Your legal argument is only as strong as the authority you cite to support it.

You’ve got an important research project and you want your work to be impressive. You need several cases for your argument. They have to be the strongest authority and you have to be confident that none of the points of law you’re relying on have been overruled in the courts.

It’s critical to know if the law you’re relying on is still valid and hasn’t been overruled, plus whether it’s the strongest authority you could cite. This process is called Shepardizing™. The LexisNexis® Shepard’s® Citations Service has remained the industry’s premier citations service for the past 140+ years.

GETTING STARTED: IT’S EASY TO ACCESS A SHEPARD’S REPORT
Click the Shepard’s Signal™ indicator by the case name.
Click Shepardize® in the Shepard’s case card in search results.

SHEPARD’S CASE CARD SHOWS ANALYSIS UP FRONT
Instantly see the breadth of citation analysis for each case, right in search results. The Reason for Shepard’s Signal™ links to the most influential citing reference.

SHEPARD’S PREVIEW LINKS TO ANY CITATION TREATMENT
Full-text documents feature a preview of Shepard’s treatment. Click a treatment and link to view those citing references.

HERE’S WHAT EACH SHEPARD’S SIGNAL INDICATES:
- There is strong negative analysis impacting your decision
- There is strong negative analysis impacting your statute
- There is analysis questioning the precedential value of your decision
- There is possible negative analysis impacting your case
- Your case has been followed by other cases and courts
- Analysis is available for your decision that is not positive nor negative
- There are citing references available for your decision without analysis
HERE'S WHAT YOUR SHEPARD’S REPORT OFFERS YOU

A Shepard’s Signal indicator* shows subsequent treatment up front.

B Navigate to four sections of the report:
- Appellate History
- Citing Decisions (default display)
- Other Citing Sources: treatises, statutes, regulations, etc.
- Table of Authorities: the cases your case cited and their subsequent treatment

C Get automatic updates when the Shepard’s status changes. Alert option allows status change type, e.g., negative analysis.

D Click Grid View for a visual representation of treatment across jurisdictions and time.

E Get an instant overview of subsequent history.

F Related Court Materials are Briefs, Pleadings, Motions and/or Dockets for this case.

G Save, deliver and/or share either the Shepard’s report, the full text of citing references or both.

H Filter citing references to identify vital cases. Refine by specific treatment, specific headnotes, jurisdictions, time frame or depth of discussion. Filter by specific words within your results.

I Filters selected display in a blue box. Click the X to remove the filter. Select and remove multiple filters to quickly modify results.

J See how citing cases have been treated subsequently by viewing their Shepard’s Signal indicators.

K Determine how in-depth the citing case discusses the case you Shepardized™. The depth of discussion bars show you quickly.

L Find on-point headnote language. Click a headnote of interest and move to similar language in the citing case.

Pinpoint a citing case’s language. Get color indicators, a short description, a pinpoint page reference—and the case language in question.

*Scroll down to Legend to see what each Shepard’s Signal means.
THERE'S MUCH MORE SHEPARD’S CAN DO FOR YOU

QUICKLY FIND SUPPORTING SECONDARY SOURCES

Identify treatises, law reviews and other sources that cite your case on Shepard's, making it easy to learn more about your legal issue.

1. Shepardize your case.
2. Select Other Citing Sources.
3. Narrow By Treatises under the Content filter.
4. Further narrow by Search Within Results to the specific issue.

FIND MORE CASES THAT SUPPORT YOUR ARGUMENT

Shepard’s connects you to cases where a judge supported your position on a point of law, indicated with the green “Followed by” signal.

1. Shepardize your case.
2. Go to Citing Decisions (the default view).
3. Narrow By Analysis, selecting Positive.

SPOT WEAKNESSES IN YOUR OPPONENT’S ARGUMENTS

It’s easy to spot holes in your opponent’s arguments using Shepard's Table of Authorities. See a list of legal authority that their case cited to as precedent. For example, if your opponent cites 591 F.3d 1232, use these steps to check the current precedential value of citing that case.

1. Shepardize your case.
2. Select Table of Authorities.
3. Narrow By Analysis, selecting Positive. This will pull up the cases that Clouthier followed and relied on as precedent.
4. It’s possible that Clouthier is relying on past precedent that is no longer considered the best law to follow. Negative Shepard's Signal indicators found in your result set could expose weaknesses in your opponent’s decision to rely on Clouthier.
UNDERSTAND ANALYSIS FASTER WITH SHEPARD’S GRAPHICAL REPORTS

UNCOVER TRENDS IN CITING REFERENCES

Shepard’s Graphical options show you Citing Decisions in a Grid View so you can see citing trends across courts and time periods. For example, Analysis by Court makes it easy to see where the case is overruled in part and followed on separate points of law by the court.

CAPTURE APPELLATE HISTORY AT A GLANCE

Need context for your case? The Shepard’s Appellate History Map View saves effort with an insightful picture of a case’s journey through the courts. Each case is a link.

YOU CAN ALSO SHEPARDIZE THESE …

Shepardizing a headnote will bring you to other cases that mention that point of law. In this example, 52 cases.

Click the Shepardize—Narrow by this Headnote link at the end of a headnote in a full-text document. This will Shepardize just the rule of law which speaks to that issue.

Shepardize statutes, codes, even the IRS Code, to be sure a point of law remains good and has not been amended or treated negatively by the courts.

Shepard’s can help you:
- Be certain you’re citing good law
- Build your argument with the strongest precedents
- Identify weaknesses in your opponent’s arguments

Get help with legal research:
CLICK ON RESOURCES AT LEXISNEXIS.COM/LAWSCHOOL
GET 24/7 RESEARCH SUPPORT AT 800.45.LEXIS
(800.455.3947)
USE LIVE CHAT SUPPORT FROM 8 A.M.–1 A.M.