

ONPOINT FEATURE COURSE

Legal Research:

From Problems to Solutions 2009

EARN 6
CPD CREDITS

INCLUDES 1 HOUR
ETHICS COMPONENT

*Learn the latest techniques
from research specialists*



Thursday, November 19, 2009

Sutton Place Hotel, Vancouver

9:00 am - 4:30 pm

 **ONPOINT**
LAW CORPORATION

Legal Research: From Problems to Solutions 2009

OnPoint has been researching for other lawyers for over 10 years. Drawing from our experience, we will demonstrate how to map out research strategies, examine which resources to use to tackle various problems, and navigate through electronic sources. We will provide countless “insider” tips, discuss legislative research techniques, and walk through a sample issue, from start to finish.



WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

We have created this course for all levels. It is appropriate for senior lawyers wanting a refresher course or needing to be updated on the latest techniques, junior lawyers wishing to become better researchers, and students wanting to start off their careers with valuable tips from research specialists. Paralegals will also benefit from this course.

Our Panel Knows Research

Chair: Sarah Picciotto, Founder of OnPoint Legal Research



Ellen Vandergrift, OnPoint Legal Research– Ellen has a winning combination of a keen analytical mind, a clerkship with the Alberta C.A., a stint at Fraser Milner, and a drive to keep digging until she finds the right answer. If it’s out there, Ellen will find it! You will learn from her years of experience when to use what resource and how best to use it.



Doug Morrison, OnPoint Legal Research– With over 30 years of experience as a litigator, the majority with Bull Houser & Tupper, Doug brings to the table an extraordinary ability to see the big picture and chart out a research course to get the end results he wants. He will show you how to strategically map out a research plan and effectively present results to clients, other lawyers and the court.



Susan Caird, Librarian and Manager of Reference Services, Courthouse Libraries BC– Susan has 9 years of experience at the courthouse library and has tackled her share of tricky legislative questions over the years. In addition to working on the two legislative publications that the courthouse library publishes, she has recently co-taught legal research to library students at UBC.

Agenda

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8:30- 9:00- **Registration and Continental Breakfast**

9:00- 9:10- **Welcome from Sarah Picciotto, Founder of OnPoint**

9:10-10:00- **Doug Morrison- “Preparing for the Trek”**

- Determining the end goal to ensure you head down the right path
- Considering your audience in constructing the journey
- The importance of getting the proper facts, instructions, and scope of the research

10:00-10:45- **Ellen Vandergrift- “Starting Out on the Expedition and Staying on the Right Course”**

- The importance of paper and online secondary materials in legal research (texts, digests, encyclopedias and course materials)
- Tips on the best secondary sources to use and how to make the most of them
- Making good research choices- when to stop, when to take a different path, when to check back with the client or supervising lawyer

10:45- 11:00- **Coffee break (with pastries)**

11:00- 12:00- **Ellen Vandergrift- “Navigating the Electronic Terrain”**

- Insider tips from a research lawyer who performs computer research every day
- Cost-efficient uses of electronic resources
- Pointers on when to use which resource for what task
- Tips on how to construct effective searches and manage search results
- Noting up as an essential research tool
- Important resources for keeping current

12:00- 1:30- **Lunch (on own)**

1:30- 2:30- **Susan Caird- “The Legislative Research Journey Made Painless”**

- Tracing legislation back to original provisions
- Locating judicial consideration of legislation using different methods and sources
- Ensuring legislation is current and in force
- Using free and for-fee electronic sources and useful print materials
- Pitfalls of legislative research and how to avoid them

2:30- 3:30- **Ellen and Doug- “Showing Someone Else the Way”**

- Keeping notes for future research or to defend research choices
- A review of our Research Checklist
- How to best create the product for another lawyer, a client, or the court
- Doug will take participants through the process of developing submissions to court using an Outline filed in the BCSC as a model

3:30- 3:45- **Coffee break (with goodies)**

3:45- 4:30- **Ellen Vandergrift- “Time to Take the Plunge: A Sample Research Issue, Step By Step”**

