



## Frequently Asked Questions

### What is Casemaker?

Casemaker is a web-based legal research library and search engine that allows you to search and browse a variety of legal information such as codes, rules, and case law through the Internet. It is an easily searchable, continually updated database of case law, statutes, and regulations. State Bar of Michigan members have free access to libraries of all 50 U.S. states, plus the federal districts.

### Do I have to pay to Access Casemaker Online?

No, there are no monthly, hourly, or per-minute charges for use of the Casemaker libraries – the Casemaker Web library is FREE for all State Bar of Michigan members, including enhanced services such as CaseCheck+, CaseDigest, and CiteCheck. There is no sign-up or waiting period, you can use all services now simply by logging in to the Member Area at <https://e.michbar.org/>.

CaseCheck+ works like Shepherd's® and KeyCite® to validate your research and identify whether or not your case law citations are still good law. There is no cost to use this feature – it is free!

CasemakerDigest provides a first look into the most recent decisions handed down by state and federal courts. Cases are summarized as soon as they become available and you can create your own areas of interest to receive notifications through RSS feed and/or email of the cases most relevant to your practice – all for free!

CiteCheck is a free personal cite checker for a pleadings, briefs, or other documents. Simply upload a Word, text, or searchable PDF document, and Casemaker will analyze every citation and provide you with a report of good law, negative treatments, and potential citation format errors.

### What Does the Casemaker Library Contain?

**Michigan Materials:** Michigan Administrative Code, Michigan Attorney General opinions, Michigan case law, Michigan Constitution, federal court rules, Michigan session laws, Michigan state court rules, and Michigan statutes.

**Federal Materials:** Michigan's federal district courts' local rules, U.S. Supreme Court opinions (1754 to current), U.S. circuit courts opinions (1930 to current), U.S. district courts opinions (1960 to current), U.S. bankruptcy courts opinions (2005 to current), Board of Immigration appeals, U.S. Constitution, Court of Appeals armed forces and veterans claims, Court of Claims, Court of International Trade, federal court rules, federal rules decisions, Internal Revenue Service, Longshore and Harbor Workers' compensation decisions, NTSB decisions, public laws, tax court, U.S. Code, and federal code of regulations.

**Other States' Materials:** Most state's case law, statutes and constitutions, Supreme Court and appellate cases (at least back to 1950), some states' court rules, and some states' jury instructions.

## Will Casemaker Replace the Commercial Vendor I Use for Online Legal Research?

This is an individual choice that depends on the needs of your legal practice. Casemaker provides a comprehensive, online legal research library that is comparable to other leading research programs.

## How Do I Access Casemaker?

Each State Bar of Michigan member can log into Casemaker by going to the State Bar's website at [www.michbar.org](http://www.michbar.org) and clicking on "Member Area Login." **Your username and password are the same for other Bar services such as online license renewal.**

## What Are the System Requirements?

The State Bar of Michigan Member Area is tested to be compatible with recent versions of Chrome, Safari, Firefox, and Microsoft Edge. Internet Explorer will not work.

Some personal firewall, cookie blockers, and pop-up blocker programs can cause the authentication or certain features of the service to be blocked if the settings are such that they do not allow third-party cookies or new windows to be opened. If this is the case, specify [www.lawriter.net](http://www.lawriter.net) as an "allowed" site.

## What if I Forget My Password?

If you do not remember your password, click on the blue button that says "Password Reset" at the Member Area login page to reset it online. If that doesn't work, contact the Member Services Help Line, Monday thru Friday, 8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. at (888) SBM-FORU (888-726-3678) for assistance.

## Who Can Help Me if I Get Frustrated?

For specific questions about using Casemaker, contact customer support at (877) 659-0801.

If you have problems logging into the member area, contact SBM member services at (888) SBM-FORU.

## How Can I Get Access for My Secretary or Legal Assistant?

Only members of the State Bar of Michigan have access to Casemaker. We cannot give your assistant his or her own login information unless he or she is also a member of the State Bar of Michigan. However, members of the Paralegal/Legal Assistant Section of the State Bar of Michigan do have access to Casemaker using their own login information. For information about membership in this section, visit <https://connect.michbar.org/paralegal/home>

## Can Someone Research the Information I Need and Send it to Me?

No, research must be done on your own. If you have questions about how to find a specific case or library, contact Casemaker customer support at (877) 659-0801 or email [support@casemakerlegal.com](mailto:support@casemakerlegal.com). You can also live chat with a Casemaker support representative during business hours – simply log into Casemaker, then click the "Live Chat" link at the top right of the page.

## Where Can I Find Information on How to Use Casemaker?

Go to <http://www.casemakerlegal.com/CasemakerLegalUserManual.pdf> for a comprehensive and easy-to-use manual on how to search, browse, organize, and cite cases. Casemaker also offers free webinars training sessions for State Bar members. To sign up for a free webinar, log into Casemaker, then click the "Webinar" link at the top right of the page.