



Westlaw Precision Australia AI Assisted Research

Westlaw Precision Australia utilizes generative AI technology to ask legal questions in everyday language. The AI is focused on Westlaw's proven, reliable content and includes references in the responses to actual language from primary law authorities with pinpoint linking for additional research.

Ways to use AI-Assisted Research

- Cut down on time spent sifting through search results, and having to read and summarize results yourself. The AI does that for you.
- Quickly understand the law to make informed strategic decisions for your legal research.
- Easily access supporting authority for verification and follow-up research.
- Ask a question as if you are talking to a colleague and get a synthesized summary grounded in Westlaw's trusted content.

How it works

The generative AI relies on enhanced searching of Westlaw's trusted content and returns an overview with detailed insights from your top results along with a list of key cases, statutes, and/or regulations. The AI is focused on Westlaw's proven, reliable content and includes references in the responses to actual language from Australian primary law authorities with pinpoint linking for additional research.

Government and regulatory materials provide guidance on the interpretation of the primary law, the AI-Assisted Research Tool regards this material as guidance material and does not treat it the same as legislation and cases.

About AI-Assisted Research

AI-Assisted Research uses what is known as retrieval augmented generated (RAG) drawing from the reputable content within Westlaw Australia. This reduces errors by grounding the language model in trusted Westlaw legal content to help ensure that all citations and links are valid.



AI-Assisted Research should be part of, not a complete substitute for, your traditional research process.

What content is the AI-Assisted Research Tool searching across?

The AI-Assisted Research tool in Westlaw Precision Australia is indexed to provide answers based on the following content:

Included	Excluded
Cases	
<p>All Australian cases. Where the case is reported in an authorised report (e.g., CLR) it will prioritise this reference.</p> <p>The AI-Assisted Research checks the currency of legislation references in cases. Where a relevant case cites repealed legislation, it will include the case, however, it will warn that the case is referring to out-of-date legislation.</p>	<p>Authorised headnotes.</p> <p>Red flagged cases e.g., reversed or overruled.</p>
Digest	
Digest summaries prepared by our Australian Editors.	
Legislation	
Current Australian Federal, State and Territory legislation (Acts and Legislative instruments).	It will not include repealed legislation (Acts or Legislative instruments).
Government and Regulatory	
<p>Current ATO materials, providing valuable interpretative guidance.</p> <p>Current ASIC Digest guidance materials.</p>	<p>Archived content from ATO or ASIC: draft or superseded content is not included in the AI.</p> <p>ASIC Finding Guides and Indexes as the material does not include guidance or interpretive materials. For example: Additional Regulatory Materials, Directory, Forms Index, Gazette Index, Industry Funding, Orders, Policy Alerts, Registered Schemes, Regulatory Guide Finding Tables, Regulatory Tracker, Subject Index, Takeovers, Prospectuses & Trust Deeds</p> <p>ASIC Non-substantive material because of the risk of duplicating substantive guidance materials. Includes Media Centre, speeches</p>

Additional Secondary Sources

Secondary sources, including commentary, law reviews, journals and books, are now appended to AI-Assisted Research responses.

- Up to three secondary sources will be displayed below the AI Response.
- The secondary source results are based on a natural language search and ranked by relevance.
- Secondary Source results will include content that is both in and out of plan. Out of plan content is identifiable via a banner on the document. Out of plan content is available via pay per view. If PPV is blocked, the user will not be able to access the content.



Secondary sources will be displayed below the AI Response for the initial AI query only. Secondary sources will not be appended on the follow-up questions.

INCLUDED	EXCLUDED
Secondary Sources	
Commentaries, Law Reviews, Journals and Books, up to 3 Secondary sources will be added, current within 10 years, if relevant to your research.	What's New or Update summaries, which provide updates on the changes made to a commentary in the last update. They are not about changes in the law nor guidance on interpretation of law.
	Secondary sources that do not include discursive interpretation of the law, such as Index titles because they do not include in-depth information on the law. Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Australian Superannuation Practice – Legislation and Research • Commonwealth Statutes Annotations • Tax Bills and EMs • Australian Legal Journals Index • Local Government Index NSW.

Tips for using the AI-Assisted Research Tool

The AI-Assisted Research Tool provides answers to legal research questions. The quality of the response is dependent on the questions asked.

Below are tips for best results when using AI-Assisted Research on Westlaw Precision Australia.

Tip 1: Write a clear, concise, and focused query that is 1-2 sentences long.

Consider adding information, such as practice area, the cause of action, the governing law, the remedy sought, the desired outcome, or the material facts to provide better context for the query.

- **Ok Query:** What are the defences to a claim the corporation failed to disclose information?
- **Better Query:** In a matter under s 674A of the Corporations Act 2001, an investor alleges that the publicly listed company failed to disclose critical information about the company's profitability compared to previously issued predictions. What defences are available to the company and its directors?

Tip 2: Provide relevant facts material to your research but do not include extra background facts that are not material to the question.

Each term in a query should be essential to finding relevant information.

- **Ok Query:** A disabled employee returns from leave after sustaining a back injury. They are unable to return to their previous hospital position which required lifting patients and other heavy objects, so they request an open clerical position. They are only minimally qualified to perform the clerical work, though they could be trained. Is the employer required to offer the position to the returning disabled employee under the DDA?
- **Better query:** Does the DDA require an employer to reassign an employee to a vacant position as a reasonable accommodation?

Tip 3: Do not write a query in the style of a prompt, command, or instruction.

We have done the prompting and instruction work for you and have designed AI-Assisted Research to work best with legal research queries that clearly identify the information you would like to find. For example, it is better to avoid including extra words or phrases like “find cases that...” that bookend the query but are not substantive. Instead, it is better to construct a query with words or phrases you would expect to find in Australian cases, statutes, or regulations.

- **Query:** You are an experienced lawyer who is an expert legal researcher, and you need to find and summarise the best cases that discuss whether the DDA requires an employer to reassign an employee to a vacant position as a reasonable accommodation.
- **Better query:** Does the DDA require an employer to reassign an employee to a vacant position as a reasonable accommodation?

Tip 4: Focus on a single issue or question.

Where it is easy to distinguish separate issues, ask about those issues in separate questions dedicated to the issues, rather than combining them.

- **Query:** Does the DDA require an employer to reassign an employee to a vacant position as a reasonable accommodation and has an employee satisfied their requirement of providing notice of their disability to the employer by asking to be reassigned to the vacant position?
- **Better query:** Does the DDA require an employer to reassign an employee to a vacant position as a reasonable accommodation?

Tip 5: Avoid including proper names of people or parties.

Using proper names can artificially focus the search on results that may only be moderately relevant but contain the same name.

- **Query:** Is Dave Jones, as CEO, personally liable in a shareholder action against Acme Co for failure to continuously disclose?
- **Better query:** Can a company executive be held personally liable in an action for failure to continuously disclose information?

Running an AI-Assisted Research Query

1. To begin, from the Westlaw Precision homepage, select the AI-Assisted Research tab.
2. Select the required **Jurisdiction** e.g State or Federal.
Note: To include the Government & Regulatory materials in the AI response select FEDERAL.
3. Type your query into the search box.

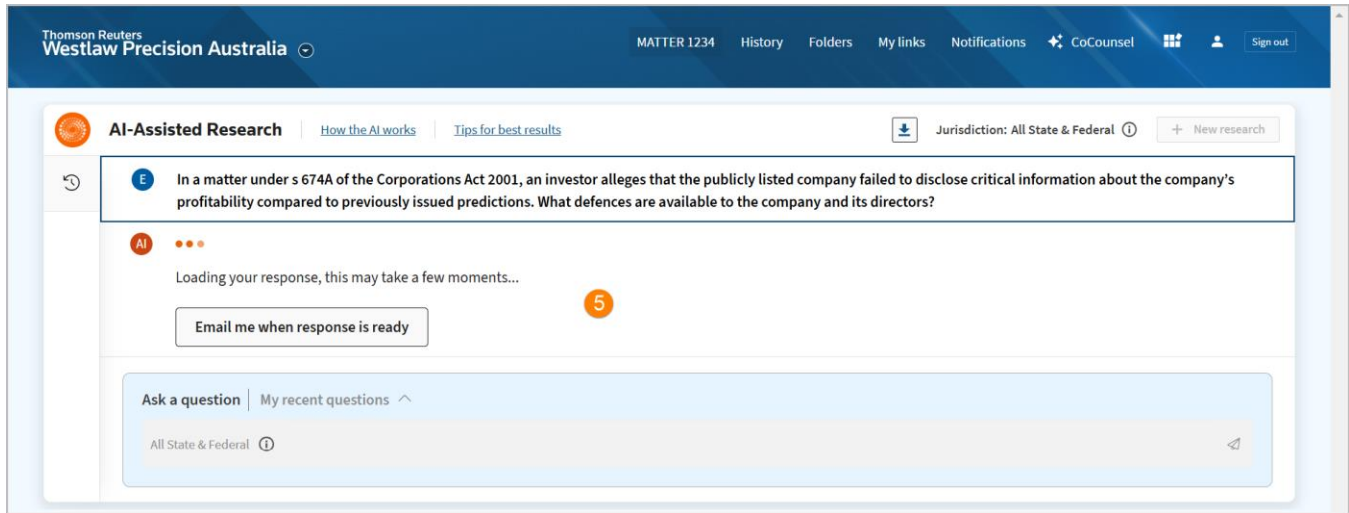
Ok Query: What are the defences to a claim the corporation failed to disclose information?

Better Query: In a matter under s 674A of the Corporations Act 2001, an investor alleges that the publicly listed company failed to disclose critical information about the company's profitability compared to previously issued predictions. What defences are available to the company and its directors?

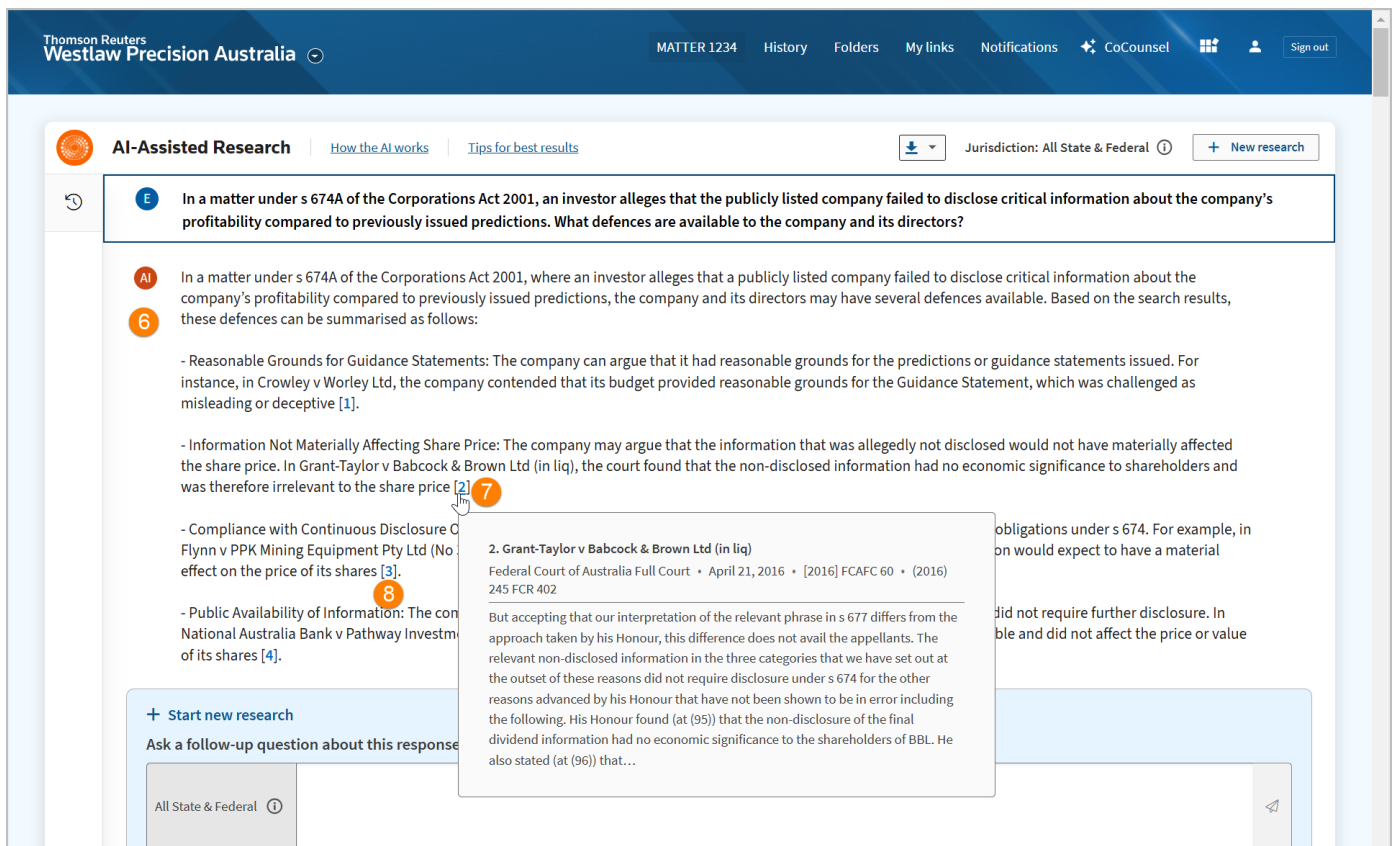
4. Click **Submit**.

The screenshot displays the Thomson Reuters Westlaw Precision Australia AI-Assisted Research interface. At the top, there is a search bar with the placeholder text "Enter terms, citations, databases, questions, anything ...". Below the search bar, there is a navigation menu with options like "All Cases", "All Secondary Sources", "ASIC Digest", "Commonwealth Law R...", and "Commercial". The "AI-Assisted Research" tab is highlighted. The main content area features a "Welcome to Westlaw's AI-Assisted Research" heading and a brief introduction to the feature. A form on the right allows users to select a jurisdiction (All State & Federal) and enter a legal research question. A "Submit" button is visible at the bottom right of the form. The interface is annotated with numbered callouts: 1 points to the "AI-Assisted Research" tab, 2 points to the "All State & Federal" jurisdiction dropdown, 3 points to the text input field for the legal research question, and 4 points to the "Submit" button.

5. A search using AI-Assisted Research will take longer than a typical search query (3-8 seconds) as it is going through all the Australian primary law to find passages of information relevant to the question asked, and then synthesizing that content to provide an overview of the key results.



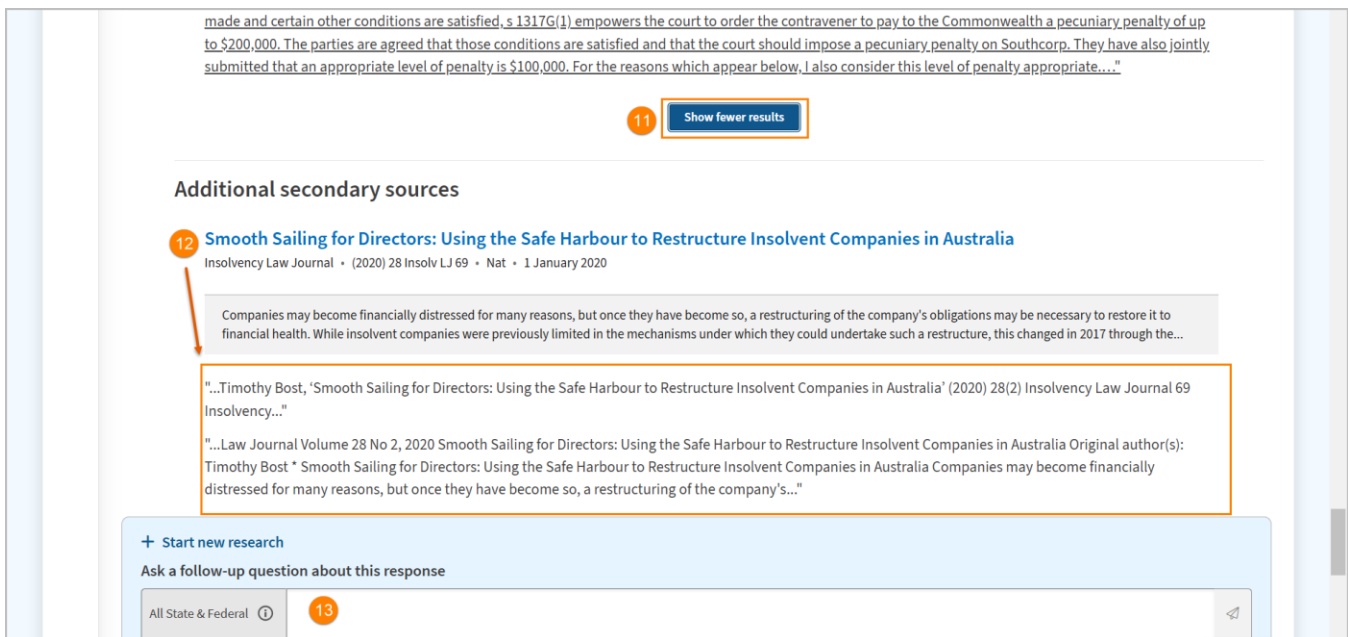
6. Once the query has run, a summary response is generated. Supporting authority is provided to verify statements in the AI summary, so you can make better informed decisions and more efficiently complete the remainder of your research.
7. The footnote citations are hyperlinked in numbered brackets. Hover over a bracketed number and a pop-up will appear with the relevant excerpt from the legislation, case, or topical overview.
8. Click on a citation number to be taken to the source document in the list below.



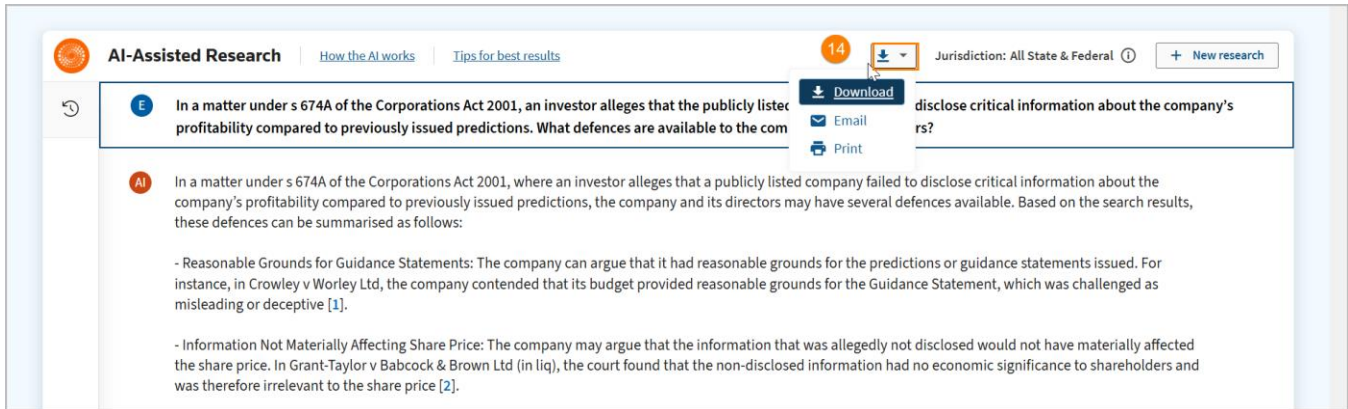
- 9. Relevant extracts of text from the supporting authority are displayed further down the page underneath the summarised response.
- 10. To open a document, select its title or select one of the excerpts to jump right to the relevant part of the document.



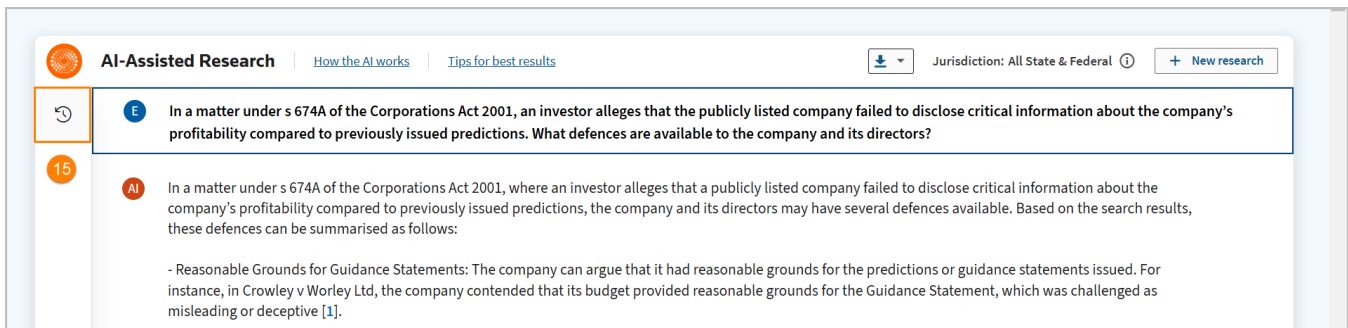
- 11. At the bottom of the page, there is an option to **Show fewer results**. Click this button to view only the results appearing as footnotes in the AI summarised response.
- 12. Additional Secondary Sources are displayed that are relevant to your search query. Click on the title to open the document or the excerpt to view where the text appears in the document.
- 13. Ask a **follow-up query** to further refine or clarify your research. There are up to four follow up queries.



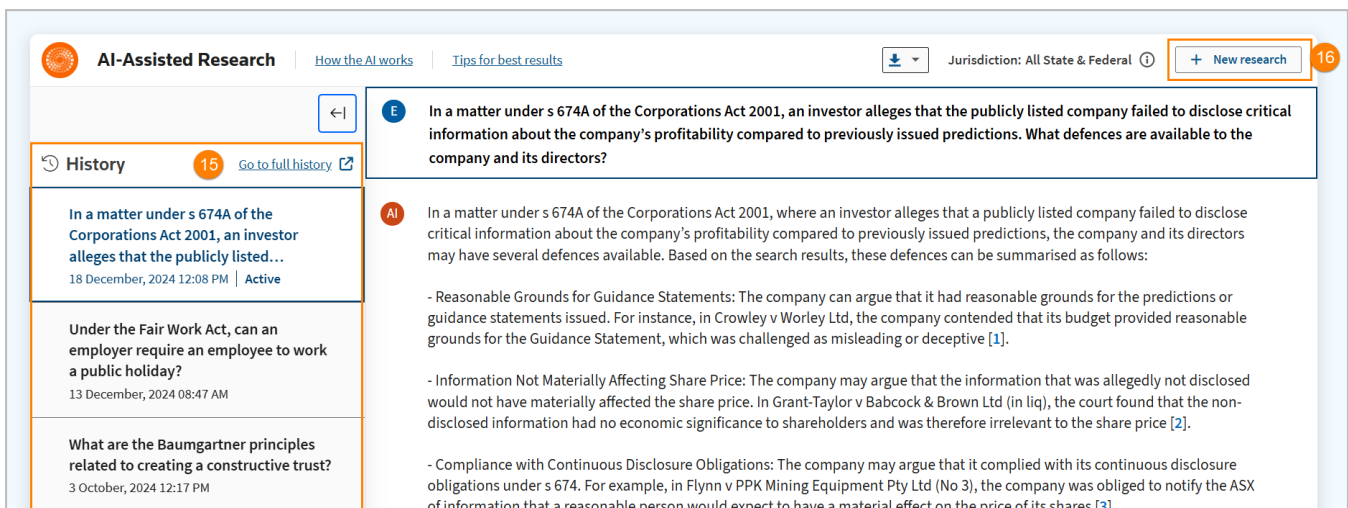
14. Print, download or email the summarised response and by selecting the delivery icon at the top of the page.



15. To return to questions asked previously, click on the arrow on the left-hand side of the screen. Click **Go to full history** to view all search history.



16. Start a new AI-Assisted Research query by selecting the **New Research** button on the top right-hand corner of the screen.



Westlaw Precision Australia – Research Methods

Here are some examples where you can use traditional research methods on Westlaw Precision Australia that are not currently supported by the AI-Assisted Research.

Task	Example	Suggested Research Methods
Finding documents by citation	"(1908) 5 CLR 765"	Enter citation into the Global Search Bar to quickly locate the case.
Boolean or fielded queries	"Summary judgment" /p "breach of contract"	Enter the terms and connectors search into the Global Search Bar and refine results by content type.
Questions about documents	"Does Hollis v Vabu Pty Ltd include consideration of the control test?"	Locate Hollis v Vabu Pty Ltd by entering case name into Global Search Bar then search the judgment for the phrase "control test."
Requests for legal statistics	"How many cases were handed down by [Judge] in 2023?"	Run an Advanced Cases search, and enter the Judge name into the Judge field, then filter results by Date.
Commands to execute certain tasks	"Summarise the Jones v. Smith case" or "Email me the Jones v. Smith case and any cases that have negatively cited the case."	Enter case name into the Global Search Bar, open the case document, and review the KeyCite Negative Treatment tab. If the case has received Digest Treatment review the case summaries.
Requests for comprehensive document retrievals	"Find all cases granting summary judgment on negligent misrepresentation claims"	Run an All-Cases search using Natural language or Terms and Connectors.
Instructions to filter supporting authority	"Exclude any unreported cases"	Run a case search and filter by reported judgments.
Requests for timing or mathematical calculations	"By which date do I need to file a notice of appeal for a judgment entered on July 8th"	Check Rules related to timing to submit a notice of appeal in Westlaw Precision Australia.
Questions about predictions of outcomes	"Will the High Court uphold..."	Run a cases search and filter results by High Court decisions.

Thomson Reuters Security & Privacy

Protecting our customers' information is at the core of our Information Security strategy. Thomson Reuters maintains its reputation for providing reliable and trustworthy information through a comprehensive information security management framework and a wide range of security policies, standards, and practices.

Thomson Reuters use of Generative AI is via dedicated API access through Microsoft Azure, Amazon Web Services, and other trusted CSP's.

Thomson Reuters expressly prohibits any vendor from retaining or using Westlaw or Practical Law customer data to train their Generative AI models.

For more information about security, click this [link](#).

Looking for more information?

To sign into Westlaw Australia Precision, visit <https://aulaw.thomsonreuters.com>

For assistance using Westlaw Precision Australia, call 1800 020 548

To request training, click <https://support.thomsonreuters.com.au/request-training>

For additional training materials, visit <https://support.thomsonreuters.com.au/product/westlaw-precision-australia>