

**Research Project # 1 Statutory Law and Legislative History
Due Sept. 12**

In addition to Wisconsin, several states have passed laws that criminalize the theft of identity information or identity material. Because different legislatures have different perspectives in passing this legislation, the texts and effects of these statutes may differ. For this exercise, I would like you to find statutes from four states, **excluding** Wisconsin, Alabama, and Iowa, that criminalize identity theft.

For two of the states, please use the statutory compilations on the third floor of the GULC library (or any floor of any other law library to which you might have access). For each state that you choose, do the following: 1) explain which words in the index brought you to the appropriate statutes; 2) briefly explain any differences in the form or effect of the statute between it and the Wisconsin statute; and 3) give the appropriate Bluebook citation for the statute.

For two other states, please use an online search tool – e.g., Lexis or Westlaw. For each state that you choose, do the following: 1) explain your search process – which database did you use; what were your search terms; 2) briefly explain any differences in the form or effect of the statute between it and the Wisconsin statute; and 3) give the appropriate Bluebook citation for the statute.

Briefly compare your research process in the library to your research process online. What was easier or harder about each of them? Which process was more efficient? How might you decide when to use books and when to use online research tools?

I know that you have researched and analyzed Kylie Hasselback's culpability under Wisconsin law. However, it recently occurred to me that Lisa O'Donnell's recourse may not be limited to state law. There may be federal statute(s) that criminalize the theft of identity information or identity material. Using either print or online resources, please research federal law to determine if there are any federal statutes criminalizing identity theft. Please explain whether there is a federal statute criminalizing identity theft. If so, please provide the citation to that statute and tell me the purpose of that statute. To find the purpose of the statute, you may need to look at the legislative history of the statute. You should remember from the legislative history tutorial that there are a number of ways to find legislative history such as checking U.S.C.C.A.N. or searching the Legislative History link on Westlaw. Explain how you found the purpose of that statute. Finally, based on a quick reading of the federal statutes, can you tell me whether Kylie Hasselback's conduct violates the federal statute? If so, briefly explain why. If you need more information before you can answer my question, please identify the issues remaining.