1. State Constitution
   Constitution of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts
   In Print: In the General Laws of Massachusetts
   Available online at: https://malegislature.gov/Laws/Constitution
   Original document held by Massachusetts Archives at Columbia Point:
   http://www.sec.state.ma.us/arc/arccol/colidx.htm

2. State Statutes
   General Laws of Massachusetts
   Official Edition: Prepared under the Direction of the General Court, published every other year with annual supplements and monthly updates by the General Court and Thomson Reuters
   Unofficially available online at: https://malegislature.gov/Laws/GeneralLaws/Search
   Annotated Statutes
   Annotated Laws of Massachusetts, Lexis Nexis. “black books”
   Massachusetts General Laws Annotated, Thomson West. “green books”
   Historical Codifications (1836-1932)
   Listed and linked at: http://archives.lib.state.ma.us/handle/2452/124177

3. State Bills
   Session Laws: Acts and Resolves
   Official Editions: published by the Secretary of the Commonwealth
   Acts from 1997 on available online at: https://malegislature.gov/Laws/SessionLaws/Search
   Acts and Resolves, 1692-2009, available online from the State Library of Massachusetts at: http://archives.lib.state.ma.us/handle/123456789/2 , searchable by year and chapter number
   Bills: https://malegislature.gov/Bills

4. State Administrative Law
   Code of Massachusetts Regulations in print available at the Mass. Trial Court Law Libraries
   Official Edition: published in print by the Secretary of the Commonwealth
   New regulations are published by the Secretary of the Commonwealth bi-weekly in the Massachusetts Register to be filed in the Code
   The Secretary of the Commonwealth sells individual titles and access electronically to the entire Code through the State Bookstore: http://www.sec.state.ma.us/spr/spridx.htm
   The Regulations Manual, 2016, published by the Secretary of the Commonwealth,
   Available at: http://www.sec.state.ma.us/spr/sprpdf/manual.pdf
   Index, compiled by the Mass. Trial Court Law Libraries:

Guide to the Code of Massachusetts Regulations
Collection of six indexes to the Mass. regulations formerly called Weil’s Guide, now published (in print) by LexisNexis

5. Municipal (City and Town) Codes
Copies of Municipal codes are available from the City or Town Clerks – M.G.L. c. 40A § 5, “A true copy of the zoning ordinance or by-law with any amendments thereto shall be kept on file available for inspection in the office of the clerk of such city or town.” A Directory with contact information for the Clerks is available at: http://www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/eleclk/clkids.htm
City and Town Bylaws or Ordinances available online indexed by municipality: https://www.mass.gov/massachusetts-city-and-town-ordinances-and-bylaws

6. State Jury Instructions

7. State Forms
Forms available from Massachusetts Courts: https://www.mass.gov/topics/court-forms
Other Massachusetts Legal Forms available for free on the internet, compiled and indexed by the Massachusetts Trial Court Law Libraries: https://www.mass.gov/massachusetts-legal-forms
Other forms are available in a variety of treatises including West’s Massachusetts Practice series and Massachusetts Continuing Legal Education (M.C.L.E.) manuals.

8. State Legal Encyclopedia

9. State Case Law and Administrative Reporters
Massachusetts Court Cases at: https://www.mass.gov/topics/massachusetts-court-cases
Massachusetts Agency and Commission Opinions and Bulletins available at: https://www.mass.gov/massachusetts-agency-and-commission-decisions-and-opinions
Landlaw Legal Publishers publishes seven administrative and case-law reporters from Massachusetts trial courts and state agencies: http://www.landlaw.com/
Social Law Library Administrative Databases (covering state agency decisions) are available for remote access by subscription: http://socialaw.com/article.htm?t=inlibonly.

10. State Digest
West’s Massachusetts Digest 2d, West Publishing Co., 1986-. Massachusetts Digest Annotated: covering cases from state and federal courts, West
Publishing Co., [1947-1984]. Includes references to cases “from 1761 to date[1947].”

11. Records and Briefs:
   Archived by Social Law Library: [www.socialaw.com](http://www.socialaw.com)
   *Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court Records and Briefs.* Boston: Social Law Library.
   Microforms, 1918-present. Social Law Library has S.J.C. Briefs going back to 1840.
   *Massachusetts Appeals Court Records and Briefs.* Boston: Social Law Library, microforms.
   Vol. 1-, 1972-present.
   **Supreme Judicial Court Briefs for recent cases** available online through
   Select briefs available through Lexis and Westlaw.

12. State Court Websites
   Massachusetts Courts: [https://www.mass.gov/orgs/massachusetts-court-system](https://www.mass.gov/orgs/massachusetts-court-system)
   Links to Supreme Judicial Court, Appeals Court, and the Trial Court Departments:
   Boston Municipal Court, District Court, Housing Court, Juvenile Court, Land Court, Probate and
   Family Court and Superior Court.

13. Regional Chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries (AALL)
    /Instructions on How to Subscribe to Listserv/Become a Member:
    Law Librarians of New England – [llne.org](http://llne.org)
    “Subscribers are limited to LLNE members.”

    Massachusetts Legal Referral: [https://www.mass.gov/info-details/finding-a-lawyer#lawyer-referral-services](https://www.mass.gov/info-details/finding-a-lawyer#lawyer-referral-services-
    MassLegalHelp, Massachusetts Legal Assistance Corp.’s website for Massachusetts’ residents
    looking for civil legal services: [http://www.masslegalhelp.org/](http://www.masslegalhelp.org/)

15. Federal Depository Libraries in Massachusetts – 28 Selective Depository Libraries

16. Bar Associations
   Affiliated Bar Services (links to local, county and specialty bar associations in Massachusetts):

17. Massachusetts Research Guides – a representative selection
    *Handbook of Legal Research in Massachusetts*, 3rd ed., edited by Mary Ann Neary,
    M.C.L.E., with 1st supp. 2012.*
    *West’s Massachusetts Law Finder: Your Coordinated Research Guide to Massachusetts,
    Federal and General West Publications*, Thompson Reuters.
    “Massachusetts Law About…, Over 150 Topics A-Z”:
    [https://www.mass.gov/guides/massachusetts-law-about](https://www.mass.gov/guides/massachusetts-law-about)
    ”Massachusetts Legal Research,” Boston College Law Library Legal Research Guide:
    [https://www.bc.edu/content/dam/files/schools/law_sites/library/pdf/researchguides/MA.pdf](https://www.bc.edu/content/dam/files/schools/law_sites/library/pdf/researchguides/MA.pdf)
    “Massachusetts Legal Research,” Harvard Law School Library Research Guide:
    [http://guides.library.harvard.edu/massachusetts](http://guides.library.harvard.edu/massachusetts)
    “Massachusetts Legal Research,” Suffolk University Law School:
    [https://www.suffolk.edu/law/faculty-research/research#](https://www.suffolk.edu/law/faculty-research/research#)
18. Four Recommended Massachusetts Titles for Answering Legal Reference

**Family Law, including all issues to divorce, adoption, name change, and paternity**

*Family Law Advocacy for Low and Moderate Income Litigants*,
Jacquelynne J. Bowman, editor, Boston, MA: M.C.L.E., c2018.
Available online at:
http://www.masslegalservices.org/FamilyLawAdvocacyForLowAndModerateIncomeLitigants
Available from www.mcle.org for $45.00.

**Labor and Employment Law**

*Labor and Employment Law in Massachusetts*, 2nd ed by Jeffrey Hirsch. Available from LexisNexis for $414.00/year.

**Landlord Tenant Law**

Available online at: http://www.masslegalhelp.org/housing/legal-tactics1
Available from www.mcle.org for $65.00.

**Small Claims**

*Pursuing a Case in Small Claims Court*,
Sean P. Coleman, Boston, MA: Massachusetts Continuing Legal Education, c2010.
Available from www.mcle.org for $45.00.

19. **Ask a Law Librarian**

Need help finding or using Massachusetts legal information? Ask a Trial Court Law Librarian at https://www.mass.gov/ask-a-law-librarian

Compiled by Barbara Schneider with help from Meg Hayden and Michelle Pearse, and updated by Suzanne Hoey, for the Law Librarians of New England (LLNE)