

Unpublished decisions are included in West databases when they are generally accessible through courts or other distribution systems. This may include access through web sites, subscription services, or docketing systems such as the federal courts' CM/ECF for materials designated by courts as written opinions. Individual opinions may be added to databases in addition to those routinely distributed. For databases with no general access points, individual opinions may be added to collections. In some jurisdictions in which courts/states have chosen not to make unpublished decisions accessible, West may not include isolated decisions in its collections.

In recent years, access to unpublished decisions has expanded for both current and, in some jurisdictions, retrospective materials. West continues to seek out opinions on a broad scale and based on individual references to decisions not in West collections to offer researchers comprehensive and useful caselaw. One of West's recent initiatives has been to expand coverage of trial court decisions in separate trial orders databases. These databases include lower state court decisions.

Attorneys may submit decisions of interest for review by West editors and potential inclusion in West caselaw collections. The email address for submitting federal decisions from all levels and for state appellate court decisions is

[west.attysubmissions@thomson.com](mailto:west.attysubmissions@thomson.com)

The email address for submitting state trial court decisions is

[TLR.trialdocsreceiving@thomson.com](mailto:TLR.trialdocsreceiving@thomson.com)

Caselaw databases are designed to include decisions that may be of use to researchers as persuasive or precedential authority. For that reason, orders issued by consent or on stipulation or orders based on jury verdicts will generally not be included in caselaw databases. We may include consent-based orders that act upon other materials in our database, such as by vacating an order in our collection.

Recent decisions from lower federal courts may be considered for inclusion in West print reporters as well. If a researcher is interested in print publication, it is often helpful to include a brief summary highlighting why a decision has broad general interest. Submissions generally receive acknowledgments that they are under review. If the submitter wants a reply regarding the decision on whether a decision will be included in a collection, that reply should be requested in the submission.