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Helpful Hints For Searching the *Annotated Constitution of the United States of America* Online via *GPO Access*

Content and file format:

The database contains Senate Document 103-6, "The Constitution of the United States of America; Analysis and Interpretation" which contains both the literal print of the Constitution of the United States of America and annotations of cases decided by the Supreme Court of the United States to June 29, 1992. The 1996 Supplement provides updates. It is prepared by the Library of Congress, Congressional Research Service. Documents are available in ASCII text and Adobe Acrobat Portable Document Format (PDF) files.

Identification Code:

Each document in the database will display in the results list with the identification code, constitution followed by the title. The title of each document consists of the section name where the document is found in brackets, as well as the truncated title. For example: Constitution: [6th Amendment --Rights of Accused...]Rights of accused in criminal.

Maximum Responses:

The default setting for SWAIS and the WinWAIS/MacWAIS client software is to return a maximum of 40 responses to a query. The default for the Web interface is to return a maximum of 40 documents to a query. To locate a larger number of documents, you will need to change the setting. In SWAIS type a lower case o at the *Source Selection* menu to change your options. In WinWAIS, select *Edit* and then *Preferences* from the pull-down menu. In MacWAIS, select *File* and then *Preferences* from the pull-down menu. On the *GPO Access* Web Searching Pages a box is provided in which you may change the number of documents returned.

Sample Searches:

Subject¹

Query: "bill of rights"

Alternative : bill ADJ rights

Results: Constitution: [1st Through 10th Amendments] BILL OF RIGHTS
Constitution: [8th Amendment --Further Guarantees...} FURTHER GUAR.....

This search demonstrates how to search by a phrase. When searching for a phrase, you should surround the phrase with quotation marks or place the boolean operator ADJ in between each word in the phrase.

Note: The ADJ and the quotation marks perform the same function. These operators retrieve documents where words are immediately adjacent, but also those where the words are separated by up to 20 characters.

Amendment

Query: "5th amendment"

Alternative : "5* amendment"

Results: Constitution [5th Amendment--Rights of Persons] Contents
Constitution [5th Amendment --Rights of Persons] Indictment by grand jury

This search demonstrates how to search for an amendment. The asterisk (*) is a truncation tool. This tool is extremely useful when you are not sure of the specific ending of a particular word. The truncation tool is only functional at the end of words so you cannot use it search for words which have different beginnings or prefixes.

Contents

Query: "contents"

Results: Constitution: [13th Amendment --Slavery and Involuntary...] CONTENTS
Constitution: [10th Amendment --Reserved Powers] CONTENTS

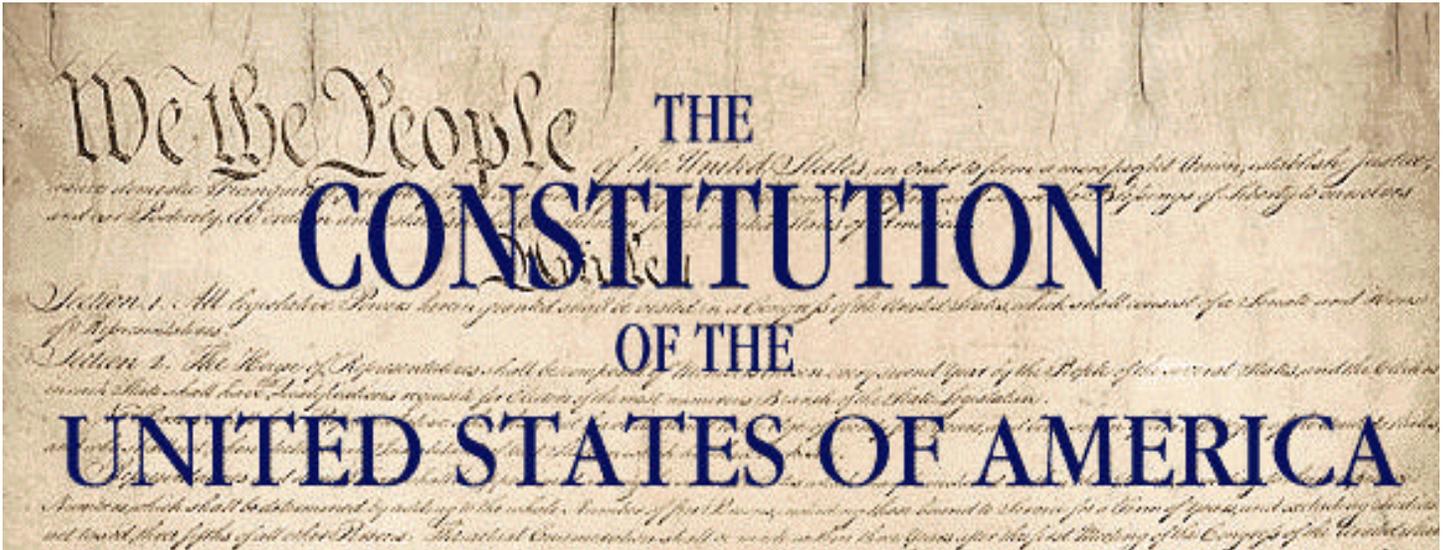
This content search retrieves both the "general" table of contents which appears in the Preliminary Pages, as well as the table of contents which appears at beginning of each Article and Amendment. If you wish to limit the contents to a particular section simply type in the section name. For example: the search "8th amendment" will result in two documents retrieved; the first document being the contents for the eighth amendment.

Page Number

Query: "page 1467"

Results: Constitution: [8th Amendment --Further Guarantees...] CONTENTS

This search retrieves notices that appear, in whole or in part, on page 1467. The inclusive page numbers for each document are included in the heading at the top of each document. For documents that include a page break, the page numbers appear in the text in the format [[1467]].



Analysis and Interpretation

Annotations of Cases Decided by the Supreme Court of the United States

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Chart tells you what is available online, providing a timetable and doc. number.

Click on this link to download specific documents contained in these databases. (See next page.)

| Publication | Cases Decided to: | Senate Document No. |
|-----------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| 1992 Edition | June 29, 1992 | 103-6 |
| 1996 Supplement | July 1, 1996 | 104-14 |

Download files directly from both the 1992 Edition and 1996 Supplement or search one or both publications below:

- 1992 Edition
 1996 Supplement

Choose which data-base(s) to search.

Maximum Number of Documents: Default is 40. Maximum is 350.

Search Terms:

Enter search terms in the space above. Phrases must be in quotation marks (" "). The operators ADJ (adjacent), AND, OR and NOT can be used, but must be in capital letters. For example: "supreme court" AND president. Word roots can be searched using an asterisk (*) following the word stem. For example: judicia* will retrieve judicial, judicially and judiciary.

If you click on [Download Files](#) from the *Constitution, Analysis and Interpretation Search Page* you will get the page shown below. The URL for this page is:

<http://www.access.gpo.gov/congress/senate/constitution/toc.html>.

Analysis and Interpretation

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Click on this link to go to
search the database.

Files can be downloaded directly from both the 1992 Edition and 1996 Supplement below,
or the publications can also be [searched by keyword](#).

1996 Supplement: Cases Decided to July 1, 1996

Senate Document No. 104-14



(645k)



(286k)

Click on these icons
(TXT and PDF) to
download a part of
the Annotated
Constitution.

Click on these icons to per-
form a direct download of
the Supplement.

NOTE: Certain documents from the *1992 Edition* have been supplemented in the *1996 Supplement*.

1992 Edition: Cases Decided to June 29, 1992

Senate Document No. 103-6



(82k)



(3k)

Title Page (*also see Supplement*)



(2k)



(3k)

Special Thanks To

Click on this link to
search the supplement.

CONTENTS

(For contents in detail, see separate table of contents
at beginning of each Article and Amendment)



(11k)



(8k)

Public Law 91-589: Authorization



(23k)



(21k)

Introduction to the 1992 Edition



(29k)



(24k)

Historical Note on Formation of the Constitution



(49k)



(35k)

Text of the Constitution (Literal Print)



(74k)



(62k)

Text of the Amendments (Literal Print)



(15k)



(12k)

Proposed Amendments not Ratified by the States

The Constitution with Annotations



(6k)



(5k)

Preamble

Additional *GPO Access* Materials:

GPO Access User's Guide & Helpful Hints - Available via:

Dial-in: 202-512-1387- From the Main Menu type B for *GPO Access*; type 4 GPO Access WAIS User Documentation & Helpful Hints; select 2 for Helpful Hints. The guide is available in sections or in its entirety & hints are listed by database name. Files are available in ASCII and PDF formats.

FTP: fedbbs.access.gpo.gov or point your browser to <http://fedbbs.access.gpo.gov>. The file is in the HELP directory. Check 00INDEX.txt for the file descriptions.

Online via *GPO Access*: The User's Guide is available as a database online via *GPO Access* and can be accessed through the Web, WAIS and SWAIS. Documents are available in ASCII and PDF formats. The Helpful Hints are available online by searching for the word hints in each database.

The Superintendent of Document's World Wide Web Home Page: The User's Guide and Helpful Hints are available at: http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/aces/desc004.html.

GPO Access Training Booklet Electronic copies of the training booklet are available on the FBB via:

Dial-in: 202-512-1387- From the Main Menu select B for GPO Access; select # 4 *GPO Access* WAIS User Documentation and Helpful Hints; select 1 for User Documentation. The self-executing file names are traintxt.exe for the text version and trainpdf.exe for the Adobe Acrobat PDF version (traintxt.sea or trainpdf.sea for Macintosh).

Web/FTP: fedbbs.access.gpo.gov or point your browser to <http://fedbbs.access.gpo.gov>. The file is in the HELP directory. Check 00INDEX.txt for file descriptions.

ENDNOTES:

1. Users with SWAIS access will not be able to retrieve PDF files. Users with WAIS or Web access and the free Adobe Acrobat Reader software can view and print and typeset documents.

2. The results of these sample searches are described as they will appear using SWAIS or the WAIS or Web client software customized for use with *GPO Access*. The searches can be performed with other WAIS client software, but the display of the results may vary.