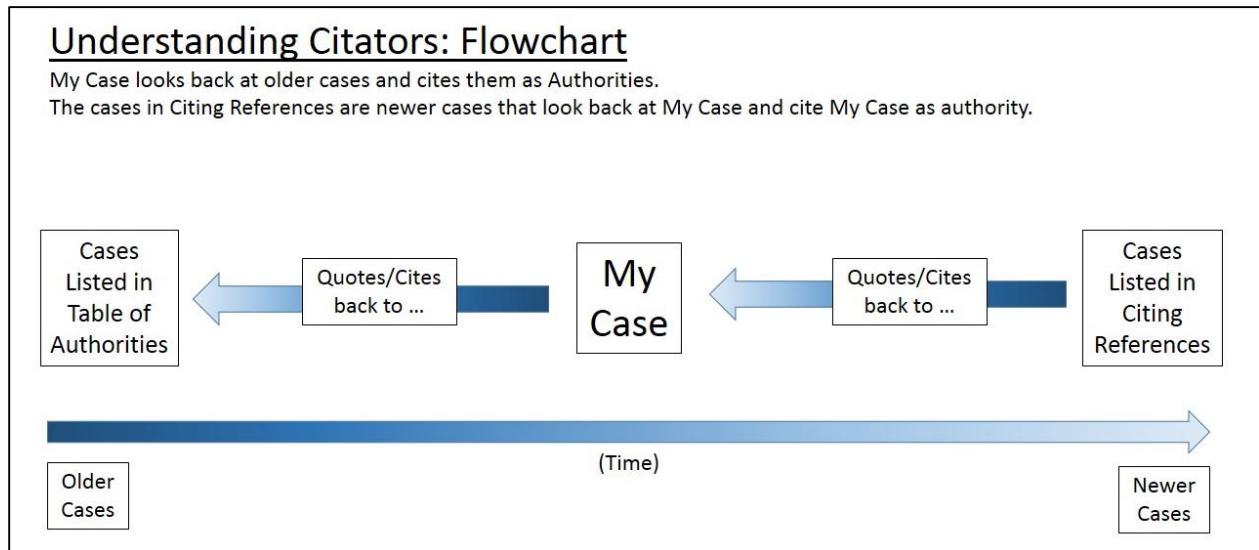


Legal Research Infographics

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Citator Flowchart

This flowchart was created to illustrate the concept of Table of Authorities vs. Citing References when using citators. The chart was helpful for 1Ls learning to use citators for the first time. It illustrates that cases older than their case-in-hand are cited by their case-in-hand and make up the Table of Authorities, whereas the cases they found that are newer than their case and cite to their case make up the Citing References. The chart was created in a Powerpoint slide and saved as a jpg file, making it easy to drop into other Powerpoint presentations, Word Documents, LibGuides, etc.



Secondary Sources Handout

The following one-page handout was created to highlight secondary sources, showing their place and value in the legal research process. It includes a table giving examples of types of secondary sources and when to use them. This handout can be shown repeatedly as part of any legal research instruction. Copies are also displayed and available at the reference desk and circulation desk.

Secondary Sources

Provide analysis, description, explanation, and/or commentary on the law

Guide you to relevant primary legal authority

Don't have a case or statute in hand? Start your research with Secondary Sources!



Quick Guide to Types of Secondary Sources

Secondary Sources can do some of your work for you, but it's important to choose the right one. Your choice depends on whether you are unfamiliar with a topic and need a broad overview, or you are familiar and need more detail on narrow subtopics.

Example Title	Type	Topics/Coverage	Use when ...
American Jurisprudence	Encyclopedia	Broad/National/Introductory	New/Unfamiliar/Need basic background
Ohio Jurisprudence	Encyclopedia	Broad/State-Specific/Introductory	New/Unfamiliar/Background/Focus on Ohio
American Law Reports	Annotations	Broad/National/Comprehensive on Narrow Subtopics	Familiar/Detail on narrow subtopic/Compare jurisdictions
Corbin on Contracts	Treatise	Subject-specific/ Comprehensive	Familiar/Need detail on legal rules and policies
Cleveland State Law Review	Law Reviews, Journals, Periodicals	Varies, usually narrow/ Comprehensive	Familiar/Emerging and changing issues/New developments
Restatement of the Law: Property	Restatements	Limited Topics/Comprehensive	Unfamiliar/Concise statement of law on settled topics
Baldwin's Ohio Practice: Civil Practice	Practice Materials	Varies, titles may be topic-specific/Comprehensive	Familiar/Summary of current law and practices in jurisdiction/Forms

