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**CORRECTION LAW**  
**LIBRARY RESEARCH GUIDE**  
 (CJ353)

**INTRODUCTION**

Correctional institution is a general term used to describe a jail, prison, reformatory or other government-maintained detention facility. These institutions are generally of statutory creation and are governed by boards of charities, and corrections, or similar boards part of a branch of municipal or state government. State and local legislatures that control corrections law are limited only by the Constitution. CJ 353 discusses legal problems of the convicted from conviction to release; presentence investigation, sentencing, civil rights loss restoration, and other problems confronting the convicted. Most print sources (such as books, periodicals) related to correction Law are located on 4<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> floor in Houston Cole Library. Electronic sources (such as databases) can be accessed via computer stations on each floor.

**PRINT SOURCES**

Books are important sources of basic information on a topic, providing necessary definitions, background information, and historical information. Books provide a foundation for research which can be supplemented by more current information from periodical articles. Books may also contain useful bibliographies which may lead to additional sources of research. When looking for books, consult the Library of Congress Subject Headings to select the proper term(s) to use as subjects under “Find Books (Library Catalog <http://library.jsu.edu/>)”. The following table shows correction law in the Library of Congress System:

HV 6025	Community-based corrections Law and legislation	HV8665-9304	Prisoners Legal status, laws, etc.
KF8810-9220	Civil Procedure	KF9223-9479	Criminal Law
KF9601-9780	Criminal Procedure	KFA	Alabama Law
KZ	Law of Nations		

Other subject headings can be:

Community-based corrections Law and legislation,  
 Prisoners Legal status, laws, etc.,  
 Sentences (Criminal procedure) and etc.  
 1<sup>st</sup>/4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup>Amendment  
 Abolition of Death Penalty  
 Administrative Procedure Acts  
 Appellate Review of Counsel  
 Capital Punishment  
 Censorship of Mail  
 Child/Juvenile Offenders  
 Civil Rights Acts  
 Community Corrections  
 Constitutional Rights  
 Correctional System/Agencies  
 Criminal Record  
 Cruel and Unusual Punishment

DNA Evidence  
 Double Jeopardy  
 Errors and Mistakes  
 Expense of Death Penalty  
 First-time Offenders  
 Gender Bias  
 Guilty Pleas  
 Hired Killers  
 Imprisonment  
 Innocent Persons  
 Just Compensation  
 Legal Correspondence  
 Life Imprisonment  
 Mandatory Death Penalty  
 Minor Offenders  
 Search and Seizure

JSU students can also use ALLIES (Alabama Libraries Exchange Services, <http://library.jsu.edu/cgi-bin/Pwebrecon.cgi?PAGE=dbPage>) to borrow circulating books from UAB Sterne Library, University of Alabama, Auburn University, Auburn University at Montgomery, either on-site with the student ID or by requesting the items through the library catalog.

## ELECTRONIC RESOURCES

Current print issues of periodicals to which the Library subscribes can be found at the Current Periodical Section on 4<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> floor. Older print issues of magazines and journals, usually bound into complete years or volume numbers, are located in the 4<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> floor Bound Periodical Section. Electronic Databases are the main electronic sources in the HCL providing indexes, fulltext books (via netLibrary), articles, statutes, and legal cases, etc. To access the HCL subscribed databases off-campus, your student ID and your Last name are required for log-in at: <http://www.jsu.edu/library/resources/>. The following are commonly used databases for correction law: The following table lists some commonly used databases for your research:

Database Title	Description	Full Text?
Academic Search Elite	Journal articles in all subject areas.	Yes
Criminal Justice Periodicals Index	Journal articles about criminal justice.	Yes
Elsevier ScienceDirect	Journal articles in a variety of subject areas.	Yes
Expanded Academic ASAP	Scholarly journals, news magazines, and newspapers	Yes
GPO Access	U.S. Congressional and government publications.	Yes
LegalTrac	Articles in all major law reviews, law journals, specialty law and bar association journals and legal newspapers.	Yes
NCJRS Abstracts Database	National Criminal Justice Reference Service	No
Omini File	Full text articles, page images, article abstracts, and citations from over 4,000 journals.	Yes
ProQuest Databases	U.S. and international news sources.	Yes
Westlaw Campus Research	Federal and state statutes, administrative codes, cases, encyclopedias, law reviews	Yes

## Case Sources

United States Reports (U.S) (REF KF101.U5)  
 United States Supreme Court Reports, Lawyer's Edition (L.Ed) (REF KF101.U52)  
 United States Supreme Court Reporter (S.Ct.) (REF KF101.S9)  
 Alabama Reporter (Ala.) (REF KFA45.A22)  
 Westlaw Campus (Library electronic database: <http://www.jsu.edu/library/resources/>)  
 Findlaw.com (General web site)