Bernard E. Witkin has long been regarded as the most influential legal commentator in California, “the state whose legal system, he, more than any other single individual in the 20th century, helped to shape.” Cal. Educ. Code § 19328. His treatises, comprising an integrated library of 35 volumes, provide the most concise and authoritative treatment of California law available.

*California Jurisprudence 3d*, or *Cal Jur 3d*, is a multivolume legal encyclopedia that provides a basic overview of California’s constitutional, statutory, judicial, and administrative laws. It is an ideal source for finding quick answers to common California legal questions.

These sources, which are available on WestlawNext, are indispensable to performing accurate and comprehensive legal research.

### Searching Witkin California Treatises

Witkin’s California Treatises include the following four treatises: *California Criminal Law*, co-authored by Norman L. Epstein; *California Evidence*; *California Procedure*; and *Summary of California Law*.

To access the Witkin treatises, type `witkin` in the search box at the top of the WestlawNext home page and choose the title you want from the drop-down list (Figure 1).

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*WestlawNext is available on the Web at [lawschool.westlaw.com](http://lawschool.westlaw.com).*

**Category:**

Sharpening Your Skills

For research assistance 24 hours a day, seven days a week, call the West Reference Attorneys at 1-800-850-WEST (1-800-850-9378).
Running a search

To search all Witkin treatises simultaneously, click **Witkin’s California Treatises** in the drop-down list. To search an individual treatise, click its title. For example, click **Witkin California Evidence Law**. The Witkin California Evidence Law page is displayed (Figure 2). Type your search terms in the search box at the top of the page. For example, suppose you want to find documents discussing the dying declaration exception to the hearsay rule. Type terms such as **hearsay & “dying declaration”** and click **Search**.

The table of contents for the treatise is displayed below the search box. To restrict your search to specific chapters in the treatise, select **Specify content to search** and then select the check boxes next to the appropriate chapters in the table of contents. Then type your terms in the search box. You can also browse the table of contents and view the full text of individual sections by clicking the links.

![Figure 2. Witkin California Evidence Law page](image)

Using the Witkin finding aids

You can also search the combined Witkin treatises using the convenient finding aids provided on WestlawNext. After running a search, click **Contents** or **Index and Tables** at the end of a displayed document in your search result (Figure 3). The list of finding aids is displayed.

These aids include

- a table of contents for each treatise
- an alphabetical index
- a table of cases
- a table of statutes
- a table of rules
Searching California Jurisprudence

The treatise *California Jurisprudence 3d*, a multivolume legal encyclopedia covering the law of California, is also available on WestlawNext. To access this publication, type `cajur` in the search box at the home page and choose *California Jurisprudence* from the drop-down list.

Running a search

At the displayed California Jurisprudence page, type a search in the search box at the top of the page and click Search (Figure 4). For example, to find out who bears the burden of proof in an action for wrongful death, type a search such as *burden of proof in wrongful death action*. Most documents in your search result contain links to primary and secondary sources as well as to West topic and key numbers, which can help you expand your research.

As with the Witkin treatises, you can restrict your search to specific sections of the publication. Select Specify content to search and then select the check boxes next to the appropriate sections in the displayed table of contents. You can also browse the table of contents and view the full text of individual sections by clicking the links.
Using the California Jurisprudence General Index

Use the California Jurisprudence General Index to make your research faster and more productive by quickly retrieving sections on a particular topic. Access the index by clicking California Jurisprudence General Index under Tools and Resources on the California Jurisprudence page (Figure 4). Type a search in the search box at the top of the page or click Table of Contents in the list to display the complete index (Figure 5).

You can also browse the index table of contents for relevant topics. For example, click Abandoned, Lost and Unclaimed Property to view related sections (Figure 6). Click a section to display its full text.

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