Statutory Research Flow Chart

1. Formulate Search Words
   - T= Things
   - A= Actions
   - R= Relief
   - P= Parties

2. Use index to annotated statutes to find applicable statute.

3. Read the statute.
   - Check pocket parts, interim supplements, and legislative service.

4. If no statutes are listed in the index, you may want to check commentary (secondary) sources to validate your research.

5. Read annotations following the statute.

6. Read digests of cases from West Digest for the statute’s, Topic & Key Numbers.

7. Read commentary (secondary) sources to locate cases and to validate your reading of the cases.

8. Check Uniform Laws Annotated (if the statute is appropriate for ULA).

9. Use looseleaf services if appropriate to obtain cases and commentary.

10. Locate and read model, pattern, or approved jury instructions.

11. Shepardize model, pattern or approved jury instructions.

12. Read cases that you have located

13. If statute is ambiguous and the cases do not resolve the ambiguity, check legislative history sources.

14. Update each case to validate it and to locate more cases.