general website.

Agency Finder

http://www.in.gov/core/find_agency.html

This tool will help you find state administrative agencies. Administrative agencies are departments like the BMV, the Department of Revenue or other parts of the government responsible for specific functions.

Indiana Attorney General's Office

<http://www.in.gov/attorneygeneral/2352.htm>

This page is home to information about the office of the Attorney General. The Attorney General is in charge of representing the state in legal matters, advising the state on potential legal issues, and returning unclaimed property to citizens of the state of Indiana.

Indiana Courts

<https://www.in.gov/judiciary/index.htm>

This page serves as the general clearinghouse for information about the judicial branch in Indiana. It also contains links to many of the pages included in this toolkit.

Indiana General Assembly

<http://iga.in.gov/>

The state legislature's site has not only the code, bills, and past journals, it also offers streaming video of the current legislative session for many hearings and votes.

Indiana Governor's Office

<http://www.in.gov/gov/>

This is the official page for the Indiana Governor's office. It contains information about the legislative process and the gubernatorial agenda.

Indiana Supreme Court

<http://www.in.gov/judiciary/supreme/index.htm>

This is the page for the Indiana Supreme Court. Their decisions are indexed with those of the Appellate and Tax courts, but the biographies of the current justices, history of the court, docket, and oral arguments video archive are all located here.

Odyssey Case Lookup

Old version: <https://mycase.in.gov/default.aspx>

New version (in beta): <https://public.courts.in.gov/mycase#/vw/Search>

This is the search system for civil cases filed in Indiana courts. While it does allow for searching of case status, it does not currently allow for electronic submission of documents by parties to the case.

Offender Search

<http://www.in.gov/apps/indcorrection/ofs/ofs>

The Indiana Department of Corrections offers this website where you can look for information on previously or currently incarcerated offenders. It does not cover federal prisons, or immigration detainees housed in state jails, however.

Federal Government Links

Federal District Courts

Northern District of Indiana <http://www.innd.uscourts.gov/>

Southern District of Indiana <http://www.insd.uscourts.gov/>

Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals

<http://www.ca7.uscourts.gov/>

The Seventh Circuit is the federal appellate court having jurisdiction over Indiana federal cases. It is located in Chicago, but some of the judges also have offices in Indiana.

For additional reading on legal research in Indiana, please see the guide from the Indiana University Maurer School of Law available at;
<http://law.indiana.libguides.com/c.php?g=1644&p=5392>