



United States Courts Opinions Collection on GovInfo

Search Strategies

Introduction

The Government Publishing Office (GPO) provides access to federal, appellate, district, bankruptcy and national judicial opinions through GovInfo (<https://www.govinfo.gov>). This document provides search strategies and features on GovInfo that will help you better target your search for opinions.

GovInfo [search features](#) include:

- The **basic search box** (first tab on search widget, all pages) uses **keywords and search operators**. Apply specific **filters and sorting** to target your search further over certain content, fields, or other criteria.

The screenshot displays the GovInfo search results page. The top navigation bar includes links for Browse, About, Developers, Features, Help, and Feedback, along with a search button. The search results are displayed under the 'Search' tab, with a search bar containing 'A.G.A. Flowers opinion'. The 'Refined By' section shows filters for 'Collection' and 'Organization'. The 'Refine Your Search Further' section shows filters for 'Date Published'. The search results list includes '01-13984 - A.G.A. Flowers, Inc.' and '09-21481 - Fontainebleau Las Vegas Holdings, LLC'.



- The [advanced search box](#) (second tab on search widget, on all pages) uses a form to help you target your search using special criteria such as circuit or state.

The screenshot shows the 'Advanced' search tab selected. The 'Date Range' dropdown is set to 'All Dates'. The 'Refine by Collection' section has 'United States Courts Opinions' selected. The 'Search In' dropdown is set to 'Full-Text'. A 'SEARCH' button is at the bottom right.

- The [browse](#) tab navigates you to specific content (such as A-Z or Category pages).

The screenshot shows the 'Browse' tab selected in the top navigation bar. A yellow arrow points from the 'Browse' tab to the 'A to Z' button in the main content area. The 'Discover U.S. Government Information' header is visible. The 'Search' tab is selected in the search widget.

Additional tips and tricks for finding information are posted on GovInfo's [United States Courts Opinions help page](#). This page is linked from the United States Courts Opinions browse page and also every single opinion's [Details](#) page (located under Actions to the left).



Search by Judge

Example: opinions with "judge ___" in the docket text.

Note: Inclusion of judge in docket text is inconsistent across courts.

- Using Basic Search, enter: [collection:uscourts dockettext:\(judge ___\)](#).
- Using Advanced Search, select *United States Courts Opinions* under Refine by Collection, then under Search In, select *Docket Text* from the first box and enter judge ___ in the free text box.

Search by Code Section

Example: opinions that reference code section "11 U.S.C. 347(b)" in the full text.

- Using Basic Search, enter: [collection:uscourts "11 U.S.C. 347\(b\)"](#).
- Using Advanced Search, select *United States Courts Opinions* under Refine by Collection, then under Search In, select *Full-Text* from the first box and enter ["11 U.S.C. 347\(b\)"](#) in the free text box.

Search by Case Name

Example: opinions with case name "A.G.A. Flowers, Inc." in the title field.

- Using Basic Search, enter: [collection:uscourts title:\(A.G.A. Flowers, Inc.\)](#).
- Using Advanced Search, select *United States Courts Opinions* under Refine by Collection, then under Search In, select *Title* from the first box and enter [A.G.A. Flowers, Inc.](#) in the free text box.

Search by Keyword

Example: opinions with keyword "deference" in the full text.

- Using Basic Search, enter: [collection:uscourts deference](#).
- Using Advanced Search, select *United States Courts Opinions* under Refine by Collection, then under Search In, select *Full-Text* from the first box and enter [deference](#) in the free text box.

Search by Order Title

Example: opinions with the phrase "memorandum opinion and order sanctioning" in the docket text.

- Using Basic Search, enter: [collection:uscourts dockettext:\("memorandum opinion and order sanctioning"\)](#).
- Using Advanced Search, select *United States Courts Opinions* under Refine by Collection, then under Search In, select *Docket Text* from the first box and enter ["memorandum opinion and order sanctioning"](#) in the free text box.



Search by Case Number

Example: opinions with "1:01-bk-13984" as the Case Number.

- Using Basic Search, enter: [collection:uscourts casenumber:\(1:01-bk-13984\)](#) OR the shortened version of the case number, e.g., [collection:uscourts casenumber:\(01-13984\)](#).
- Using Advanced Search, select *United States Courts Opinions* under Refine by Collection, then under Search In, select *Case Number* from the first box and enter [1:01-bk-13984](#) in the free text box OR the shortened version of the case number, e.g., [01-13984](#).