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Getting Started With A Brand New Research Problem

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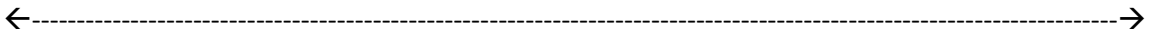
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- 1) Read the whole thing
- 2) Start writing down facts and terms that look like they might be important
- 3) Note the jurisdiction
 - a. US Circuit Map: http://www.uscourts.gov/court_locator.aspx
 - b. Illinois judiciary map: <http://www.state.il.us/court/circuitcourt/circuitmap/map1.asp>
- 4) Note the law you already have:
- 5) Secondary Sources
 - a. Which one?

Clare's Continuum ©



Simplest answer

most detailed answer

Most general

most specific

- b. Georgetown treatise finder
- 6) If statute, check the annotated statute. Why?
- 7) (Ok, now we're in the weeds....) What are you looking for?

1/24/14

- 8) What to do when you find a case
 - a. Read it
 - b. What cases does your case cite?
 - c. Shepardize it. Why?
 - i. Good law v. bad law
 - ii. Citing references
 - d. Headnotes

- 9) Questions for the vendors: