

>> Good afternoon, everybody. We're going to get started in two minutes.

>> Good afternoon, everybody. Welcome to the academy webinar. Who, what, where, and how. What is legislative research when you reach the end of what you know. This is out leave librarian Kathy Carmichael and I'm here with Codie Holder, our tech support and we have Aundrea, senior training experience and training partner and Jesse Silva, the scholarly resources strategy and -- at UC Berkeley. Before I turn the mic over to them, I will walk you through a few housekeeping reminders. If you have any questions or comments on the presentation, feel free to chat them in the chat box. This can be found at the bottom right-hand corner of the screen. I will keep track of the questions coming in at the end of the presentation, they will respond to each of them. We're recording today's session and we'll e-mail a link to the recording after the webinar, probably some time tomorrow. The webinar will be available in our archive along with a PDF of the slide deck. The webinar archives can be found on [fdlp.gov](http://fdlp.gov) website under fdlba CADmy and we'll send you a certificate of participation using the e-mail you used to register for today's webinar. If anyone needs multiple certificates because multiple people are watching, please e-mail us and include the title of today's webinar with the names and e-mail addresses of the those needing certificates. If you need to zoom in on the slides, click on the full-screen button on the bottom left-side of the screen. To exit the full-screen mode, go to the chat box and chat questions. The blue box at the top of the screen so that it expands and click on the blue return button to get back to default. Finally at the end of the session, we'll be sharing a webby are satisfaction survey with you. We will let you know when the survey is available and a URL will appear in the chatbox. We would very much appreciate your feedback after the session is through today. So, I am going to hand the microphone over to our hosts Jessie and Aundrea.

>> Hey, everybody. This is Jesse Silva from UC Berkeley. Aundrea, you can hear me? Couldn't hear Aundrea.

>> I just logged in and I see that Aundrea has not connected her audio yet. She's not able to hear us. I will work on this side to try to get her audio connected. Hold on one moment.

>> Okay.

>> Aundrea said she's caller 111, if that helps. sorry about the technical issues, folks. We'll get started very soon.

>> Jesse, thank you for the information about caller 111. Corey, I need you to right click on Collin use number 6 and promote Collin user underscore 6 to be a panelist. Collin, user number 6, Collin user 6, this is Aundrea. Hmm. That was a guess. We're not seeing Colin use his number 111 perhaps it's Colin thee. Aundrea, another option that may work for you is when you dialed in, you dialed in and didn't do the number right, so it didn't know to connect the phone. So it puts you down below and if you hang up and dial in again, make sure you get the attendee correct. It should connect you up. We are just waiting for Andrea to dial in again. Hopefully it will be correct and she will connect with the panel of theses.

>> Am I here now?

>> You are here.

>> Of course, folks. If I call back in and I don't know how much you use the Webex, but a recent history, it doesn't seem to recognize me. And so, I use it all of the time. Here we are.

>> Here we are.

>> And we can start the webinar now. Yay.

>> Woo-hoo. Sorry.

>> I had called in before, folks and indeed but then I got lost again. When you get that mean people on the call, that happens. Here we are. What do you do when you reach the end of what you know because it's always hard to know when to stop. I think that is the most important thing. But I remember and you can keep looking for a long time. If you don't know that you reached the end of the road. That is part of

this whole discussion is based on that and what we do, what the tools are that Jessie and I use, um, when we need to just go back to the basics and we recovered everything. I think the next one, Jessie?

>> Sure.

>> Here's our agenda, what we're going to cover today. We're going to review the important publications that folks some know about when they're doing legislative history research. Congressional publication research. We're going to cover some of the few of the tougher questions we have worked on. Some things that pulled our hair out at times. Tips for researchers that are doing this work and we're going to take your questions and suggestions at the end and hopefully we can have a bit of a chat discussion.

>> And when we did this at FDLP last year, I think people really, I don't know. They sort of enjoyed it and it was very engaging. I will be watching the chat while Jesse's talking and Jesse will watch the chat while I'm talking to see what is going on.

>> Yes.

>> Next slide, Jesse. So one of my go-to publications is the house and senate journals. If someone asks the question about what happened on a bill, this is one of my go-to publications. It's big, a fat publication. There are, I think, literally in the early days of 7, 800 pages per volume, per session per congress and now they're up to several thousand pages. The biggest problem with most of the house and senate journals is there is a table of contents. You don't know what you're getting into and you go on page one and literally, it drops you in to the first day of the session. Telling you who was there for that session. About 2/3 of the way of the volume? You can find an index and, you know, the first page of the index said there are multiple indexes and they organized somewhat differently overtime. There is a subject index like you can see from the image on the left where we have an index on tax discrimination, and there is also a bill index in there. When you're looking at the house index and so, they will index first the house publications, the house bills, house joint resolutions, et cetera, and then they index the senate bills that they had considered. So if it comes over as a senate bill and not reintroduced as a house bill, you will see the index there. So it's worth paging through to find out literally about 2/3 of the way through is where I start looking online. I just see if it's 2,000 pages, I will start at page 1400, page 1500. Looking for the bill. You can see for all of these, it's telling you what happened. And on what page it happened. So, for HR61677, it tells you what the bills are and it tells you, I guess, Mr. Le in, t was probably the sponsor. That is not something I have studied and it went to the committee on public works on page 1107. In the right column there, you see HR16810 and if you follow through, it became a public law. What is interesting about this is you will notice that it tells you can see the house reports in there and when it passed the house. There is a report. The conference report agreed to in the house and they have all of these amendments and approved. What you don't see in here is a mention of hearings and that is pretty consist because hearings are held and it can be a year or so until they're published. So, I was actually looking this morning, one of my criteria is that, or want criteria, I have downloaded all of the journals to an external hard drive on my desk. They're big enough, I don't want to have to go download them all of the time. I want to be able to pull them up. Too big more my computer hard drive so I went external hard drive for all of them. I was looking for the word hearings and the house journals and the senate journals. The house journals, they really are mentions of congressional hearings that they don't exist. And in the senate journal, you will see mentions of hearings that are held during senate sessions. So, but it's not, I don't believe that it's comprehensive. This is really not a great place to look for hearings that are held. It's not a consist way, but it did, consistent way. It gives me the bill's history and what happened along the way and gives me page numbers within the volumes to work to see more information on it. Next slide there. The house calendar is my othergo to sort of history publication. It has the same drawback that the journals do. They don't mention hearings. Again, you can see you have past the house, you know, in the right column past approved, et cetera and so, there are different segments to this. This is section 7. You can see on the right side on the right this is what is built for the paper Era.

Some of you may have had these. One of the reasons I am familiar with this is it's maybe an inch thick. Unlike the journals which are like three to six inches thick right now per session, this is maybe an inch and a half thick and so you can stuff up a lot of these next to your desk, the reference desk, whatever, which is why I knew about them and then you can thumb it to the right section. You see the black marks on the outside of the pages. The table of contents in the front will tell what you are covered in each of the sessions and if you're looking at the online version, you can so much by the bill's number, so, HR3, HR6 and come up in the adobe search and find all of the instances of the same works also, of course, in anything online. So this is something else that is used consistently. And these actually exist back to about 1899. The version that I have seen. The journals go back to the first congress and are still being issued. So those are sort of my long-term historical reference questions go to. The next, Jesse. The other thing that is used is the congressional record history of bills and the daily digest. One of the indexes for the congressional record and this is true, I think, for the Globe as well. There is a history of files. You can see that on the left side. For some reason, I picked the house stuff when I was doing these screen shots. It was index 2, the congressional records and you can sometimes see mentions of reports in there. For example, about the sixth line down for HR3, it says house report 100-76. The conference report there. So, you will find those researchers. It may not be as detailed as the journals but it's going to give you the debates on the floor and the house and senate. While I really use the indexes to the congressional record, more and more I am loving the daily digest. Because it tells you who was named the conference committees, which is a question I have had and it tells you for each day what hearings were held and it will also tell you if there are, if they will give you at least some of the witnesses. It doesn't necessarily give you all of them, but it does tell you that hearings were held or if the committee was not an executive session. So, this is actually a place to go for hearings and that is something. There are not that many places that will tell you that a hearing was held. So, the daily digest is the place to go for that. Go ahead, Jesse.

>> And then there were some other publications that we wanted to talk about and review a little bit. We didn't think they were warranted screen shots. The historical indexes and one of these is the tables of the annotated, the serial set, which congress, the research and congressional applications, congress published it on a number of different topics and this is an easy way to find them and search through the serial sets or find reports when you don't have access to some of the electronic tools like proQuest congressional or the ridex. I have it sitting on my desk. And it's called United States government publications. There were multiple editions of this book published and the 1949 edition seems to be the best one.

>> That is the best.

>> Yes.

>> And it has a lot of detail and I want to thank Aundrea for telling me about this book originally, about this book originally. It covers many government agencies giving up the history and the major publications going up through 1949. Um, but the congressional chapter is really good. This are two chapters on congress. One on the publications and one on the process and they're both really good. The other tools that you have are the textbooks that we all studied from in library science classes. The Sherman Baker's Moore head, the Arnett et al and the new Simons book that came out a couple of years ago. These can give you extra tools and extra reinforcements and how to begin some of this work and how to learn how to do this.

>> The other book that I really like is 1925. I think it was Brookings institution that published it and it's called "the statistical work of the National Government."

>> Uh-huh.

>> And that is the same thing that -- does. It tells you about the statistical publications. It lists them by subject. There is a fabulous index to 19th century statistical publications from the government. So, if you

don't know the statistical work of the national government, that is something to be aware of. I got mine on eight books. Yours is left on your desk for you, Jesse.

>> Yeah it's a great book.

>> Yeah.

>> So, next, we wanted to look at some reference questions that had come to us. Or that we had seen on gov.el. Some of them a little bit of each. And then we'll also in the middle of them, have a little discussion on full text searching. Those are the questions.

>> Yeah. So, some of you may remember this. I think this is last summer this that this came up. I don't actually have the date, but Jessie and I were talking about this yesterday. -- from western Washington brought this up. He was looking for HR3885. There is a picture of the hearing being held. There is a picture and profess congressional didn't mention any hearing on that day by the committee. Couldn't find any reference anywhere. Again, I go back to the house and senate journals. It mentions reports. It doesn't mention any hearings. Actually, if you go back to the daily digest page that we were looking at like three screens ago, that actually has an image of the daily digest article say yes, there was a committee hearing held. This is one of those that doesn't get published. There are any number of hearings that don't get published and in 2005, there were probably 2005-2006, there were probably 182 hearings from that congress that did not get published. From our things that might be considered security issues, there is some perfectly, you know, that didn't get published. And is there any number of reasons why they didn't publish the hearing? In this case, I think that the person was, Rob might have been referred to the senate for the legislative archive. That is -- later instead of giving you more information. There are places that prefer a number of people when is they sort of, you know, the hearing is held and they think there might be additional information out there, where can they see what the committee did? This is the place the legislative achieves prefer people. They do charge for copies of things. But, it can be an alternative.

>> It's very helpful.

>> Yeah. So, the next question that came up was, again, a year or so ago. This is about Tim and Capote's testimony. This is one Jessie and I talked about as well and so they were looking for trim and Capote's testimony for the senate committee on the judiciary. I went into congressional. You can see I searched under witness name and it doesn't find anything. According to this congressional record, the hearing went on for many days. Next slide, Jesse. Part of it is confirming, you know. Is it M.I. crazy, is the person giving the -- and sure enough in the daily digest, July 21st, 1966, Sherman Capote was testifying it was in a lot of newspapers, a lot of newspapers picked up the "Boston Globe" article we're showing here. And so, this was actually really interesting. Jennifer Morgan friend end university, the law school there she said right away it was not published. But she also noted that the copy, it looked like capote's statement so when somebody testifies in front of congress, if they're not being investigated for something, right. They will often have a statement that they present to the committee and so members of the committee have the statement. So she actually noted in her e-mail response, it appears a copy of trim and Capote's statement contained in box 24 of the birch by senatorial papers housed here and gave the url for the founding paper and that dinged in my mind. There is another option for example for the testimony. Find out who was on the committee for that time. See where their papers are being housed, did they give their papers to some institution and is there a copy available there. For Tim and Capote I think it's likely there will be a testimony there than may be for the grand round hearing. Maybe it's possible. I don't know of the it's possible he auto graphed it for somebody. He submitted it and it's another alternative to look through the papers of people who sat on the committee and see it there. This is one of my first uses of the online Summit journals. Back in August 2005, someone asked a question on godecel about 784 about the 1860s. According to the globe, the committee was referred, the bill was referred to the senate committee and the.

>>You dish areay and it was reported back with an amendment. She couldn't find the senate report that referred to the deal S. she misinterpreting something? I think it was a woman, but I don't know why I think that. I did research this at the time. You can see on the right, we have the senate bill index from that time period. And you can see it was read 22 is and referred. It was reported with an amendment on page 187. There is not a report number listed there. So, one of the things was lucky enough to do in my career was talk to the folks at the congressional resource service the night I went to train there. In a training session, I was talking with them about it. And what they said was just because it's reported does not mean there was a report. So, I guess, had there been an actual document, an actual reports, an actual publication, there would have been a number there. But back in the day, after 1880, there were not as many reports on bills. And now every time a report comes out of committee, there sometimes to be a report. I'm not going to say all of the time but most of the time there is a report. But at that point in time, there were not always reports. There were not always hearings on things the way there are now. So, it was reported there was not an actual report on this. So, this is a long question. And it starts out asking about markups in congressionals from 2000 to current. They were looking for any related to PM9386, the farm bill for 1973. And the question instead of a red herring, there were markups because markups were included and reports included in hearings. It's just with the schedule. You don't have the schedule before that. But we go through, you know, instead of looking. I said I can't look at anything happening on the date of public law 9376. I downloaded the journals to the 93rd congress. I am putting in the ven shots. The first mention, the screen shots. The first mention is later in May or June. They're looking at May 1973. I can't find anything, PL, whatever the bill was for PL9386. So, it, let's see. And reports on legislation go way back. So it doesn't include instead of talking about the general issue of markups and so, next screen, please, Jesse. So it started life with senate 516 and again, this is released later in May. I looked at senate 517 and look what is there. I said by the way, the date of May 9th, 1973, is given the day the committee completed the work and when the committee planned. This is sort of going back and forth a bit here. Sure enough, senate 517 became something else and next screen. So, a lot of threads here that we're doing this. Next slide, there we G. okay, I finally went to the daily digest. This is a point where we're in our back and forth. I went to have lunch, I was doing the dishes and I was thinking where am I going to find out what happened in that committee. I was doing the dishes and I thought it's not going to be in the journals. It's not going to be in the calendars. WomanI going to find this information. The daily digest is going to tell Moe what happened. On May 9th. We have the top item. It says on Friday may 4th, the committee continued a executive session to mark up the proposed session and didn't complete the action, so it will meet again. What that tells me, I'm not going to find anything. It's not an executive session. For me, if they're looking to find out what happened in early May, they're going to need to go to the center for legislative archives. You can find in the daily digest the second item, the second screen shot. Long hold the committee and executive session agreed to file an original bill proposing's five-year farm program. So they came out with a committee bill at that point opposed to something introduced by an original or a particular member. So, one senate 1888 was surprised on May 23rd, but we have a little bit of a clue as to what happened. They met in executive session and then had a committee bill that came out after the executive session. So, down at the bottom, if what you're looking for is not in the senate report 93173, then the person should call the legislative archives to see if there is anything they can tell you about the meeting in executive session. So, humidity long, long back and, so, whew, long on that one. The last item, someone was trying to track down the history of a particular piece of text in a law, which was the financial service regulatory release act of 2006. They wanted to see how this particular, how this language, before the standards and limitations apply to investments under this paragraph made by a national bank directly and the subsidiary. Where did that text come from? That was the question. So, here's our question for the chat. Of that paragraph, the foregone standard and limitations applied under this paragraph made by a national bank directly and by a subsidiary, what text would you so much on to find this knowing, search

on to find this knowing we had all of the bills in the world available to search on. How would you go back and find if there is, why that came from? We did all of our legislative history research and couldn't find it in there. My only option was a full-text search. I am watching the chats, folk. give you about five more seconds to look at that. The reason I ask what text would you search on is because doing all of the material. Yeah, someone said

>>> WE FOUND THE SUBJECT FOR MILITARY UNDER ARMY AND THE REPORT THAT SHE WAS LOOKING FOR WHICH WAS PUBLISHED IN 1842 WITH THE LETTER TO, A LETTER FROM THE SECRETARY OF NAVY.  
>> THE QUESTION THAT I GOT THAT REALLY MADE ME TEAR MY HAIR OUT WAS BERKELEY WAS DOING RESEARCH, THEY WANTED TO FIND ALL OF THE PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE FILES SHEETS. WHAT THESE ARE IS WHENEVER THERE IS A NOMINEE TO GO TO CONGRESS TO BE CONFIRMED THE CONGRESSIONAL NUMBERS ARE GIVEN A BIOGRAPHY SHEET OF THIS PERSON. THE QUESTIONS VARY DEPENDING ON WHEN THE PERSON WAS NOMINATED. THEY HAVE BASICALLY THE SAME INFORMATION. The name, address, history and education. Also any awards and honors they may have received and their career history. Sometimes this is called the nominee biography sheet and sometimes it's called the nominee questionnaire. And so trying to find these things in all the different confirmation hearings was kind of difficult. Not all of the sheets are published. Some hearings have them. Many do not have them. And so and trying to figure out where to find this I stumbled across center for legislative archives and that is where these things are kept and many that the faculty member needed. So this person ended up going to Washington DC to complete her research. This material is published as part of the legislative process. When it is not there, what do you do and where do you find it? They really came through for us on this.  
>> As part of our conversation, we came up with a couple of what we call protests and the first one is always to download the finals. If you delete them it is guaranteed that you will need them again. That has happened so many times. I download them to a certain file or I even do screenshots of the page that I want so I can go back and look at them. That way I can note where I got them so I remember was at the journals or where do I find this.  
>> That is really important. There was a hearing from a researcher doing research on a Native American tribe in a watershed area from the 1930s I think it was. Downloaded it and found that she needed and deleted it and then she came back two weeks later and try to find it.  
>> And it is really hard the second time. Where was this? How do I find this? [ Laughter ]  
>> You think if you have done it once, you should be able to do it again really easy. For whatever reason you end up tearing your hair out.  
>> One of my chips is to go to a quiet place and think about what you have missed. I can't start database searching again. I need to think through like I did for the final legislation. Where am I going to find information? I know that this and this doesn't work. I need to find letter X and is there a good place to find it? If I'm doing the dishes or something something sort of [ Indiscernible -- audio cutting out ] it gives my brain time to think about what the issue is and I can find it again.  
>> Public transportation helps me.  
>> One of the things that Jesse said, and you and I have gone back and forth with this a couple of times, look at newspapers. There is another example where I know you showed me something happened. But sometimes the newspapers give additional information that can be helpful especially with hearings. And I would also say a question that I had ages ago about something called the Munson report. I will also ask the person, I want to see what they were looking out for a citation. I do not want to see that transcribing of what it was. Send me a photo from your cell phone or a photocopy or whatever. I want to see what it is that makes them think that X, Y, or Z happen. I want to see it from the horses mouth, if you will. Sometimes the formatting will give me a clue. Maybe the user didn't have that. I have done this for longer than most of them have.

>> And the Washington Post has been really helpful in this area especially the pre-Internet and pre-1990 going back to even the early 20th century and late 1800s finding material mentioned in a Washington Post article with the date and committee name. That helps me find it in a different way.

>> Yes. And again, as I said at the beginning, one of the hardest things to learn is when to give up. If you've exhausted your local resources, when can you definitively prove I have checked all the places I should check, and I can't find it. So that is really hard. And to be able to tell the patrons, look, I have checked here, here, and here, and I cannot find hide nor hair of it. I need better information from you before I will spend more time on it. Right now it is a time suck essentially.

>> And the wonderful center for legislative archives. This has been the place, a place for the last resort when you have reached that point where I do not know where else to go. I have looked at everything that we have. Where else can I turn to? The Center for legislative archives has been an amazing resource in this area.

>> Yes, and you can just Google it or whatever your favorite search engine is. On the right side it'll give the context information with the phone number, email, and even a location. If someone is going to DC they can visit with them and work with them. You can email them. I have referred five or six people specifically to them. While they do charge, it can really be worth it for people. They can confirm what we thought and they will do the research and confirm but without before. And the other tip is from Jennifer Morgan, identify committee members who may have been there and see if the members papers are deposited are available anywhere. They may have a copy of what you were looking for. And one of the questions somebody submitted for this, they were lucky to find out, and I'm going to toggle to the question, there was an act in 1887 called the Edmund Tucker act. It was an act of Congress have focused on restricting practices of the LDS church. It was past in response to a dispute between Congress and the LDS church regarding polygamy. The question was, when was it repealed? This is actually something and I hate to say this, but I would Google something like that. I Google repeal of Edmund Tucker Zach and it gives you, it tells you when it was repealed. Google does a lot of good what. I don't necessarily believe that. I will say, I am not often led astray on legislative information on Google. You can double check the information and provide the user the citation or the law. And there are other things out there and googling can be helpful as well.

>> Wikipedia can have some of this information. Trust but verify, I was working with a student who was tracking the original filings against women act of the 1990s and Wikipedia had something about there were a certain number of hearings held on this and using some of the tools we have we were able to find there were more hearing Summers there. The student updated the article with the correct number of hearings.

>> I use Wikipedia for a lot of research. Trusted verify is a good way to talk about that. It is good, but I always want to make sure. They are not cited articles. Weird things can happen in Wikipedia. But it can save you a lot of time. On the Edmund Tucker act, I did a quick search and decided to go out to Google. And it did. It was right there. Questions and suggestions. Any questions the participants may have in any crazy legislative history questions that you have worked on or tips you can provide that we did not cover. All are welcome and thank you.

>> I'm sorry if anybody heard that and the background. I have an old dog and he was kind of gagging behind me. Sorry about that.

>> Yes, the slides will be posted. Ashley or Kathy, can you comment on that?

>> Usually Ashley is able to get things posted and shared out the next day or the day after.

>> We did post the ones after the [ Indiscernible ] webinar and we did update a couple of slides to add more information about the journals and the Congressional record daily digest etc..

>> And they are on the FDL website under conferences and events if someone wants to look at those until the new sites are up.

>> And someone is giving a shout out to archive.org for finding actual hearings. And yes, we here at the University of California have been contributing hundreds of articles to that site. Many are being digitized and put up.

>> I would say one of the things for people really went to town when we did the presentation last fall, fulltext searches.

>> That was fun.

>> Yes, that was fun to hear. [ Laughter ]

>> Somebody else confirmed see who served on the committee. They had been looking for something and I think it had something to do with the Rachel Carlson silence rain. They literally have been working on this reference questions for years. Where would this be? They found Gaylord Nelson papers and a copy of the testimony they were looking for wasn't part of the files there. It's a really good and interesting tip. It is a good alternative.

>> Okay. We will hang in here for a couple more minutes to see if there are any further questions. In the meantime, Corey has shared the link for the survey, and we would really appreciate it if you would fill it out and said that it. Does anyone else have any more questions for Ondrea or Jesse?

>> Thank you so much, everybody.

>> Yes, thank you, everyone.

>> Jesse and Andr#233; at thank you so much for doing this. This is one of our highly requested topics. We appreciate your willingness to repeat your presentation from last fall.

>> Sure, no problem. I hope it was helpful.

>> Thank you for using WebEx. Visit our website at [www.WebEx.com](http://www.WebEx.com).

>> [ Event Concluded ]