

# Legal Resources in Iowa

April 2011

This pathfinder will be useful in finding information about free legal resources in Iowa.

*The Library cannot provide legal advice or perform legal research. Legal research includes researching the law and determining how the law applies to a particular situation. Helping patrons decide what actions they should take is practicing law.*

## Key Resources at a Glance:

- Code of Iowa  
<http://www.legis.state.ia.us/IowaLaw.html>
- Iowa Administrative Code  
<http://www.legis.state.ia.us/IAC.html>
- Iowa Judicial Branch  
<http://www.iowacourts.gov>  
Explains the court system in Iowa.
- Iowa Courts Online  
<http://www.iowacourts.gov>  
Covers child support payment histories, criminal and traffic records, and cases that have come before all Iowa counties and appellate courts.

## Reference Background

- [\*Code of Ordinances of the City of Urbandale\*](#) (R 348.77758 URB)
- *Iowa Court Rules*  
<https://www.legis.state.ia.us/Rules/Current/court/courtrules.pdf>
- [\*Martindale-Hubbell Law Directory\*](#) (R 340.03 MAR)
- [\*Black's Law Dictionary\*](#) (R 340.03 BLA)

## Resources

### Books

- [\*Legal Research: How to Find & Understand the Law\*](#), by Stephen Elias, 2009 (340.072 ELI)
- [\*101 Law forms for Personal Use\*](#), by Robin Leonard & Ralph Warner, 2009 (346 WAR)

## Search Aids

### Search Terms

(Use for computer searches)

- Law and Popular Works
- Law and Iowa
- Forms and Wills
- Forms and Custody

### Subject Headings

(Use in card catalogs and print indexes)

- Law—Iowa
- Wills

### Call Number

- 346 to 346.73 (Dewey Decimal)

### Indexes and Abstracts

- EBSCOHost  
<http://search.ebscohost.com>
- First Search  
<http://firstsearch.oclc.org>

### Library catalogs

- Urbandale Public Library  
<http://www.urbandalelibrary.org>
- SILO – State-wide catalog  
<http://z3950.silo.lib.ia.us/cgi-bin/zform.CGI?SILO>
- WorldCat - World-wide catalog  
<http://worldcat.org>

## Web Pages and Web Portals

- State Library of Iowa Law Library  
<http://www.statelibraryofiowa.org/services/collections/law-library>
- Findlaw (Findlaw for the Public)  
<http://www.findlaw.org>
- LexisNexis Martindale-Hubbell  
<http://www.lawyers.com>
- Legal Information Services to the Public  
<http://www.aallnet.org/sis/lisp/research.htm>

## Legal Forms

- U.S. District Court, Southern District of Iowa  
<http://www.iasd.uscourts.gov>
- FindLaw  
<http://www.findlaw.org/>

## Other Sources for Resolving Disputes

- Iowa Mediation Services  
<http://www.iowamediationservice.com> ; Phone: 515-331-8081
- Consumer Protection Division, Iowa Attorney General's Office  
<http://www.state.ia.us/government/ag/consumer> ; Phone: 515-281-5926
- Consumer Affairs, Iowa Division of Insurance  
<http://www.iid.state.ia.us> ; Phone: 1-877-955-1212
- Iowa Civil Rights Commission,  
<http://www.state.ia.us/government/crc/index.html> ; Phone: 1-800-457-4416
- Iowa Department of Human Services, Child Support Customer Services Unit  
[http://www.dhs.state.ia.us/consumers/child\\_support/generalinfo.html](http://www.dhs.state.ia.us/consumers/child_support/generalinfo.html); Phone: 1-888-229-9223
- Iowa Utilities Board, Customer Service Section  
<http://www.state.ia.us/government/com/util/customers.html>; Phone: 1-877-565-4450
- Iowa Department of Workforce Development  
<http://www.iowaworkforce.org> ; Phone: 1-800-562-4692
- Citizens' Aide/Ombudsman (issues involving state agencies or state institutions)  
Phone: 1-888-426-6283

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