

Most Cited Cases® on Westlaw

When you find a relevant topic and key number in a case you are viewing on Westlaw, you can use the Most Cited Cases feature to retrieve a list of other cases containing headnotes classified under that topic and key number. The cases will be listed in order of citation frequency, with the case cited most often listed first.

To retrieve a Most Cited Cases list from a displayed case, follow these steps:

1. From a displayed case, click **Most Cited Cases** in a headnote classification hierarchy (Figure 1). The Custom Digest search page is displayed with *Most Cited Cases* selected as the default order (Figure 2).
2. At the Custom Digest search page, you can
 - select a different jurisdiction (your home jurisdiction is the default jurisdiction).
 - exclude articles from *American Law Reports* (ALR®), law reviews, and other secondary sources.
 - restrict your result by date.
 - add search terms.
 - change the order in which the cases in your result will be listed (the default order is to list the cases in order of citation frequency, beginning with the most frequently cited case).
3. After you make your selections, click **Search**. You will retrieve a single document that lists all cases in the selected jurisdiction containing headnotes classified under your topic and key number (Figure 3). If you did not change the default order, the case most frequently cited for the point of law represented by the topic and key number is listed first.

For assistance using Westlaw, call **1-800-WESTLAW** (1-800-937-8529).

For free reference materials, visit west.thomson.com/westlaw/guides.

Figure 1. Displayed case

Figure 2. Custom Digest search page

The Most Cited Cases list includes information and features that will expedite your research. The list will help you

- identify how often a case was cited for a particular point of law
- pinpoint useful cases by scanning the headnotes of the cited cases
- learn the status of a cited case using KeyCite® status flags
- view the full text of a cited case by clicking its hypertext link

The screenshot displays a legal research interface. On the left, a sidebar contains a 'Result List' for document 283K114, showing 110 headnotes. The first headnote is selected: '1. 283K114 110 Headnotes'. Below it, a list of keynotes is visible: '283 OFFICERS AND PUBLIC EMPLOYEES', '283III Rights, Powers, Duties, and Liabilities', and '283k114 k. Liabilities for official acts.' A 'Clear all' link is also present. The main content area is titled 'Custom Digest 283K114 110 Headnotes'. It features a 'Next Part >>' link and a section titled 'Most Cited Cases'. This section lists two cases with their citation counts and full text excerpts. The first case is cited 164 times and is 'Johnson v. State, 447 P.2d 352'. The second case is cited 66 times and is 'Caldwell v. Montoya, 897 P.2d 1320'. The interface includes various navigation and utility icons at the top and bottom.

Figure 3. Most Cited Cases result