



Thomas M. Cooley Law Libraries' Research Guide Series

CONSTITUTIONAL LAW

- I. U.S. Constitutional History Prior to Ratification
- II. U.S Constitutional History Since Ratification
- III. Constitutional Encyclopedias, Dictionaries, Commentaries, Concordances
- IV. Treatises
- V. State & International Constitutional Law and History
- VI. Journals
- VII. Specific Topics: Civil Rights, Speech, Federalism, etc.
- VIII. Internet Resources

Overview:

This research guide is intended to help researchers of Constitutional Law. There are primarily materials related to the U.S. constitution, but there are also state and international materials included. Internet links are also included; however, coverage is somewhat restricted due to the fact that the internet is fluid as to its content, and also because a simple search with a search engine will generally provide a researcher with whatever he is looking for.

I. U.S. CONSTITUTIONAL HISTORY PRIOR TO RATIFICATION

The Constitutional Convention : a narrative history from the notes of James Madison ed. by Edward J. Larson and Michael P. Winship

Location: KF4510 .M33 2005

The title says it all.

American Constitution, its Origin and Development, The by Alfred Kelly

Location: JK 31 .K4 1983

Constitutional history in the context of US history.

Complete Anti-Federalist, The by Herbert Storing (ed.)

Location: JK 155 .C65

The writings of those who opposed the ratification of the Constitution. Four volumes.

Debates in the Federal Convention of 1787 by Gaillard Hunt (ed.)

Location: KF 4510 .U535 1970

700 pages written by James Madison consisting of transcripts and notes on what was said and done during the Federal Convention of 1787. It is sort of like the "Congressional Record" of 1787.



Documentary History of the Constitution of the United States

Location: KF 4541 .A1 D6 1894

Volume 1 contains proceedings from the Annapolis convention, continental congress, and federal convention. Volume 2 contains Madison's notes from the federal convention of 1787 (which he edited thoroughly 30 years after the fact).

Documentary History of the Ratification of the Constitution, The by Merrill Jensen (ed.)

Location: KF 4502 .D63

Twenty volumes. Includes commentary and original documents.

Elliot's Debates on the Federal Constitution by Jonathan Elliot

Location: KF 4511 .D43 1836a

This five volume set based on journals, notes and minutes from all the states that debated the ratification of the constitution.

Federalist Concordance, The by Thomas Engeman (ed.)

Location: KF 4515 .E53 1988

A concordance to "The Federalist."

Founders' Constitution, The by Philip Kurland (ed.)

Location: KF 4502 .F68 1987

The scope of this five volume work is exhaustive. Contains mostly original documents such as relevant portions of the writings of John Locke. Many if not all of the Federalist Papers are included. There are also many letters and writings from the founding fathers, as well as original documents such as the Mayflower Compact, and the Royal Commissions for Regulating Plantations.

Friends of the Constitution: Writings of the "Other" Federalists by Colleen Sheehan (ed.)

Location: KF 4515 .F75 1998

Essays by Noah Webster, George Washington and many others.

Papers of Alexander Hamilton, The by Alexander Hamilton

Location: E 302 .H2 1961

Twenty-seven volume collection of Hamilton's writings.

Papers of John Marshall, The by John Marshall

Location: E 302 .M365 1974

Eleven volume collection of the writings of John Marshall.

Records of the Federal Convention by Max Farrand (ed.)

Location: KF 4510 .U547

Three volumes. Contains transcripts and notes of the Federal Convention of 1787. The author notes that James Madison's notes were edited 30 years after the fact by Madison and thus somewhat unreliable. This author instead attempts to use as many other sources as he can find of the proceedings of that convention. He does not exclude Madison's journal, but instead, incorporates it with the other materials.



The Federalist by Jacob Cooke (ed.)

Location: KF 4515 .F4 1982

Contains essays written by James Madison and Alexander Hamilton (and 5 by John Jay) in order to persuade the people of New York to ratify the Constitution.

II. U.S CONSTITUTIONAL HISTORY SINCE RATIFICATION

A Practical Companion to the Constitution: how the Supreme Court has Ruled on Issues from Abortion to Zoning by Jethro Liberman

Location: KF 4548 .L54 1999

This title is basically a 1 volume encyclopedia of Supreme Court decisions. It provides brief annotations (though sometimes lengthy) to a broad range of legal topics to show how the Supreme Court has ruled, and then provides references to the cases.

Constitutional Amendments by Kris Palmer

Location: KF 4557 .C665 2000

Constitutional history of the amendments including interpretive cases up to 2000.

Constitution of the United States of America by Johnny Killian (ed.)

Location: KF 4527 .U54 1996

From the Government Printing Office, this 2200 page tome contains the Constitution as well as annotations. The annotations are not as exhaustive or explanatory as are the annotations in U.S. Code Service or U.S. Code Annotated. It is updated annually by pocket part, with new compiled volumes issued every few years.

Oxford Guide to the United States Supreme Court Decisions, The by Kermit Hall (ed.)

Location: KF 4548 .O97

A one volume encyclopedia arranged by case names with fairly lengthy annotations. There is an index in the back.

Oxford Companion to the Supreme Court of the United States, The by Kermit Hall (ed.)

Location: KF 8742 .A35 O93 1992

One volume encyclopedia.

Preview of United States Supreme Court Cases

Location: KF 4547.8 .P7

Monthly review of cases that are to appear before the Supreme Court.

Supreme Court Justices by Timothy Hall

Location: KF 8744 .H35

A biographical dictionary.

Supreme Court Review, The

Location: KF 4546 .S9

This title is an annual collection of essays that survey the Supreme Court rulings for that year. There are volumes from 1960 and onwards.



III. CONSTITUTIONAL ENCYCLOPEDIAS, DICTIONARIES, COMMENTARIES & CONCORDANCES

Commentaries of the Constitution of the United States by Joseph Story

Location: KF 4541 .S7 1991

Reprint of Harvard Professor Joseph Stories Commentaries of 1833 in three volumes.

Constitutional Law Dictionary, The by Ralph Chandler

Location: KF 4548.5 .C47

Two volumes. This title provides a list of the most significant Supreme Court cases and annotations. The annotations are helpful in that they offer explanations as to why these cases are significant. The first volume covers individual rights, while the second covers governmental powers.

Encyclopedia of the American Constitution by Leonard Levy (ed)

Location: KF 4548 .E53 2000

Six volume encyclopedia of constitutional law.

Exhaustive Concordance to the United States Constitution, The by Dennis Bizzoco (ed.)

Location: KF 4528.5 .E97 1994

A concordance to the U.S. Constitution. It includes a "Rapid Reference Constitution" that breaks each article and section into individual paragraphs, which is useful, because each paragraph usually has its own body of law.

IV. TREATISES

American Constitutional Law by Lawrence Tribe

Location: KF4550 .T785 2000

Seventeen hundred page hornbook.

Black's Constitutional Law by Henry Black

Location: KF 4550 .B62 1910

And you thought he only did a dictionary. This is a treatise from 100 years ago. It is well written, interesting, and historical.

Constitutional Analysis in a nutshell by Thomas Baker

Location: KF 4550 .Z9 W53 2003

This is a three hundred page, West nutshell. Easy to read overview of constitutional analysis.

Constitutional Law [Nowalk & Rotunda] by John Nowalk & Ronald Rotunda

Location: KF 4550 .N6 2004

Fifteen hundred page hardcover hornbook.

Constitutional Law Deskbook: Individual Rights by Ralph Chandler

Location: KF 4550 .C475 1993

Large annotations of major Con Law cases. The first chapter provides a history of constitutionalism with references to the Magna Carta, the Mayflower Compact, the Federalist,



the writings of John Locke, etc. Following are chapters on the 1st, 4th, 5th, 6th and 8th amendments, concluding with a chapter on equal protection and privacy. Overall, this title is a very readable textbook of constitutional law.

Constitutional Law in a nutshell by Barron, Jerome

Location: KF 4550 .Z9 B35 2003

Six hundred page nutshell providing an overview of Con law.

Constitutional Law: Principles and Policies by Erwin Chemerinsky

Location: KF 4550 .C425 2002

A 1200 page Con law textbook/hornbook covering all aspects of Con law. Historical cases are covered as well as the current status of the law. The book does not appear to have annual updates.

Modern Constitutional Law by Chester Antieau

Location: KF 4550 .A75 1997

Three volume treatise with annual pocket part updates.

Treatise on Constitutional Law by Ronald Rotunda & John Nowalk

Location: KF 4550 .R63 1999

Five volumes. Annual updates.

[Case Books]

Location: KF 4549

A large number of Con Law casebooks by authors such as Cohen, and Stone.

V. STATE & INTERNATIONAL CONSTITUTIONAL LAW & HISTORY

Constitutions of the Countries of the World

Location: K3157.A2 B58 1971

Original language and English translations of the constitutions of the world. Twenty volumes.

Constitutions of the United States, National and State

Location: KF 4530 .C6 1974

This title contains 6 volumes plus an index volume. It contains all States Constitutions plus amendments.

Federal and State Constitutions by Francis Thorpe (ed.)

Location: KF 4530 .T46 1993

This is a reprint of a 1909 GPO publication. Its value is historical. It contains all constitutions and amendments for the various states until 1909.

Sources and Documents of the U.S. Constitutions [first series] by William Swindler (ed.)

Location: KF 4530 .S68 1973



This 11 volume set attempts to provide the most important documents in the history of the individual state constitutions. The 11th volume is a bibliography of relevant materials up to 1973.

Sources and Documents of the U.S. Constitutions [second series] by William Swindler (ed.)

Location: KF 4530 .S68 1982

This 5 volume set attempts to provide the most important documents in the history of the U.S. Constitution. The fifth volume is a bibliography.

State Constitutional Conventions

Location: KF 4529 .S74

An annotated bibliography in 2 volumes plus a supplement that covers conventions until 1988.

State Constitutional Law in a nutshell

Location: KF 4550 .Z95 M28 2003

Three hundred fifty page nutshell reviewing state constitutions.

State Constitutional Law Bulletin

Location: KF 4550 .Z95 S68

Monthly 8 page bulletin on State Con law issues published by the National Association of Attorneys General.

State Constitutions of the United States by Robert Maddex

Location: KF 4530 .M33 1998

It does not the actual texts of the constitutions. Instead there are summaries of the main provisions arranged by topics such as impeachment, taxation and education. Very useful for comparative purposes.

VI. JOURNALS

Constitution

Location: K 3 .O526

Periodical on the history of the constitution. Many glossy pictures.

Constitutional Commentary

Location: K 3 .O528

Journal published at the University of Minnesota Law School

Emerging Issues in State Constitutional Law

Location: K 5 .M47

Ceased publication after only 4 volumes.

Hastings Constitutional Law Quarterly

Location: K 8 .A8

Quarterly



Seton Hall Constitutional Law Journal

Location: K 3 .O5332

From Seton Hall Law school. Published twice each year.

University of Pennsylvania Journal of Constitutional Law

Location: K 25 .N554

Quarterly.

VII. SPECIFIC TOPICS: CIVIL RIGHTS, SPEECH, FEDERALISM, ETC.

Reconstructing the Fourth Amendment : a history of search and seizure, 1789-1868 by Andrew E. Taslitz

Location: KF9630 .T37 2006

An historical look at the fourth amendment during its first 80 years.

Religious liberty in America, by Bruce T. Murray

Location: KF4783 .M87 2008

An examination of religion and the first amendment as viewed both historically and currently.

Religious freedom and the Constitution by Christopher L. Eisgruber, Lawrence G. Sager

Location: KF4783 .E355 2007

An overview of the current status of the idea of religions freedom.

Reflections on freedom of speech and the First Amendment by George Anastaplo

Location: KF4772 .A96 2007

A thorough analysis of the history of the doctrine of "Freedom of Speech."

Privacy at risk : the new government surveillance and the Fourth Amendment by

Location: KF4558 4th .S56 2007

A discussion of privacy and the fourth amendment as it relates to surveillance of private online and digital information,

Civil Rights Actions by Joseph Cook

Location: KF 4749 .C65 1983

Five volume loose leaf treatise published by Matthew Bender. Updated annually. Includes forms. Covers constitutional as well as statutory civil rights.

Civil Rights Law and Practice by Harold Lewis

Location: KF 4749 .L495 2004

Seven hundred page hornbook. The focus is Title VII actions more than constitutional actions.

Constitutional Civil Rights in a nutshell by Norman Vieira

Location: KF 4750 .V5 1998

Three hundred page West nutshell. Focus is on Constitutional rather than Title VII civil rights.



Constitutional Federalism in a nutshell by David Engdahl

Location: KF 4600 .Z9 E49 1987

Four hundred page nutshell.

Judicial Cases Concerning American Slavery and the Negro by Helen Caterall (ed.)

Location: KF 4545 .S5 A52 1926b

This is a reprint of the five volume 1937 Carnegie Institute publication. It contains extracts and brief annotations of slavery cases, and cases involving African Americans.

Law of Church - State Relations in a nutshell, The by Leonard Manning

Location: KF 4783 .Z9 M36

300 page nutshell covering church state relations and the constitution.

Religious Freedom Reporter

Location: KF 4783 .A59 R44

Monthly publication summarizing recent religious freedom cases.

Sex Discrimination in a nutshell by Claire Thomas

Location: KF 4758 .Z9 T48 1991

Four hundred page nutshell that deals with sex discrimination from both the Constitutional and Title VII angle.

Slavery Race and the American Legal System 1700-1872 by Paul Finkelman (ed.)

Location: KF 4545 .S5 A5 1988

This sixteen set contains reprints of the anti-slavery pamphlet literature of the 18th and 19th centuries.

Smolla and Nimmer on Freedom of Speech by Rodney Smolla

Location: KF 4772 .N544

Two volume loose leaf with annual supplements. It covers all aspects of speech law from historical to current.

VIII. INTERNET RESOURCES

The Constitution of the United States of America, Analysis and Interpretation: Analysis of Cases Decided by the Supreme Court of the United States

<http://www.gpoaccess.gov/constitution/browse.html>

An online constitutional law treatise available free from the Government Printing Office

FindLaw: US Supreme Court Center

<http://supreme.lp.findlaw.com/>

Briefs, cases, news, biographies

Constitution Finder.

<http://confinder.richmond.edu/>

Search for constitutions of the world.



U.S Constitution at the Government Printing Office (GPO)

<http://www.gpoaccess.gov/constitution/index.html>

Text of the Constitution and Amendments in TXT or PDF format.

Supreme Court of the U.S.

<http://www.supremecourtus.gov/>

Court cases, but also transcripts from oral arguments at

http://www.supremecourtus.gov/oral_arguments/argument_transcripts.html

OYEZ

<http://www.oyez.org/>

Listen to Oral arguments before the Supreme Court of the United States.

