

### Agenda

- Important library information for first-year students
- Legal research basics
  - Westlaw, Lexis, and AI tools
  - Anatomy of a case
  - Legal citation
  - Noting up
  - Finding commentary about a case
- Case comments
  - Researching for case comments



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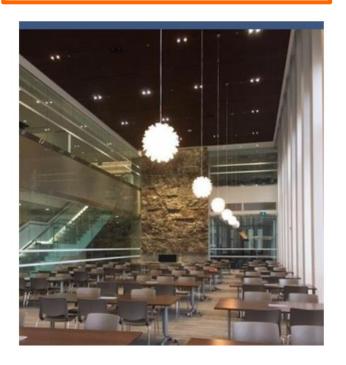


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### **Past Exams**



# Need Help?

- Ask for a librarian at the circulation desk, Monday to Friday, 10 AM to 4 PM
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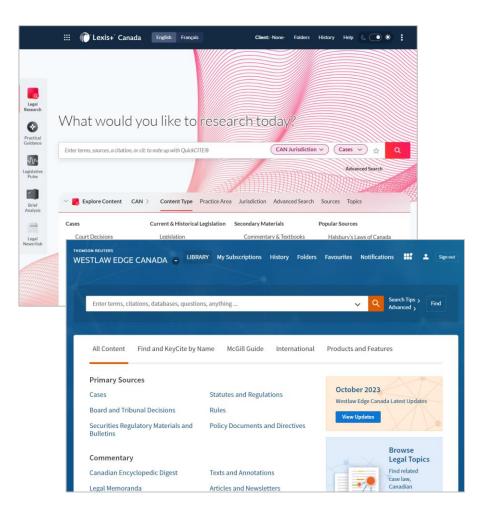
Alexandra Kwan, alexandra.kwan@utoronto.ca

Alexia Loumankis, alexia.loumankis@utoronto.ca

All of us, law.ref@utoronto.ca



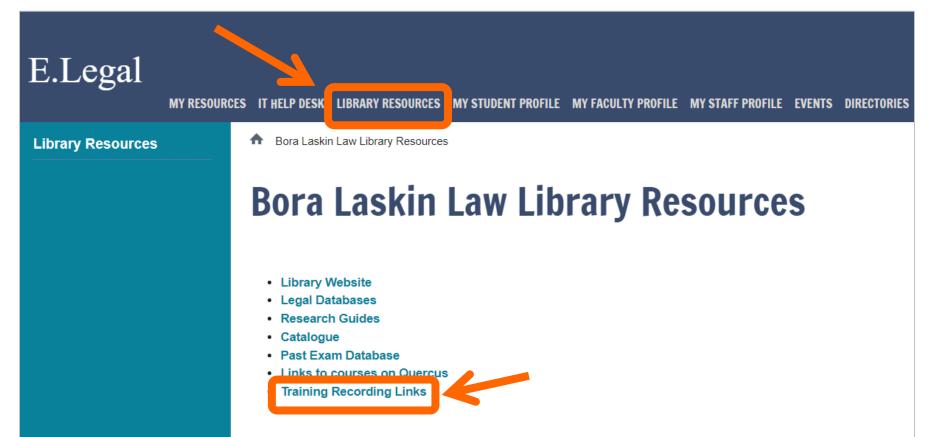
### Westlaw and Lexis



- All FOL students have individual accounts
  - Free to use in law school; expensive in practice
- You must develop proficiency with BOTH databases
- Bookmark & search these databases separately
  - Not part of our library catalogue or Google searches

# Recorded training on e.Legal

- Fall 2024: Lexis+ and Westlaw Edge training
- e.Legal > Library Resources > <u>Training Recording Links</u>

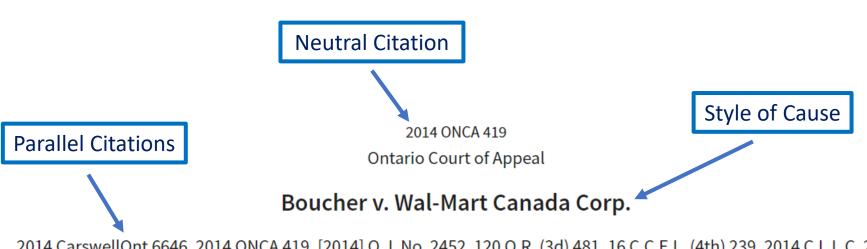


# Generative AI and Legal Research

- Follow prof's instructions before using them for an assignment
- ChatGPT, Claude, Bard, etc. can produce "hallucinations" (aka fake citations/sources) for legal research questions
- You will have to confirm the accuracy of the content the Al tools produce
- You have access to the best texts and databases (which use AI, too) so prioritize using those tools before using the free AI tools
- That being said, experiment and play around with the Al tools; these tools are here to stay

### Anatomy of a Decision

- Let's break down a decision as it appears in an online database, because there is a lot of information present that you usually don't find in your casebooks and coursepacks
- You need to know what you're looking at in order to analyze and cite it correctly
- If you want to follow along, go to Westlaw and search for Boucher v Wal-Mart Canada Corp, 2014 ONCA 419



2014 CarswellOnt 6646, 2014 ONCA 419, [2014] O.J. No. 2452, 120 O.R. (3d) 481, 16 C.C.E.L. (4th) 239, 2014 C.L.L.C. 210-037, 240 A.C.W.S. (3d) 389, 318 O.A.C. 256, 374 D.L.R. (4th) 293

Meredith Boucher, Plaintiff (Respondent) and Wal-Mart Canada Corp. and Jason Pinnock, Defendants (Appellants)

Alexandra Hoy A.C.J.O., Laskin, Tulloch JJ.A.

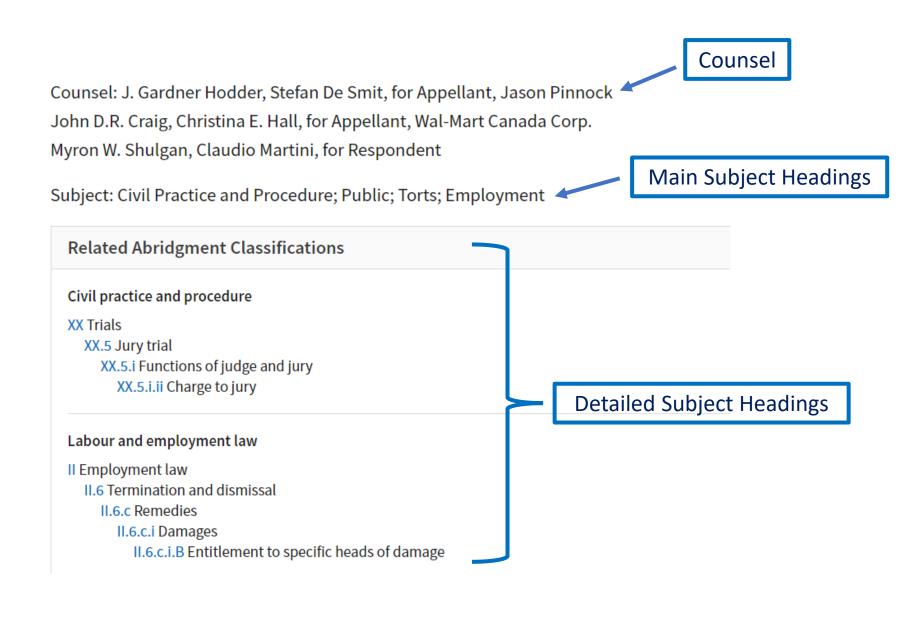
Heard: October 7, 2013

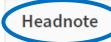
Judgment: May 22, 2014

Docket: CA C56243, C56262

Full Name Listing All Parties

**Court File Number** 





Labour and employment law --- Employment law — Termination and dismissal — Remedies — Damages — Aggravated, punitive or exemplary damages

Employee was promoted to assistant manager, after working for employer for 9 years — Initially, she had good working relationship with store manager — Employee's relationship with assistant manager turned sour, after incident in which employee refused to falsify temperature log — Manager then became abusive towards employee, in which he belittled, humiliated and demeaned her, continuously, often in front of co-workers — Employee complained about manager's misconduct to employer's senior management — Employer investigated complaints but told employee that complaints were unsubstantiated and that she would be held accountable for making them - Employee brought action for damages for constructive dismissal - Trial jury found that employee had been constructively dismissed and awarded her damages equivalent to 20 weeks salary, \$1.2 million for aggravated damages for manner of dismissal, \$1 million for punitive damages against employer and \$250,000 for damages for intentional infliction of mental suffering against manager as well as punitive damages — Employer and manager appealed liability finding and amount of damages for intentional infliction of mental suffering, aggravated damages and punitive damages — Employee cross-appealed — Employer and manager's appeal allowed in part; employee's cross-appeal dismissed — Appeal on punitive damages was allowed and award was reduced against manager to \$10,000 and against employer to \$100,000 — Aggravated damages against employer was justified and was not so plainly unreasonable that it ought to be reduced — With respect to manager, compensatory award alone provided retribution to employee, substantially denounced manager for his conduct and would have likely deterred manager and other senior employees in community from engaging in similar conduct — With respect to employer, although jury was justified in finding employer's misconduct sufficiently reprehensible to warrant award of punitive damages, its misconduct fell short of gravity and duration of misconduct in other cases that had attracted high punitive damages awards.

#### Torts --- Intentional infliction of mental suffering — Miscellaneous

Damages — Employee was promoted to assistant manager, after working for employer for 9 years — Initially, she had good working relationship with store manager — Employee's relationship with assistant manager turned sour, after incident in which employee refused to falsify temperature log — Manager then became abusive towards employee, in which he belittled, humiliated and demeaned her, continuously, often in front of co-workers — Employee complained about manager's misconduct to employer's senior management — Employer investigated complaints but told employee that complaints were unsubstantiated and that she would be held accountable for making them — Employee brought action for damages for constructive dismissal — Trial jury found that employee had been constructively dismissed and awarded her damages equivalent to 20 weeks salary, \$1.2 million for aggravated damages for manner of dismissal, \$1 million for punitive damages against employer and \$250,000 for damages for intentional infliction of mental suffering against manager as well as punitive damages — Employer and manager appealed liability finding and amount of damages for intentional infliction of mental suffering.

#### **Table of Authorities**

#### Cases considered by Laskin J.A.:

B. (M.) v. British Columbia (2003), 2003 CarswellBC 2409, 2003 CarswellBC 2410, 2003 SCC 53, 309 N.R. 375, 18 B.C.L.R. (4th) 60, 44 R.F.L. (5th) 320, 187 B.C.A.C. 161, 307 W.A.C. 161, [2003] R.R.A. 1071, [2003] 2 S.C.R. 477, 230 D.L.R. (4th) 567, [2003] 11 W.W.R. 262, 19 C.C.L.T. (3d) 1 (S.C.C.) — referred to

Blackwater v. Plint (2005), 216 B.C.A.C. 24, 356 W.A.C. 24, 48 B.C.L.R. (4th) 1, [2005] 3 S.C.R. 3, 258 D.L.R. (4th) 275, [2005] R.R.A. 1021, [2006] 3 W.W.R. 401, 2005 SCC 58, 2005 CarswellBC 2358, 2005 CarswellBC 2359, 35 C.C.L.T. (3d) 161, 46 C.C.E.L. (3d) 165, 339 N.R. 355 (S.C.C.) — considered

Hill v. Church of Scientology of Toronto (1995), 25 C.C.L.T. (2d) 89, 184 N.R. 1, (sub nom. Manning v. Hill) 126 D.L.R. (4th) 129, 24 O.R. (3d) 865 (note), 84 O.A.C. 1, [1995] 2 S.C.R. 1130, 1995 CarswellOnt 396, 1995 CarswellOnt 534, (sub nom. Hill v. Church of Scientology) 30 C.R.R. (2d) 189, 1995 SCC 67 (S.C.C.) — considered

Housen v. Nikolaisen (2002), 10 C.C.L.T. (3d) 157, 211 D.L.R. (4th) 577, 286 N.R. 1, [2002] 7 W.W.R. 1, 2002 CarswellSask 178, 2002 CarswellSask 179, 2002 SCC 33, 30 M.P.L.R. (3d) 1, 219 Sask. R. 1, 272 W.A.C. 1, [2002] 2 S.C.R. 235 (S.C.C.) — referred to

K. (G.) v. K. (D.) (1999), 1999 CarswellOnt 1615, 38 C.P.C. (4th) 83, 122 O.A.C. 36 (Ont. C.A.) — referred to

Keays v. Honda Canada Inc. (2008), 2008 SCC 39, (sub nom. Honda Canada Inc. v. Keays) 2008 C.L.L.C. 230-025, 376 N.R. 196, 294 D.L.R. (4th) 577, (sub nom. Honda Canada Inc. v. Keays) [2008] 2 S.C.R. 362, 92 O.R. (3d) 479 (note), (sub nom. Honda Canada Inc. v. Keays) 63 C.H.R.R. D/247, 66 C.C.E.L. (3d) 159, 2008 CarswellOnt 3743, 2008 CarswellOnt 3744, 239 O.A.C. 299 (S.C.C.) — referred to



# What the Judge Is Deciding

APPEAL by employer and store manager from jury's finding of constructive dismissal and award of \$1.2 million for aggravated damages for manner of dismissal, \$1 million for punitive damages against employer and \$250,000 for damages for intentional infliction of mental suffering against manager as well as punitive damages and CROSS-APPEAL by employee.

Laskin J.A.:

Start of Decision/Judgment

#### A. Overview

- 1 The respondent Meredith Boucher began working for the appellant Wal-Mart in 1999. She was a good employee. In November 2008 she was promoted to the position of assistant manager at the Wal-Mart store in Windsor. Her immediate supervisor was the store manager, the appellant Jason Pinnock.
- At first Boucher and Pinnock worked well together. Their relationship turned sour, however, after an incident in May 2009 in which Boucher refused to falsify a temperature log. Pinnock then became abusive towards her. He belittled, humiliated and demeaned her, continuously, often in front of co-workers. Boucher complained about Pinnock's misconduct to Wal-Mart's senior management. They undertook to investigate her complaints. But in mid-November 2009 they told her that her complaints were "unsubstantiated" and that she would be held accountable for making them. A few days later, after Pinnock again humiliated Boucher in front of other employees, she quit. A few weeks later she sued Wal-Mart and Pinnock for "constructive" dismissal and for damages.

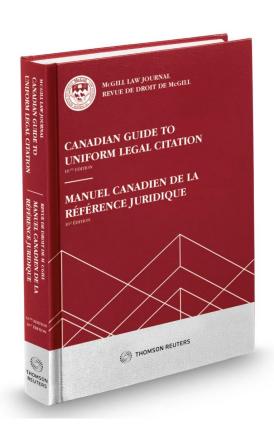
### Anatomy of a Decision

- Case information (contents will depend on the publisher):
  - Style of Cause / case name
  - Parallel citations
  - Court
  - Date of hearings (sometimes) and date of decision
  - Judges and counsel
  - History of case (if appeal case)

#### Authorities

- List of cases, legislation, and secondary sources cited and considered by judges in making their decision (this is still not part of the judgment)
- Headnote / case summary
  - Written by publisher's editorial team; summarizes case & highlights all the key points of law considered in the case
  - Headnotes should never be quoted/cited as they are not part of the judgment
- Judgment of the court
  - The judgment is the "law"
  - The beginning of the judgement is indicated by the judge's name

# Legal Citation with the McGill Guide



- U of T follows the Canadian
   Guide to Uniform Legal
   Citation (aka the McGill Guide)
- We use footnotes, not in-text citations
- Read chapter "General Rules" to familiarise yourself to legal citation and the McGill Guide
- Ask us for help!
- Do NOT leave to last minute!!!

#### WESTLAW EDGE CANADA ⊙

Enter terms, citations, databases, questions, anything ...

**GET STARTED:** 

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#### **Primary Sources**

Cases Statutes and Regulations

Board and Tribunal Decisions Rules

Securities Regulatory Materials and Bulletins Policy Documents and Directives

### Case Citations

- A case citation helps the reader locate the decision because it conveys identifying information
  - Style of cause (name of the case)
  - Year of decision
  - Court level
  - Jurisdiction
  - Where case can be found (reporter, database)
- A case with multiple citations (called parallel citations)
   generally coveys its importance or level of public interest:

Boucher v Wal-Mart Canada Corp, 2014 ONCA 419, 2014 CarswellOnt 6646, [2014] OJ No. 2452, 120 OR (3d) 481, 16 CCEL (4th) 239, 2014 CLLC 210-037, 240 ACWS (3d) 389, 318 OAC 256, 374 DLR (4th) 293.

### Noting up

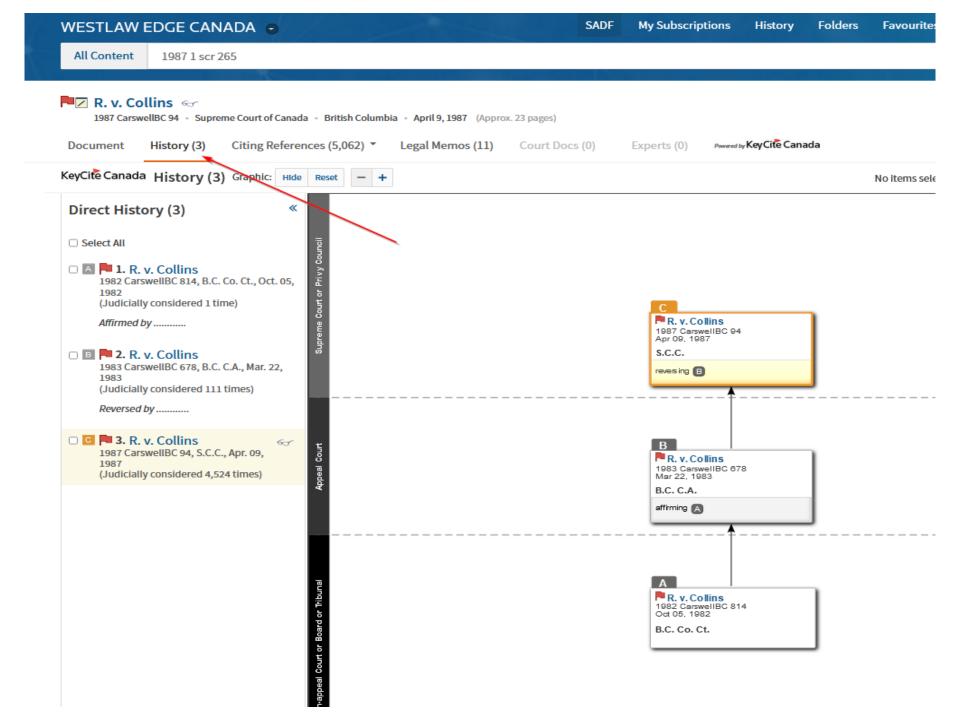
- Noting up: finding both the complete judicial history of a case and subsequent cases that cited it in order to assess the precedential value of a case
  - Both aspects necessary to assess precedential value
  - The 'finding' part is straightforward, thanks to the online tools

# Noting up – the online tools

- Noting up tools are called "citators"
  - Lexis- QuickCite
  - WestlawNext Canada KeyCite Canada
- Scope and features of each citator varies so consider checking results on both for important situations

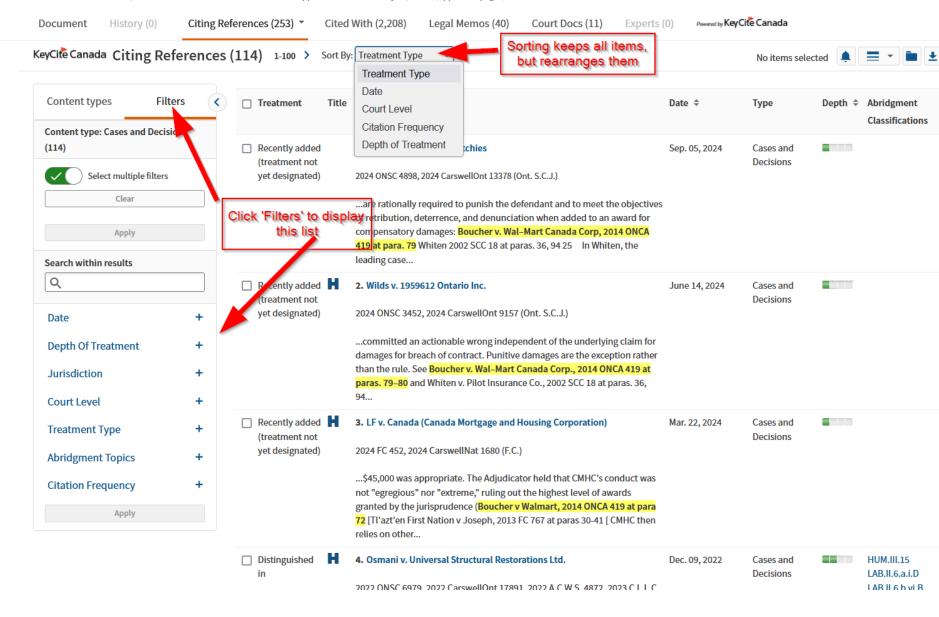
### Noting up





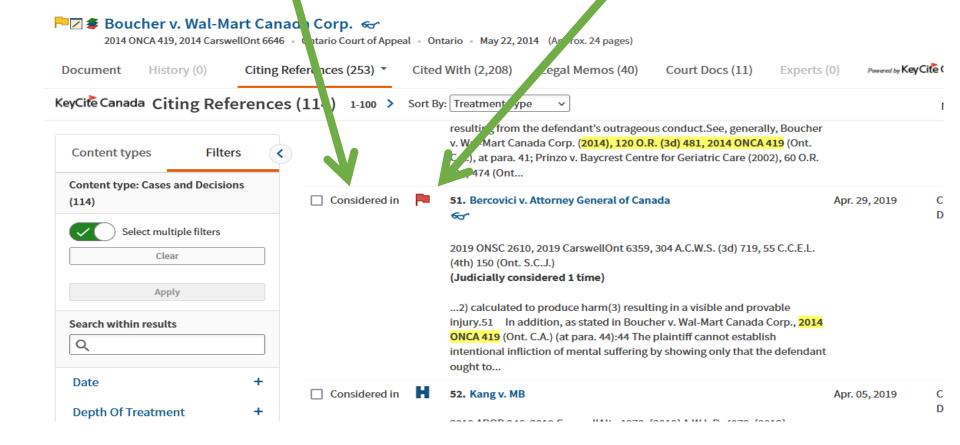
#### ►☑ ≸ Boucher v. Wal-Mart Canada Corp. &

2014 ONCA 419, 2014 CarswellOnt 6646 Ontario Court of Appeal Ontario May 22, 2014 (Approx. 24 pages)



# How *Bercovici* treated *Boucher*, the case we're noting up

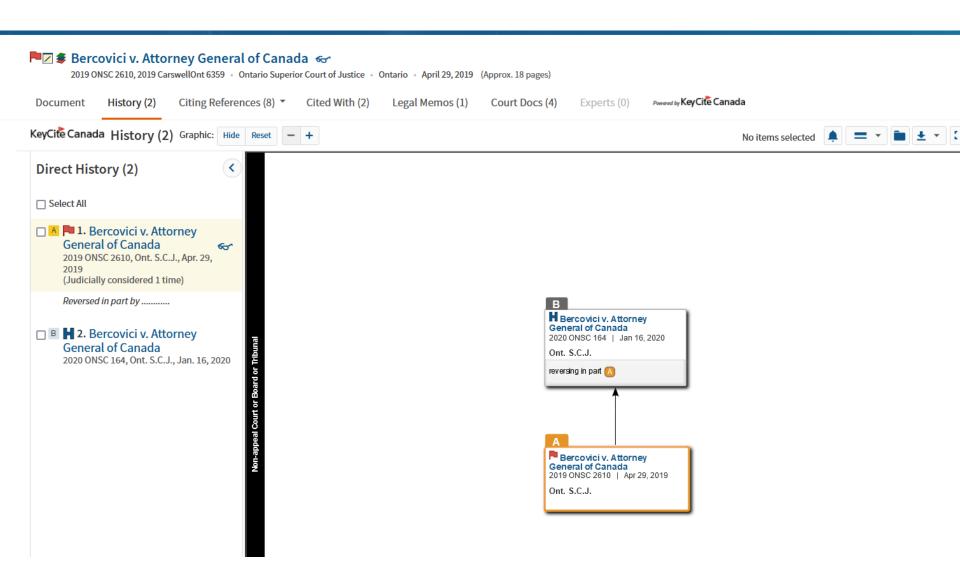
# How *Bercovici* was treated by other cases



# If we click on *Bercovici*, and check it's history..



### We can see that it was reversed in part ....



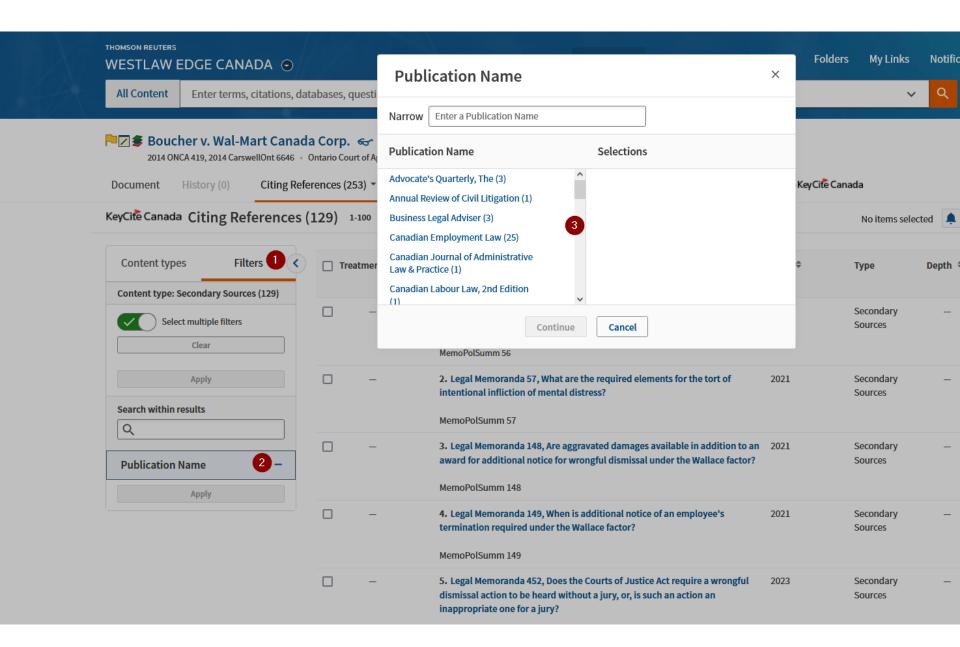
### Treatment indicators - limitations

- Cases can contain multiple issues, threads of reasoning and conclusions of law. Treatment indicators can't reflect this complexity – they reduce 'treatment' to a single symbol or word
  - You are judged on your ability to grapple with the reasoning of cases, which will never be communicated by a treatment indicator
- Assessing the precedential value of the cases: the noting up tools only gather the cases, they do not 'assess' them in depth
  - Rely on the online noting-up tools to organize search results and guide you to relevant cases.
  - They can helpfully filter by jurisdiction and court level, which are important considerations for you, however...
  - To assess the precedential value of a case you must read the case yourself and engage with its reasoning

# Finding commentary about a case

- The citator tools in WL and Lexis also point to secondary sources - books and other legal publications - that cite a case. This is a quick way to finding writings about a case.
  - Limitation: these tools find only material in their own database, so their reach is limited. But it's a good way to start!
  - Let's look at how we do that...





#### 🏲🖊 🕏 Boucher v. Wal-Mart Canada Corp. 😽

2014 ONCA 419, 2014 CarswellOnt 6646 Ontario Court of Appeal Ontario May 22, 2014 (Approx. 24 pages)

Document History (0) Citing References (253) ▼ Cited With (2,208) Legal Memos (40) Court Docs (11) Experts (0) Powered by Key Cit KeyCite Canada Citing References (7) 1-7 Sort By: Treatment Type ESLEVITT s 4:4 Content types **Filters** 2. Law of Dismissal in Canada, 3rd Edition s 9:64, § 9:64. Punitive Damages 2024 Content type: Secondary Sources (7) ESLEVITT s 9:64 Select multiple filters 3. Law of Dismissal in Canada, 3rd Edition s 9:70, § 9:70. Damages for Mental 2024 Distress—Intentional Infliction of Nervous Shock Clear ESLEVITT s 9:70 **Apply** 4. Law of Dismissal in Canada, 3rd Edition s 9:71, § 9:71. Aggravated/Moral 2024 Search within results Damages Q ESLEVITT s 9:71 **Publication Name** + 5. Law of Dismissal in Canada, 3rd Edition s 15:13, § 15:13. Juries 2024 ESLEVITT s 15:13 Law of Dismissal in Canada, 7 3rd Edition 6. Law of Dismissal in Canada, 3rd Edition APP IF s IF:10, § IF:10. When Have 2024 the Courts Found That a Poisoned Work Environment Amounts to Apply Constructive Dismissal? ESLEVITT APP IF s IF:10 7. Law of Dismissal in Canada, 3rd Edition APP IF s IF:14, § IF:14. Is an 2024

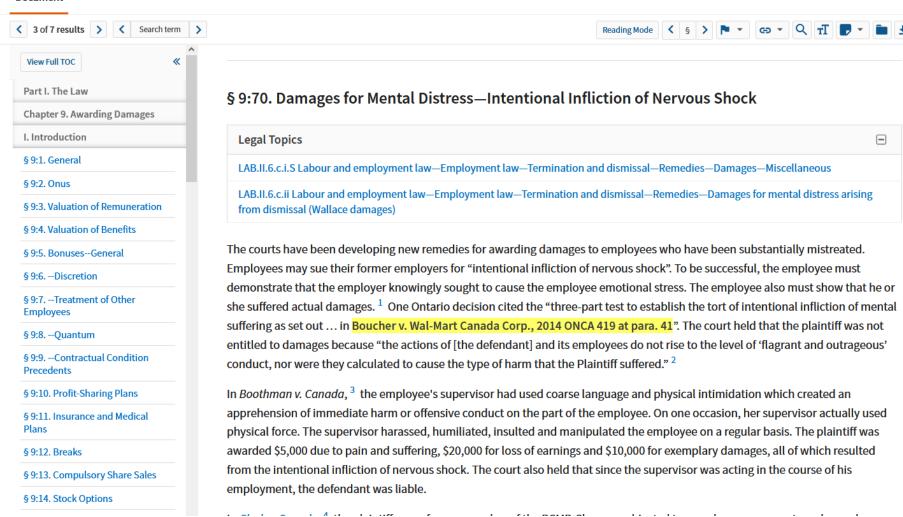
ESLEVITT APP IF s IF:14

Employee Barred From Suing His or Her Employer in Contract or in Tort for a Psychological or Mental Injury Sustained in the Course of Employment?

#### ← § 9:70. Damages for Mental Distress—Intentional Infliction of Nervous Shock

ESLEVITT § 9:70 • Law of Dismissal in Canada, 3rd Edition • The Law (Approx. 11 pages)

#### Document



# Finding discussion of a case in a book

- Most print law books have Tables of Cases, and the quickest way to find discussion of a case is to use that (eg to follow)
  - Online books usually lack a table of cases: instead, you can use their search option
- Alternatively, use the book's Table of Contents an/or Index to locate your topic
- Here's what a table of cases looks like...

#### Wrongful Dismissal

	Boldon v. Computer Innovations Distribution Inc., 1993 CarswellNB 139, 139 N.B.R. (2d) 236, 50 C.C.E.L. 263, 357 A.P.R. 236, [1993] N.B.J. No. 446 (N.B. Q.B.)4.36(g)(ii) Bolton v. Avco Financial Services Canada Ltd. (1985), 7 C.C.E.L. 196, 48 C.P.C. 20, 1985 CarswellOnt 450 (Ont. H.C.)
	Bomford v. Wayden Transportation Systems Inc., 2010 BCSC 1506, 2010
,	CarswellBC 2873 (B.C.S.C. [In Chambers])
	Bonair Cargo Systems Inc. v. Over, 2003 CarswellOnt 2332 (Ont. S.C.J.)
	Bonair Cargo Systems Inc. v. Over, 2003 CarswellOnt 3509 (Ont. S.C.J.)
	Bone v. Birdtail Sioux First Nation (October 31, 1997), Arb. Services File 4174
	(Cooper)
	Boni v. Transx Ltd. (May 5, 1997), Arb. Services File 4088 (Johnson)
	Bonneville v. Integrated Paving Concepts Inc. (1994), 8 C.C.E.L. (2d) 50,
	1994 CarswellBC 1160 (B.C.S.C.)
	Bonneville v. Unisource Canada Inc. (2002), 18 C.C.E.L. (3d) 174, [2002] 10
	W.W.R. 509, 222 Sask. R. 107, 2002 CarswellSask 472, 2002 SKQB 304 (Sask. Q.B.)
	(Sask. Q.B.)  Bonsma v. R., 2010 TCC 342, 2010 CarswellNat 1781 (T.C.C. [Informal
	Procedure])
	Bonsma v. Tesco Corp., 2011 ABQB 620, 208 A.C.W.S. (3d) 488, 2011
	CarswellAlta 1765 (Alta, Q.B.)
	Bonsma v. Tesco Corp., 2012 ABQB 413, 2012 CarswellAlta 1102,
	2012 C.L.L.C. 210-042 (Q.B.)
	Bonsma v. Tesco Corp. (2013), 2013 ABCA 367, 2013 CarswellAlta 2094,
	[2014] A.W.L.D. 84, [2014] A.W.L.D. 82, [2014] A.W.L.D. 83, 233 A.C.W.S. (3d) 658 (Alta. C.A.)
	Boothman v. R., 49 C.C.E.L. 109, (sub nom. Boothman v. Canada) 63 F.T.R. 48,
	[1993] 3 F.C. 381, 1993 CarswellNat 1328, 1993 CarswellNat 1366 (T.D.) 5.3(g)
	Borges v. Midland food Products Inc., 2014 CarswellOnt 10367 (Ont.
	S.C.J.)
	Borisko Brothers v. Lynch (July 10, 1984) (Larouche)
	Borkovich v. Canadian Membership Warehouse Ltd., 34 C.C.E.L. 42, 1991
	CarswellBC 850 (B.S.S.C.) 9.9 Borsato v. Atwater Insurance Agency Ltd., 2008 BCSC 724, 66 C.C.E.L. (3d)
ı	304, 2008 CarswellBC 1144 (B.C.S.C.)
۱	Boryski v. Chef-Redi Meats Inc. (1983), 1 C.C.E.L. 153, 22 Sask. R. 257 (Q.B.) 3.18(d)
۱	Boston Deep Sea Fishing Co. v. Ansell (1888), 39 Ch.D. 339, [1886-90] All E.R.
١	Rep. 65
d	ouchard v. R., 2008 CarswellNat 3045 (T.C.C. [General Procedure])
٦	oucher v. Black McDonald Ltd., 2016 ONSC 7220, 2016 CarswellOnt 18190 (Ont. Div.
	Ct.)
	120 O.R. (3d) 481 (Ont. C.A.)
	Boulay v. Grand Falls (Town), 2009 NBQB 87 (N.B.Q.B.)
	Boulet v. Federated Co-operatives Ltd. (2002), 170 Man. R. (2d) 9, 285 W.A.C.
	9, 2002 CarswellMan 411, 2002 MBCA 114 (Man. C.A.), affirming (2001),

# Other sources for finding academic journal commentary on a case

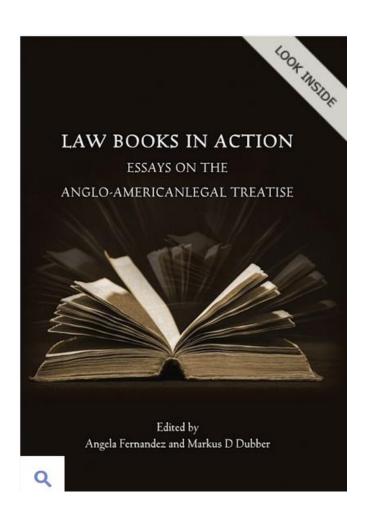
- Search the case name in journal article databases:
  - Westlaw's Canadian articles
  - Lexis's Canadian articles
  - **Hein online** (database of US, Canada, UK, Australia, NZ journals)

## **Treatises**

- The single best resource for gaining knowledge of the law is the legal treatise ie book
- Treatises can cover huge areas of law (torts, contracts) or narrow areas (s7 of the *Charter*)
- What does a treatise provide?
  - Systematic exposition of principles of law
  - Authoritative interpretation of legal sources <sup>1</sup>
    - Identify and discuss leading cases and relevant legislation

#### What's wrong with this footnote of this book?

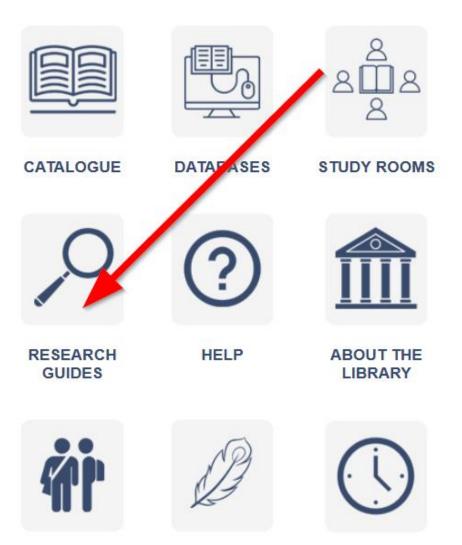
1 Fernandez, Angela & Markus Dubber, Law Books in Action: Essays on the Anglo-American Legal Treatise (Oxford: Hart, 2012).



- Collection of essays on legal treatises edited by Professors Fernandez & Dubber
- 1 Angela Fernandez & Markus Dubber, Law Books in Action: Essays on the Anglo-American Legal Treatise (Oxford: Hart, 2012).

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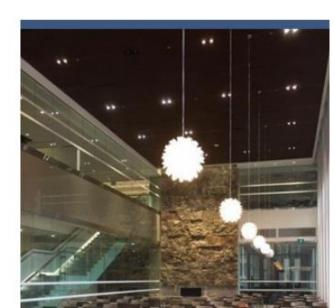


#### **Library News**

Welcome! We support the teaching, learning, and research needs of students and faculty at the University of Toronto's Faculty of Law.

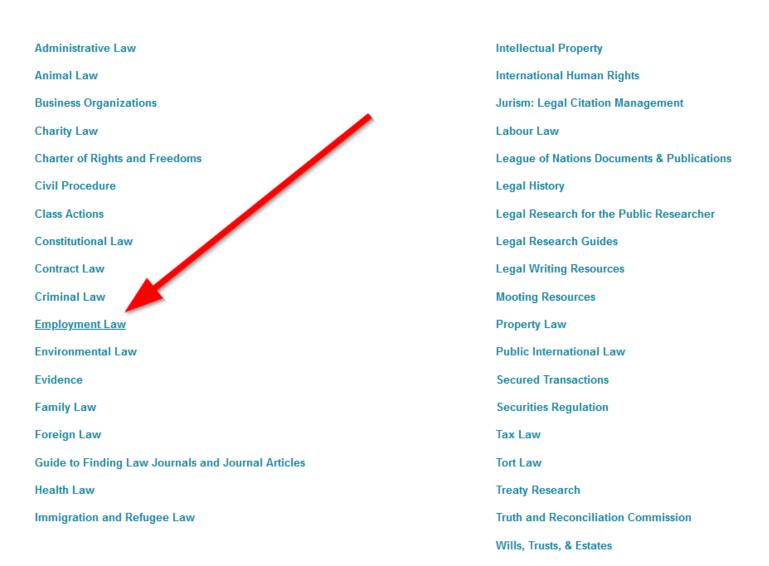
See our **hours** page for more information about accessing the library during the fall term.

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Research Guides

### **Research Guides**



#### Canadian Employment Law by Stacey Reginald Ball

Available online to Faculty of Law

#### **Employment Law in Canada** by Geoffrey England, Roderick Wood

Available online to Faculty of Law

#### Individual Employment Law by Geoffrey England

Call Number: KE3247 .E53 2008 Course Reserves Also available **online** to the U of T community.

#### Accommodation and Discrimination

Accommodation Issues in the Workplace by Filion Wakely Thorup Angeletti LLP

Call Number: KE3254 .F55 2014 Stacks

The Duty to Accommodate in Employment by Kevin D. MacNeill

Call Number: Online

Illness and Disability in the Workplace by James A. D'Andrea

Available online to the Faculty of Law

Understanding Discrimination in Employment Law by Susan Chapman

Call Number: KE3254 .C43 2017 Stacks

#### Dismissal

Just Cause: The Law of Summary Dismissal in Canada by Randall Scott Echlin, Matthew L.O.

Certosimo

Call Number: Online

The Law of Dismissal in Canada by Howard A. Levitt

Available online to the Faculty of Law.

Wrongful Dismissal by David Harris

Call Number: Online

Wrongful Dismissal Handbook by The Honourable Mr. Justice John R. Sproat

Call Number: KEO658 .S688 2018 Course Reserves



## What is a case comment

A short essay that describes and critically analyses a decision.

A case comment in law school requires complete citations, in footnotes, unless your instructor tells you otherwise.

It can be supported by research into:
jurisprudence
commentary

## Structure of a case comment

- Facts: very brief recitation of relevant facts
- Holding: Summary of the judgment, and history of the case (if any)
  - Point of law: perhaps summarize how the holding fits into the larger context (of case law)
- Analysis! The most important and least standardized
   part of a case comment.
  - Your analysis.
    - Informed by your research, but not a recitation or summary of your research
- Review your assignment for the structure your instructor wants!!!

## Case comment vs research paper

- Although case comments require research, the comment should focus on your own analysis—not a survey of existing commentary with a few of your own comments added in.
- Much of the research around your case comment should cover the state of <a href="the-issues">the-jurisprudence</a> on the issues, so you can analyze how your case fits in

## Research for a case comment?

- Cases: note up the case. Consult treatises to identify leading cases on the issue.
- Writing/commentary:
  - You can start via noting up > secondary sources
  - Check treatises for any commentary on your case and for commentary on the legal issue (use research guides)
  - Check articles databases, perhaps

## Finding commentary to support a case comment

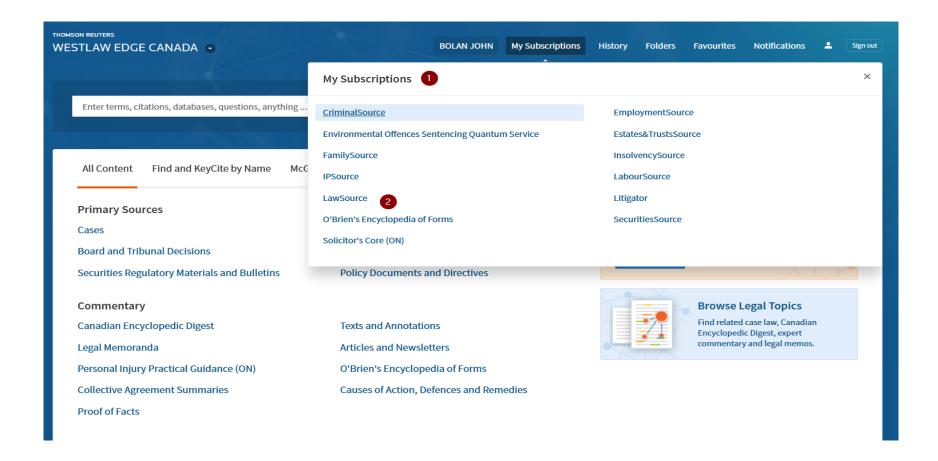
- Even when you are not specifically tasked with finding commentary for your assignment it can be extremely helpful to:
  - Orient you to the law in the area
  - Synthesize the case law on the topic
  - Provide the author's perspective on the law

Allows you to understand the case in context

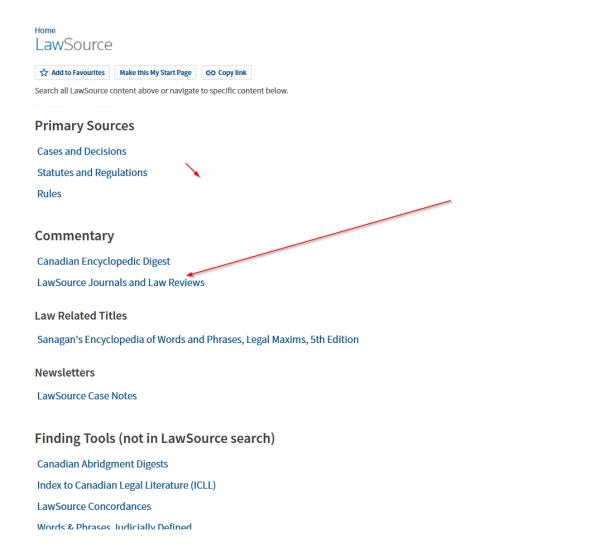
## Articles: searching articles databases

- To search many journals and case reporters at once: go to WL Canada journals database (or Lexis' equivalent database or HeinOnline)
  - I'll focus only on Westlaw today
  - (WL main page > Law source from top menu of Subscriptions > LawSource Journals and Law Reviews)

# Getting to Westlaw's journal articles database



### Select "LawSource Journals and Law Reviews"



## Reminder – Ask Us for Help!

- Ask for a librarian at the circulation desk, Monday to Friday, 10 AM to 4 PM
- Email Us

John Bolan, john.bolan@utoronto.ca

Sooin Kim, sooin.kim@utoronto.ca

Alexandra Kwan, alexandra.kwan@utoronto.ca

Alexia Loumankis, alexia.loumankis@utoronto.ca

All of us, law.ref@utoronto.ca