



LexisNexis® CourtLink® Best Practice Guide

What is LexisNexis® CourtLink®?

It's a better way to perform docket and document research and gather critical intelligence on key players. It also makes it easy to monitor and track new and existing case activity. How have you been performing these tasks? Have you been using PACER to look up case information, pull documents, monitor changes to existing cases, and find out whether new cases have been filed? Have you been starting with Google™ searches for docket research and intelligence on key players such as expert witnesses, judges, attorneys, and litigants? Have you been using a court runner to acquire court records for both state cases and federally archived matters?

Instead, you can leverage the advantages of the CourtLink® service.

Go to the CourtLink website (<http://lexisnexis.com/courtlink>), a single location where you can gather critical intelligence on the key players in your case.

Optimize your LexisNexis® subscription with CourtLink.

Gain faster and more comprehensive access to an unparalleled collection of federal and state court content.

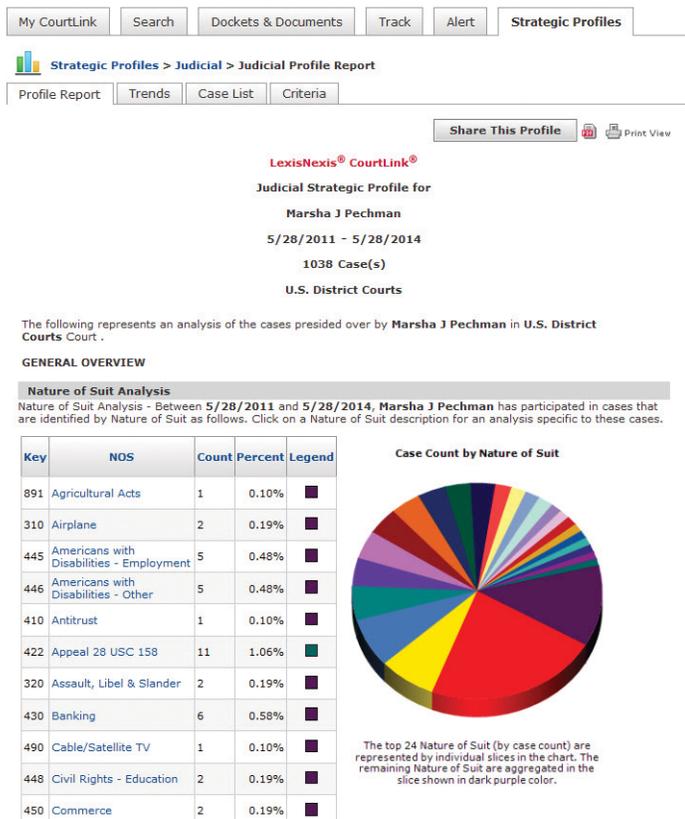
- Get fast, easy access to over 178 million dockets and documents.
- Access 25 years of civil litigation history and 100 percent of cases filed at the federal civil level with a single search.
- Gain on-the-go access to court dockets and documents with the CourtLink applications for iPhone® iPad® and Android™ devices.
- Automatically receive daily notifications of newly filed cases through *lexis.com*.

CourtLink® Strategic Profiles

With CourtLink Strategic Profiles, you can uncover the litigation history of a potential client or of an opposing party, attorney, or law firm—or even the judge assigned to the case—to make better case decisions and develop more compelling case strategies. It helps you:

- Assess and value new cases and make strategic filing decisions by understanding the litigation histories of the judge, attorneys, and parties in the case
- Draft more successful pleadings and motions by learning which arguments have been persuasive with your judge in similar cases in the past
- Understand the likely outcome and time to resolution of your case and make settlement recommendations based on opposing counsel’s prior experience in similar cases

Judicial Strategic Profiles help you understand whether the judge assigned to your case has substantial or limited experience in a particular area of law. They also help you learn how the judge has handled cases similar to yours. And you get insight into past appearances of opposing counsel before the judge.



Attorney Strategic Profiles help you gain insight into an opposing counsel’s practice area experience and number of published decisions, whether the attorney has argued similar cases before a specific judge, and prior strategies employed—including case resolution.

Litigant Strategic Profiles help you research the litigation history of your client or the opposing litigant to uncover participation in prior similar cases and discern patterns of case resolution.

Within any of the profiles, you’ll find interactive links that take you to deeper information on relevant cases and to the underlying dockets and documents. You get greater insight into attorney arguments and strategies, and judicial rulings.

Best practices for using Strategic Profiles*

Understand the likely outcome and time to resolution of your case. An East Coast firm knew that trial in an employment matter was unlikely, but was unsure of the stage at which the case might be settled. The firm ran an Attorney Strategic Profile on opposing counsel and a Litigant Strategic Profile on the opposing party to uncover their litigation pasts. They discovered the opposing counsel had never gone to trial. Seventy percent of his cases settled within four weeks of trial date. Other cases were resolved via summary judgment motions for the opposing side. The firm determined that opposing counsel was likely to seek resolution as trial approached, but not earlier in the process. Furthermore, the opposing party’s past litigation showed that the party had previously filed similar claims against two other companies, a fact that led the firm to examine the veracity of the claim even more closely.

Determine the experience of the opposing counsel before your judge and draft your motions and pleadings accordingly.

A national law firm was representing one of their bigger clients in a trademark matter. Because the case was filed in a venue where the firm did not have a local office, the firm ran Attorney and Judicial Strategic Profiles on the parties in the case. The firm learned that their opposition had appeared as plaintiff’s counsel in 71 out of the 78 trademark cases that the judge had ever had assigned to him. There was no prevalence of defense counsel before this judge. From the profiles, the firm had a great deal of information on how to proceed and knew that, as defense counsel, they had to take especially great care in the writing of their briefs and motions.

*Actual cases. Names have been removed for privacy.

CourtLink® Search

With CourtLink Search, you get superior search capabilities to find relevant past and present litigation activity. These capabilities include:

- **Single Search** lets you conduct a broad, multi-source search across our unparalleled collection of federal and state court content. You can then filter your results to pinpoint the most relevant dockets and documents. Get the peace of mind a broad search brings and the refinement tools that save you time.
- **Docket Search** lets you search by varying criteria—including litigant name, attorney, law firm, nature of suit, key words, etc.—to locate dockets and documents of interest. Combine federal and state courts for a more comprehensive search.
- **Document Finder** lets you search for the documents listed within the dockets that meet certain criteria for federal courts. You can pinpoint the relevant work product of opposing counsel and key ruling information on the presiding judge. Search by document type—motion, order, reply, complaint, answer, etc.—and specific nature of suit and court; then combine with an attorney name and/or judge to locate the existing documents you're interested in.

CourtLink Search allows you a number of flexible options to locate relevant and related cases:

- **Quickly identify prior and pending litigation** involving a client, opposing party, attorney or judge.
- **Locate and access specific document types** filed in U.S. District Court. For example, you can find out how many times your judge has issued an order granting a motion for enforcement judgment in patent matters over the past five years.
- **Uncover the litigation history** of a patent and determine the patterns of resolution in those cases.

The screenshot displays the LexisNexis CourtLink search interface. At the top, there's a search bar with 'Amazon' entered and a 'Search' button. Below the search bar are navigation tabs: 'My CourtLink', 'Search', 'Dockets & Documents', 'Track', 'Alert', 'Strategic Profiles', 'My Account', and 'Court Info'. The main content area shows search results for 'Amazon' in the Southern District of New York. The results are sorted by relevance and include a list of cases with details such as case names, court names, dates, and document types. For example, one result is 'Johnson Et Al V. Amazon.Com, Inc. Et Al' filed in the US District Court for the Southern District of New York on 11/30/2008. Another result is 'Kouspinsky V. Amazon.Com, Inc. Et Al' filed in the US District Court for the Southern District of New York on 11/30/2008. The interface also includes a sidebar with filters for 'Date Filed', 'Case Status', 'Case Type', 'Litigation Area', and 'Court'.

Best practices for using CourtLink Docket and Document Search in making early case assessments and evaluations*

The most robust resource for finding critical intelligence on an expert witness. An attorney in Nashville told a LexisNexis Litigation Services Specialist that he and his paralegal had spent the day searching for information on an expert witness they wanted to retain and had gotten nowhere. Asked where they'd looked so far, he said PACER for docket research and Google searches for intelligence. The Litigation Services Specialist entered the name of the expert in the CourtLink Single Search box. Instantly, they found five documents that were not only relevant but documents the attorney had no idea were even available anywhere—a deposition transcript related to a case in a Texas superior court, a CV related to a case in a Georgia state court, two expert reports, etc.

Finding briefs, pleadings, and motions. An attorney at a firm in South Carolina needed a motion to compel the production of concealed documents. Though she had looked in a number of places, she hadn't found an employment motion that was on point. Then she called a LexisNexis Litigation Services Specialist.

In short order, he entered terms in the CourtLink Single Search box and found exactly what the attorney needed—a Defendant's Motion to Compel the Return of Privileged Documents—critical intelligence she couldn't find anywhere else. And greater efficiency and better return on investment.

Finding prior adverse rulings by a judge. An attorney in Georgia wanted to know how the judge in his case ruled on motions for summary judgment. By running a Document Finder search, the attorney learned that she had granted only seven of the 164 motions for summary judgment that had come before her. He was able to pull her orders from the docket sheets, understand her rationale, and apply this insight to his case. In addition, he reviewed the briefs in cases where summary judgment had been granted and was able to leverage their case law and rationale. He was more prepared and less uncertain about the outcome.

**Actual cases. Names have been removed for privacy.*

Get hourly Alerts from CourtLink—including new event and defense counsel Alerts

Never miss critical information. Receive Alerts of newly filed cases and new filings in ongoing cases in Federal District civil courts—as often as hourly.

CourtLink® Alerts

With CourtLink Alerts, you can get notifications of new cases and new filings in ongoing cases that are pertinent to your practice—involving your clients, your prospective clients, their competitors, a particular judge or attorney or a certain nature of suit—making it easier to stay on top of significant new filings in the jurisdictions where you practice.

CourtLink Alerts are truly a step above any other service—with full-text searchability and Advanced Keyword Complaint Notification. How does this help you? Here's an example: you can be notified not only anytime U.S. Gypsum is involved in a new product liability case, but also anytime the key words “Chinese drywall” or “Chinese wallboard” show up in the body of a complaint. No other service provides this important information.

CourtLink Alerts help you:

- Be the first to advise a client or potential client when a new case has been filed against them
- Develop new business opportunities when you start tracking litigation
- Be a more informed practitioner by understanding the new filing trends in the courts where you file and appear regularly
- Be aware of new proceedings in ongoing cases
- Be notified of the addition of defense counsel by attorney or firm

Choose a type of alert:

Attorney/Firm/Defense Counsel	Federal Appellate Natures of Suit
Bankruptcy Chapter	Federal District Natures of Suit
Bankruptcy Creditor	Judge
Bankruptcy Debtor	Litigant
Class Action	
Criminal Defendant (U.S. District Courts Only)	

Enter Names Info

Enter Party Names Upload a File with Party Names for Batch Alerts

Name	Alternate Spelling
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

[Add More Party Names](#)

Apply to class action only - U.S. District Civil only

Advanced Keyword Complaint Notification Info

Add keywords to identify relevant complaints. The keywords will not affect your number of results (that is determined by your ordinary Alert criteria). The keywords will identify especially relevant complaints. (optional)

Info

Keyword(s): Info

Best practices for using CourtLink Alerts to learn of new pertinent cases*

Find out what's happening with a client's competitor.

A firm needs to help a client that is interested in manufacturing certain drugs on a generic basis, which may be an option depending on the outcome of any pertinent patent litigation. The firm uses Alerts to watch for new filings involving the patent holders of those brand-name drugs. It can then watch the progress and outcome of any litigation with CourtLink Alerts and make recommendations to its client accordingly.

Stay up to date on new filings involving an industry.

A large firm wants to keep current on airplane product liability cases so it can advise a client on likely outcomes in certain jurisdictions. It sets up a generic nature-of-suit Alert with the key words “airline” and “airway” (alternate term), which allows the partner to stay on top of the litigation of the industry and provide current information to the client.

Learn of similar filings by an opposing litigant. A firm needs to look for an opponent's filing trends and patterns of resolution. It sets up an Alert to learn of new filings and can then watch the progress and outcomes with CourtLink Tracks. (Keep in mind that litigation progresses at different rates, depending on a number of factors. Many new filings could arise during a lengthy case and attorneys would want to know about relevant concurrent litigation, which can affect the amount of settlement money available.)

Find out about newly filed similar cases involving the judge assigned to your case. A firm wants to evaluate the experience level of a judge assigned to one of their cases. They can set up an Alert using the name of that judge and the pertinent nature of suit.

**Actual cases. Names have been removed for privacy.*

Utilize flexible options to home in on pertinent litigation activity ...

Get hourly Tracks from CourtLink

With new CourtLink hourly Tracks for Federal U.S. District civil courts, you get notifications of new activity in existing cases of interest to you so you can stay on top of new activity in your firm's own cases and keep abreast of events in other cases that may affect your practice area or clients. CourtLink Tracks help you:

- **Manage your workflow** by making it easier to stay on top of new filing activity. You can control the frequency of updates and view dockets that highlight only the new activity in the case. You can be among the first to know of new pleadings, filings, and orders—get a jump-start on the responsive motion and worry less about missing a filing or a deadline.
- **Get a better idea of what is going on in your practice area** by staying on top of important filings in your jurisdiction—you'll be better able to both predict the likely outcome of your case and draft your pleadings and motions accordingly.
- **Provide better client service** by keeping clients better informed about case progress and strategy and by being more knowledgeable about litigation involving the client's industry or primary competitors.

Best practices for using CourtLink Tracks to monitor new litigation activity*

Monitor your firm's cases to be aware of any new activity.

A firm is representing a major pharmaceutical company in product liability cases. The number of filed cases is in the thousands and the firm has more than 4,500 Tracks set up to monitor those cases. The firm signed up for CourtLink after realizing that it would be impossible to manage such a huge number of notices from Electronic Case Files (ECF) coming in at irregular intervals. CourtLink Tracks give them the flexibility to control the notifications so they can update case calendars on a regular, systematic basis.

Monitor cases that have the potential to impact your clients.

An East Coast national firm is monitoring ongoing activity in cases involving the patent of certain generic drugs that could impact one of their major clients. By using Tracks to monitor key litigation concerning the pharmaceutical industry, the firm

To change default Docket Display setting, tab to My Account > Preferences > Track

Displays: Entire Docket Entire Docket - Highlight Changes Changes Only ONLY Recent Entries

Legend: Added Text Removed Text Changed Text

Docket Tools

Get Updated Docket This docket was retrieved from the court on 5/27/2014

Track Docket Activity CourtLink can alert you when there is new activity in this case

Search for Similar Start a new search based on the characteristics of this case

Set Alert for Similar Dockets CourtLink alerts you when there are new cases that match characteristics of this case

[\[Add to My Briefcase\]](#)
[\[Email this Docket\]](#)
[\[Printer Friendly Format\]](#)

Additional resources for cases like this may be found in our LexisNexis Practice Area communities.

Docket Track this docket

US District Court Civil Docket
U.S. District - Washington Western
(Seattle)
2:13cv1836
Cook v. Atossa Genetics, Inc. et al
This case was retrieved from the court on Tuesday, May 27, 2014
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Date Filed: **10/10/2013** Class Code: **OPEN**
Assigned To: **Judge Ricardo S Martinez** Closed:
Referred To: **Securities (850)** Statute: **15:78m(a)**
Nature of suit: **Securities Exchange Act** Cause: **Securities Exchange Act** Jury Demand: **Plaintiff**
Lead Docket: **None** Demand Amount: **\$0**
Other Docket: **None** NOS Description: **Securities**
Jurisdiction: **Federal Question**

Documents

[Retrieve Document\(s\)](#) [Send to TimeTap](#)

Items 1 to 3 of 3

Availability No.	Date	Preceding Text	Source
<input type="checkbox"/> Runner	31 05/27/2014	ORDER re 22 Application for Leave to Appear Pro Hac Vice: The Court ADMITS Attorney Susan Cheloff for Disson James Securities, Inc., Paulson Investment Company, Inc., and for ViewTrade Securities, Inc., by William M. McCool. (No document associated with this docket entry, text only, 105) (Entered: 05/27/2014)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Runner	31 05/27/2014	ORDER re 23 Application for Leave to Appear Pro Hac Vice: The Court ADMITS Attorney Ralph V de Martino for Disson James Securities, Inc., Paulson Investment Company, Inc., and for ViewTrade Securities, Inc., by William M. McCool. (No document associated with this docket entry, text only, 105) (Entered: 05/27/2014)	

is well-informed about the most recent developments within the industry and is able to provide better service to this very significant client.

Monitor cases that may affect the areas of law and jurisdictions in which you practice.

A prominent West Coast firm is building a repository of significant judicial orders in selected securities cases. The firm is downloading or ordering and storing the key judicial orders so the members of the securities litigation department can access them. By having this access, the firm is better able to predict the outcome in future cases and can draft pleadings and motions that will be more persuasive to the judge.

**Actual cases. Names have been removed for privacy.*

CourtLink Docket Advantages

Not only does CourtLink deliver fast, easy access to revealing court records research, it's fully integrated with a suite of industry-leading LexisNexis® research and litigation resources. Now from within your docket, you can reach out in so many powerful, productive ways—saving untold time, effort and expense.

Docket Tools

Get Updated Docket This docket was retrieved from the court on 11/7/2012

Track Docket Activity CourtLink can alert you when there is new activity in this case

Search for Similar Start a new search based on the characteristics of this case

Set Alert for Similar Dockets CourtLink alerts you when there are new cases that match characteristics of this case

[Add to My Briefcase] [Email this Docket] [Printer Friendly Format]

A LexisNexis Case Law Summary, related documents or opinions are available for this case. In order to view this information you must have a LexisNexis account. When you view this information standard LexisNexis charges will apply. To view this information click on the LexisNexis Cite below. 2008 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 92522

If you do not have a LexisNexis account click here for subscription information.

Additional resources for cases like this may be found in our LexisNexis Practice Area communities.

Docket [View CourtLink Docket](#)

US District Court Civil Docket
U.S. District - Texas Eastern
(Beasumont)

1:08cv613

Nowak et al v. American West Airlines et al

This case was retrieved from the court on Wednesday, November 07, 2012

[Update Now](#)

Date Filed: 10/26/2008
Assigned To: Judge Marcia A. Crone
Referred To:
Nature of suit: Other Statutory Actions (890)
Cause: Fed. Question
Lead Docket: None
Other Docket: None
Jurisdiction: Federal Question

Class Code: CLOSED
Closed: 11/18/2008
Statute: 2811321
Jury Demand: None
Demand Amount: \$0
NOS Description: Other Statutory Actions

Litigants	Attorneys
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Carrizal Sam Santos Plaintiff	Carrizal Sam Santos PRO SE 2215 Althea Dr Houston , TX 77018 USA 713/682-3310

Defendant

American West Airlines
Continental Airlines Inc
S W Airlines

Search LexisWeb

On-the-Go Access

Now you can take advantage of on-the-go notification capabilities to help you keep up with key litigation activity.

With the LexisNexis® CourtLink® Alert & Track Notifications app, it's easy.

You set up your Alerts and Tracks from your computer, but you can access your notifications of new activity—and the cases to which they refer—wherever you are, via your Apple® iPhone® mobile device or other smartphone. To learn more visit lexisnexis.com/mobile.

For more information visit:

<http://lexisnexis.com/courtlink>.

