



Independent Internet Research

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Content and Services



Learning Outcomes

1

Assess web content
for reliability

2

Locate information
on government
websites

3

Employ advanced
search techniques
for improved
internet searching

Webinar Overview

Introduction

Evaluating Web Content

State Archives

Judiciary Intranets

Library Resources

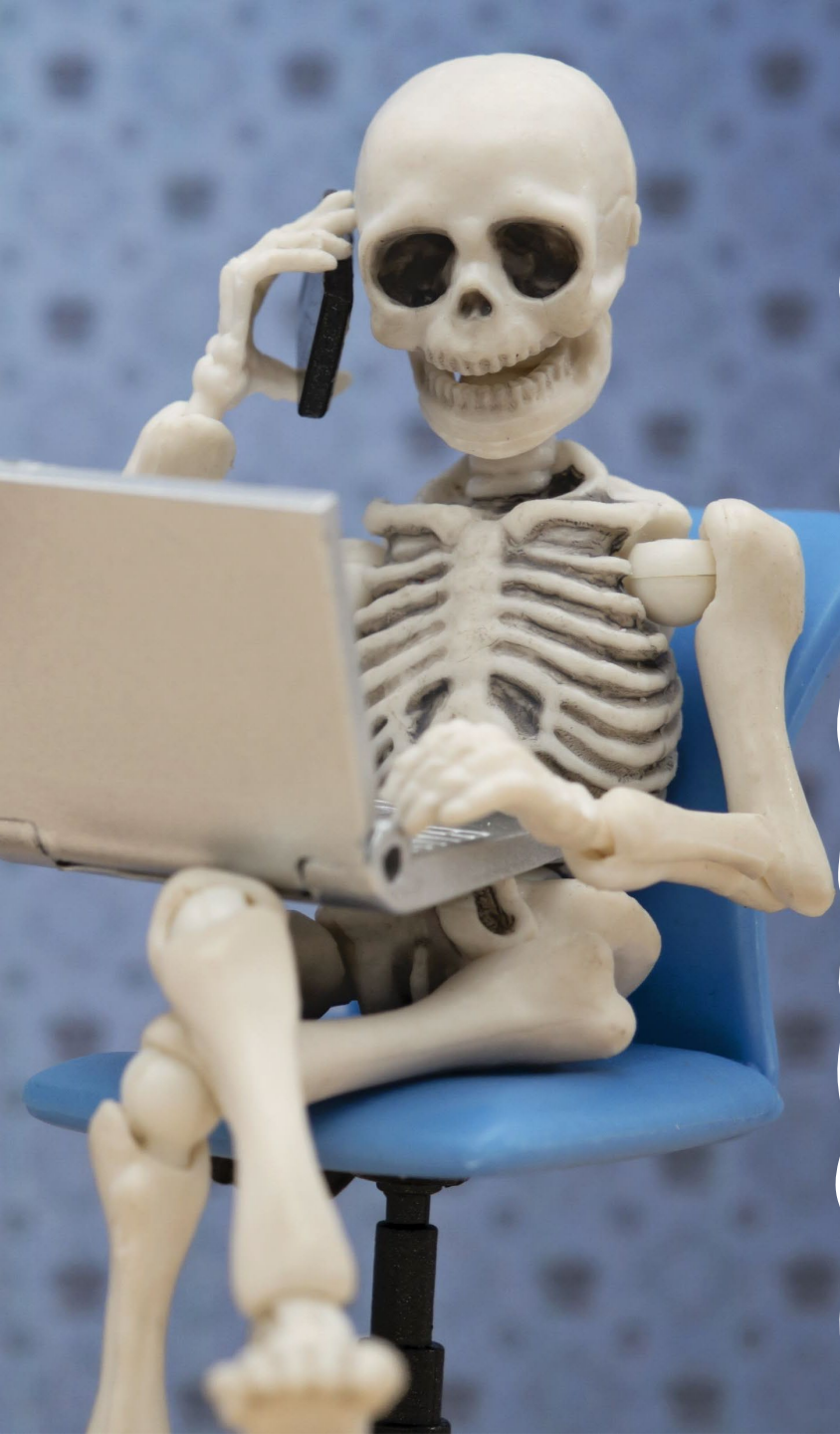
Google Advanced Searching

Review and Questions

Evaluating Web Content

- Identify the source
- Determine objectivity or viewpoint
- Ascertain reliability





Identify the source

- Is the text attributed to an **author**?
- Does the site have a “**about us**” page?
- **Who owns the publisher or platform?**
 - Check SDAT business entity search

Is it “sponsored content”

- “Paid post”
- “Presented by”
- “Sponsored by”
- “Partnered with”
- “Promoted”
- “Affiliated with”
- “Powered by”

The New York Times

Subscribe for \$0.25/week Log In

PAID POST Share

Cut the Ribbon Pop the Bubbly Don a Mask

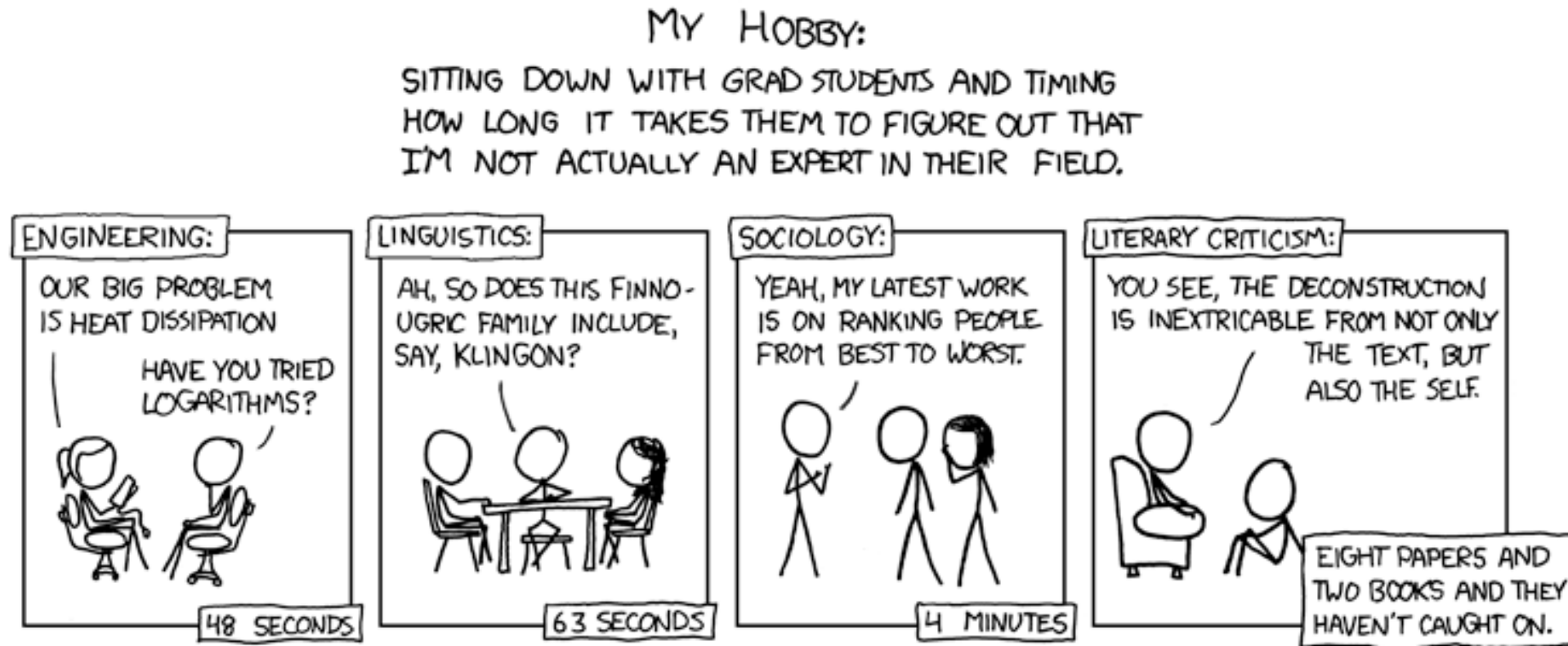
How 3 start-ups opened in 2020 fueled by passion and supported by the right collaboration tools.



- What kinds of ads are on the page?
- What types of sites are linked to?
- Do authors have credentials?
 - Google the author
 - Check for a Linked-In page

Objectivity or viewpoint

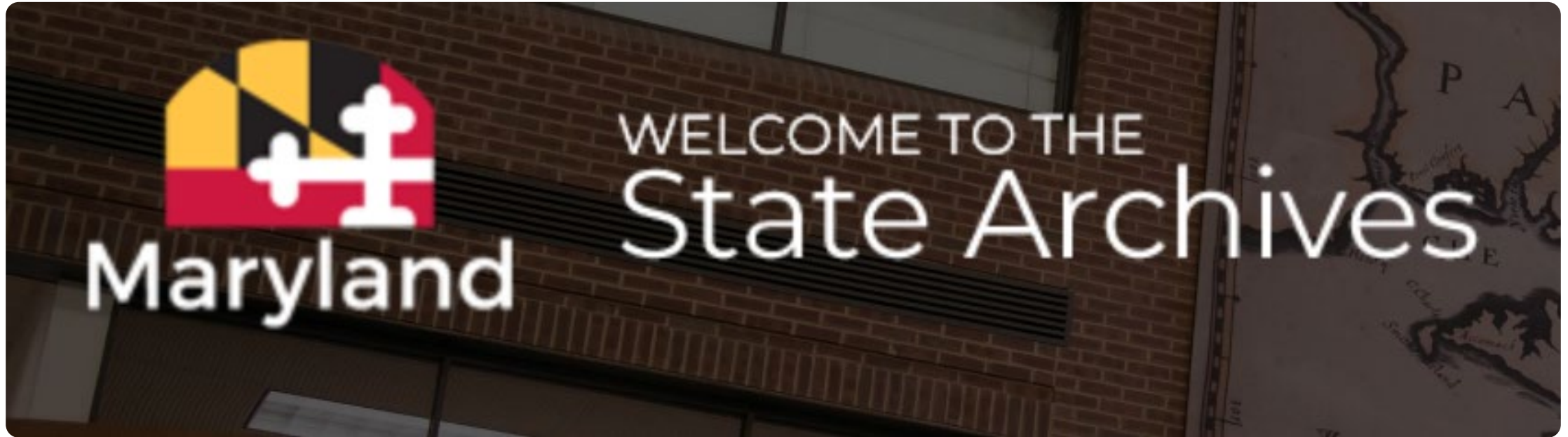
Reliability



- <https://xkcd.com/451/>

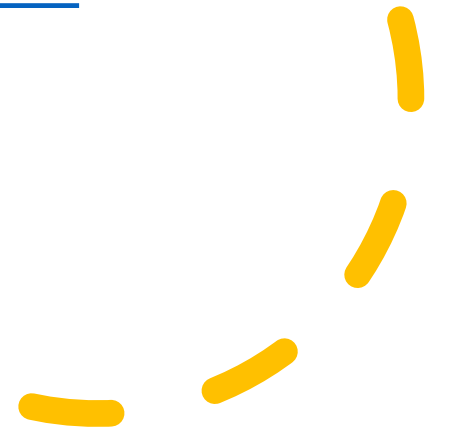
Reliability

- Does the page state when it was **last amended**?
- What is the **topic**?
 - Compare interestingengineering.com and justice.org
- Are there **feedback mechanisms**?
- **Active deceit vs. stale content**
 - Domain names are unreliable indicators. Anyone can get a [.gov](#) or .org domain



msa.maryland.gov

- [Archives of Maryland Online](#)
- [Maryland Manual](#)
- [Baltimore City Archives](#)
- [MDLandRec.net](#)





MARYLAND COURTS

Fair, Efficient, & Effective Justice For All

Judiciary Resources

- Circuit & District Court intranets
 - MDEC
- 

Library Resources

- Website: For the Judiciary
- Gateway to Maryland Law
- Scanned collections
- Databases
- Catalog

mdcourts.gov/lawlib

HOME USING THE LIBRARY RESEARCH ABOUT US PEOPLE'S LAW LIBRARY ASK A LAW LIBRARIAN

 Thurgood Marshall State Law Library

361 ROWE BOULEVARD
ANNAPOLIS, MD 21401
410-260-1430 | 888-216-8156
LAWLIBRARY@MDCOURTS.GOV

Search Catalog

ENHANCED BY Google

Research at Your Fingertips

- **The People's Law Library of Maryland**

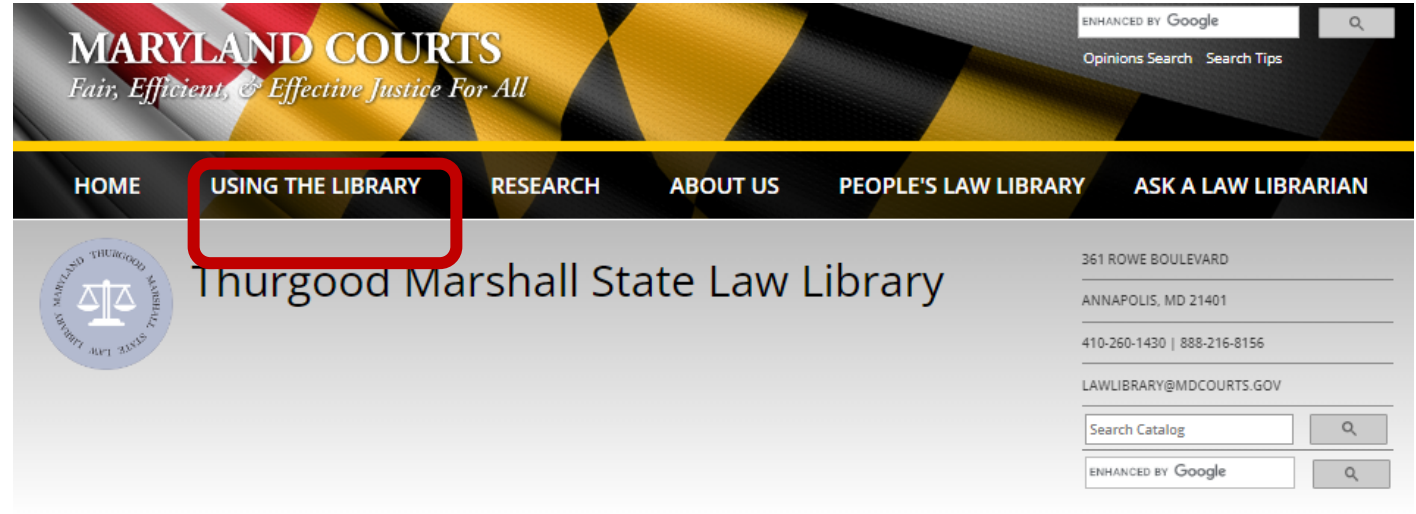
Maryland legal self-help web site managed by the Library
- **Gateway to Maryland Law**
Links to Maryland case law, Maryland Code, COMAR, county and city codes, and Maryland law journals
- **Scanned Collections**
See our expanding collection of scanned Maryland full-text legal materials
- **Databases**
The Library has an extensive collection of legal databases.
- **Request a Document or Book**
Need it now? Let us know
- **Library Catalog**
Search for materials available in print and online

Search Catalog Search

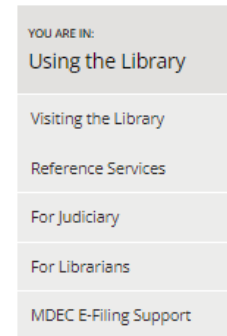
Library Resources

 **Website: For the Judiciary**

- Gateway to Maryland Law
- Scanned collections
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The screenshot shows the top portion of the Maryland Courts website. At the top left, it says "MARYLAND COURTS" with the tagline "Fair, Efficient, & Effective Justice For All". To the right, there is a search bar with "ENHANCED BY Google" and a magnifying glass icon. Below the search bar are links for "Opinions Search" and "Search Tips". A dark navigation bar contains the following menu items: "HOME", "USING THE LIBRARY" (highlighted with a red box), "RESEARCH", "ABOUT US", "PEOPLE'S LAW LIBRARY", and "ASK A LAW LIBRARIAN". Below the navigation bar, the page title "Thurgood Marshall State Law Library" is displayed next to the library's logo. On the right side, contact information is provided: "361 ROWE BOULEVARD", "ANNAPOLIS, MD 21401", "410-260-1430 | 888-216-8156", and "LAWLIBRARY@MDCOURTS.GOV". There is also a "Search Catalog" input field with a magnifying glass icon and another "ENHANCED BY Google" search bar.



The sidebar menu is titled "YOU ARE IN:" and lists the following options: "Using the Library" (which is highlighted), "Visiting the Library", "Reference Services", "For Judiciary", "For Librarians", and "MDEC E-Filing Support".

Judiciary Employees

As a Court-Related Agency, the Library strives to ensure that Maryland's judges and other judicial staff members possess the most relevant and current legal information possible. To meet this need, the Library provides several services specifically benefiting Judiciary customers, including:

- Management of **Westlaw**, the Judiciary's primary online legal research system
- Management of the Judiciary's **LexisNexis Digital Library** collection
- Access via transparent IP authentication on all JIS-networked computers to the HeinOnline, Making of Modern Law, and Index to Legal Periodicals database
- Free scans and photocopies
- Lending of Library materials directly to any appellate judge or other state employee in Annapolis (pursuant to Md. Ann. Code, Cts. & Jud. Proc. § 13-504)
- Interlibrary loans of Library materials to Circuit Court Libraries for use by judicial staff
- Interlibrary loan requests to other libraries for materials unavailable at the Library
- Management of judges' subscriptions to the Maryland Annotated Code
- A complete collection of reports issued by the State Justice Institute

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- [Westlaw Access and Training](#)
- [Services for Staff](#)

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The screenshot shows the top navigation bar of the Thurgood Marshall State Law Library website. The navigation menu includes: HOME, USING THE LIBRARY, RESEARCH, ABOUT US, PEOPLE'S LAW LIBRARY, and ASK A LAW LIBRARIAN. Below the navigation is the library's logo, a circular seal with a scale of justice, and the text "Thurgood Marshall State Law Library". To the right, contact information is provided: 361 ROWE BOULEVARD, ANNAPOLIS, MD 21401, 410-260-1430 | 888-216-8156, and LAWLIBRARY@MDCOURTS.GOV. A search bar labeled "Search Catalog" is also visible.

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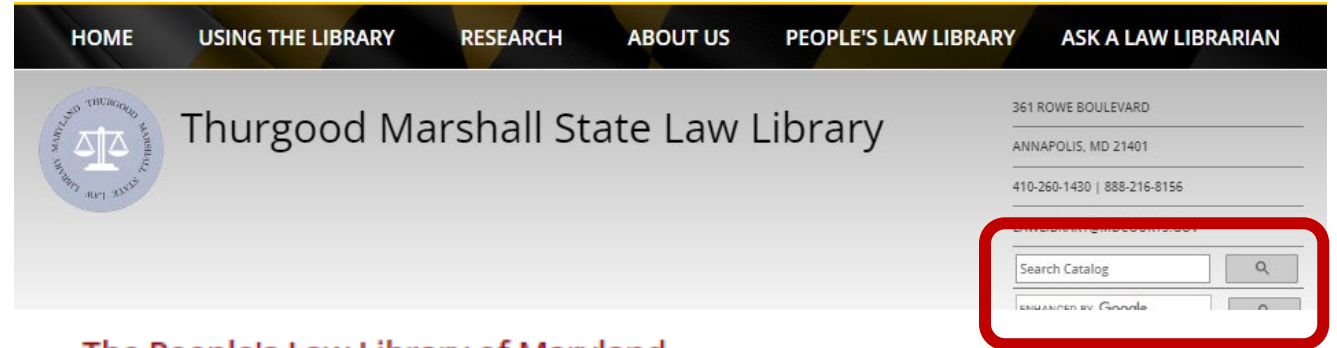
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Demonstration



Google Advanced Searching

Search operators and limits

- "phrase searching"
- Connectors: OR, minus sign (-)
- Document format (filetype:)

Domain / site restriction

- .org, .edu, .gov
- Or restrict to full site

Google Scholar (scholar.google.com)

- Wide range of case law with basic citator
- Scholarly articles (if within Judiciary network, links to Library databases like HeinOnline)



Demonstration



Questions?

lawlibrary@mdcourts.gov

