Introduction to Boolean Searching on Lexis

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Boolean Searching on Lexis

- The purpose of this presentation is to provide an overview of Boolean searching on Lexis.
- This presentation will discuss specifics of Boolean searching on Lexis, introduce you to segment searching, and show you an example of a Boolean search on Lexis.
Research Question

It is your first day as an intern for the State Attorney's office in Florida. You are assigned to the criminal misdemeanor division. Your supervising attorney drops a file on your desk and asks you to review the case. She explains that the defendant is charged with DUI because he was found passed out and slumped over the steering wheel of his car which was parked in a restaurant parking lot. The detective had his car keys in his hand. His breath test result was .250. She explains that for the State to prove the DUI, the State must show the defendant drove or was driving and had actual physical control of the vehicle. She needs you to pull case law for court this afternoon on what is needed to prove actual physical control of the vehicle.

Research Question

- What is the jurisdiction?
  - Florida State
- What is the area of law?
  - Criminal law
- What is it that is needed?
  - Case law
- Determine what database to search.
  - Florida State Cases Combined
Synonyms and terms

- DUI: Driving under the influence, driving while intoxicated, drunk driving
- Actual physical control
- Vehicle, automobile, car, truck
- Passed out, asleep, sleep

Putting the Search Together

DUI or driving under the influence or driving while intoxicated or drunk driving and
(actual physical control) /10 (vehicle or automobile or car or truck) and
passed out or asleep or sleep!
Boolean Searching on Lexis

- Your work does not stop with the search. READ the cases you find. Use a citation to determine if your cases are still good law and to find additional cases.
- Practice, Practice, Practice!

Questions?
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