



JUDICIAL EMPLOYER RESEARCH AND INTERVIEW PREPARATION

What do you want to do with your law degree? Where do you want to work? For whom do you want to work? How do you make the connections to find the job you want? This training can help you answer these questions, simplify your job search, and increase your chances of success.

EMPLOYER RESEARCH

Background research on WestlawNext® and other resources from Thomson Reuters Westlaw™ will be useful at all stages of your job search.

- What does this judge do?
- What is his/her political bent?
- How has this judge ruled on what issues?
- What has this judge written about?
- How is this judge involved in the community?

This information will give you a better idea as to whether you would want to work for the employer. Also, during the course of your research, you can find names of persons who can answer your questions and might be able to provide help along the way.

NETWORKING

Much of the research you've done will help you determine where to send your resume and how to prepare for an interview. Once you get an interview with a potential employer, the background information you have collected will help you to present yourself as an interested and well-informed applicant.

Learning the differences among employers also can help you present yourself as a strong fit, showing you which of your strengths to emphasize. Every court is different, and every judge is unique. They want to know why you want to work for them – what has drawn you to apply with their particular court.

You may also want to review this information when deciding which offer to accept.

**FOR HELP WITH
WESTLAW NEXT
RESEARCH, CONTACT:**

Thomson Reuters
Westlaw Reference
Attorneys 24/7
1-800-REF-ATTY
(1-800-733-2889)



(II)(B)

Network building: If you find articles that interest you, consider contacting the authors for career advice and information about their local legal market, or to request an informational interview.

(II)(C)

Network building: If you find a recent case that interests you, consider contacting one of the attorneys involved in it and requesting an informational interview. Knowledge about your area of legal interest can provide valuable talking points with which to impress an interviewer.

I. Career Prep Tab on lawschool.westlaw.com

- A. Networking and interviewing training online and on campus
- B. Link to FindLaw.com Jobs and Careers page and the Professional Development Center

II. Career Advice and Legal Trends

- A. Review FindLaw® and the Professional Development Center for career articles and advice
- B. WestlawNext – legal marketplace trends
 1. In the *Search* bar, type **Legal News**
 2. Select **Legal Newspapers & Newsletters**
 3. Click the **Advanced** link
 4. Type **career path** in the *This exact phrase* field
 5. Click **Search**
 6. Sort by date to put the most recent articles at the top of the search results
- C. WestlawNext – practice-area trends
 1. In the *Search* bar, type **Westlaw Bulletins**
 2. Choose **Westlaw® Bulletins & Topical Highlights** for daily summaries of recent developments in many areas of law, including federal and state cases, legislation, and administrative decisions. This becomes especially valuable when you are applying to a specialty court in that field, such as a bankruptcy or land court.
 3. Select a practice area

4. Peruse the area's 10 most current highlights
5. Search for a specific issue within the area

III. Judges

A. *Almanac of the Federal Judiciary*

AFJ contains biographical information on currently serving federal judges, including U.S. Supreme Court justices, circuit court judges, district court judges, magistrates, and bankruptcy court judges, and provides news coverage and anonymous lawyers' evaluations.

1. Click on **Directories** on the WestlawNext homepage and choose **Almanac of the Federal Judiciary**
2. In the *Name* field, search for your judge's name: **michael /3 boudin**
3. For information on all the judges on a particular court, search using the *This exact phrase* field: **co("first circuit")**

B. Profiler

1. Click on **Directories** on the homepage and choose **Westlaw Profiler® – Attorneys and Judges**
2. Type **Michael Boudin** into *First and Last Name* field
3. Choose **Massachusetts** from the *State* drop-down menu
4. Click **Search**
5. Learn about the judge by reviewing the linked documents to the left of the profile. These documents represent what the judge has written and/or been involved with (i.e., Oral Arguments includes arguments made by attorneys before that judge)



6. Use the information to create detailed, filtered
Litigation History and Judicial Reversal Reports

C. What else has the judge written?

1. Click **Secondary Sources** on the homepage

2. Click the **Advanced** link

3. Search using the *Author* field:

michael /3 boudin

4. Review the results list; this will include any law
review articles, CLE articles, and sections from
texts and practice guides that the judge may
have written

D. What has been written about the judge?

Click **Secondary Sources** on the homepage

a. Search for **michael /3 boudin % au(michael
/3 boudin)**

Note: The use of the but not connector, %, will
exclude documents the judge wrote.

b. Click **Search**

2. News

a. Choose **News** from the homepage

b. Search in **AllNews**, or news by a particular
state or topic

i. Search for **judge /s michael /3 boudin**

ii. Search for **michael /3 boudin /p nomi-
nated /p court judge**

c. Review the most relevant articles for the most
discussion about the judge

d. Sort by date to review the most current articles

