



Federal Statutes: A Publications Guide

PUBLICATIONS	OFFICIAL: G.P.O.	UNOFFICIAL: West Group
SLIP LAWS—new laws or acts published individually by public law (P.L.) number. ADVANCED SESSION LAW SERVICES—slip laws published commercially during session.	Pamphlets available two months after session ends. Partial cite: P.L. 105-298. Also available at Thomas-- Legislative Information on the Internet http://thomas.loc.gov/	<u>United States Code Congressional and Administrative News (U.S.C.C.A.N.)</u> —monthly pamphlets published during session. Also available on WESTLAW at US-PL.
SESSION LAWS—slip laws published chronologically by P.L. number.	<u>United States Statutes at Large (Stat.)</u> —hardbound; available one year after session. Cite: 112 Stat. 2827 (1998). Also available at Thomas-- Legislative Information on the Internet http://thomas.loc.gov/	<u>U.S.C.C.A.N.</u> —monthly pamphlets; available during session and later hardbound. Also available on WESTLAW at USCCAN.
CODES—laws arranged by subject into 50 titles and section numbers.	<u>United States Code (U.S.C.)</u> —recompiled every six years; contents: text and legislative history citations only; NOT ANNOTATED. Cite: 17 U.S.C. § 101 (2000). Also available at Office of the Law Revision Counsel: http://uscode.house.gov/search/criteria.shtml	<u>United States Code Annotated (U.S.C.A.)</u> —individual volumes recompiled when necessary; contents: text and legislative history citations; Annotations: U.S. Constitution, federal court rules, cases, and secondary sources. Also available on WESTLAW at USCA.
CODE SUPPLEMENTS—updates published annually or quarterly.	Annual cumulative hardbound supplements. Cite: 17 U.S.C. § 101 (2000) (Supp. # + year). Also available at Office of the Law Revision Counsel: http://uscode.house.gov/search/criteria.shtml	Annual pocket parts or paperback pamphlets; quarterly non-cumulative pamphlets; <u>U.S.C.C.A.N. CUMULATIVE</u> “Table 3.” Also available on WESTLAW at USCA.

Researching Statutes in the U.S.C.A.

IF YOU KNOW THE . . .

CHECK THE . . .

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Code title/section—(e.g., 17 U.S.C. § 101) 	<p>Volume spines</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LARGE numbers are titles (1-50). • SMALL numbers with § symbols are sections.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Code title—(e.g., Copyright). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Title names on volume spines. • Title outline in front of any code volume.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subject matter—(e.g., copyright duration) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Index (updated annually).
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Popular name—(e.g., Sonny Bono Copyright Term Extension Act). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Popular Name Table volume. <p><u>Shepard's Acts and Cases by Popular Names.</u> (Level 3 Reference KF 90.S54).</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Statutes at Large</u> citation—(112 Stat. 2827). • Public Law citation—(P.L. 105-298) • Renumbered title—(Revised Statutes (R.S.) 4953 renumbered to 17 U.S.C. § 24). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specific conversation charts in “Tables” volumes.