



frequently, include annotations of cases interpreting code sections, have detailed indexes, and provide historical notes of amendments and legislative history.

The U.S. Code, USCA, and USCS are all located on the main floor of the library on Shelf 215.

- use the general index (USC, USCA, USCS) or specific title indexes (USCA, USCS). The indexes to the individual code titles are usually more detailed than the index to entire code.

- go directly to the relevant title(s) and examine the outline of sections at beginning of each distinct subject or use the detailed title index. There is risk in this because you may miss a pertinent reference codified in a different title.

many laws are known by a popular name. For example, 42 USC 14701, concerning the registration of sex offenders, is popularly known as “Megan’s Law.” To find the code sections where these laws are codified, look in:

1. Shepard’s “Acts & Cases by Popular Names”;
2. Popular Name Tables in USC, USCA, or USCS;
3. The General Index to USCS.

USCA and USCS have several features in common that are useful when performing statutory research.

1. Both provide historical and statutory notes of amendments and legislative history documents.
2. Both provide general indexes to the complete code and title specific indexes.
3. Both are updated by pocket parts and supplementary volumes.
4. Both include references to CFR rules promulgated under the authority of the specific code section.
5. Both provide cross-references to related code sections.

Some differences between USCA and USCS are:

1. USCA contains more annotations than USCS; USCS is selective, avoiding repetitive decisions.
2. USCS has a Research Guide with citations to ALR annotations and Am Jur 2d topics.

