What do you want to do with your law degree? Where do you want to work? For whom do you want to work? How do you make the connections to find the job you want? This training can help you answer these questions, simplify your job search, and increase your chances of success.

**EMPLOYER RESEARCH**

Background research on WestlawNext® and other resources from Thomson Reuters Westlaw™ will be useful at all stages of your job search.

- What does this attorney, firm, judge, organization do?
- What is their political bent?
- What cases have they argued, and which sides have they taken?
- How has this judge ruled on what issues?
- What has this attorney written about?
- How is this firm involved in the community?

This information will give you a better idea as to whether you would want to work for the employer. Also, during the course of your research, you can find names of persons who can answer your questions and might be able to provide help along the way.

**NETWORKING**

Much of the research you've done will help you determine where to send your resume and how to prepare for an interview. Once you get an interview with a potential employer, the background information you have collected will help you to present yourself as an interested and well-informed applicant.

Learning the differences among employers also can help you present yourself as a strong fit, showing you which of your strengths to emphasize. Employers are diverse and unique, and they want to know why you want to work for them – what has drawn you to apply with their particular office or court.

You may also want to review this information when deciding which offer to accept.
I. Career Focus Tab on lawschool.westlaw.com
   A. Networking and interviewing training online and on campus
   B. Link to FindLaw.com Jobs and Careers page and the Professional Development Center

II. Career Advice and Legal Trends
   A. Review FindLaw® and the Professional Development Center for career articles and advice
   B. WestlawNext – legal marketplace trends
      1. In the Search bar, type Legal News
      2. Select Legal Newspapers & Newsletters
      3. Click the Advanced link
      4. Type career path in the This exact phrase field
      5. Click Advanced Search
      6. Sort by date to put the most recent articles at the top of the search results
   C. WestlawNext – practice-area trends
      1. In the Search bar, type Westlaw Bulletins
      2. Choose Westlaw® Bulletins & Topical Highlights for daily summaries of recent developments in many areas of law, including federal and state cases, legislation, and administrative decisions
      3. Select a practice area
      4. Peruse the area's 10 most current highlights
      5. Search for a specific issue within the area

III. Law Firms
   A. NALP Directory of Legal Professionals – via the Career Focus tab on lawschool.westlaw.com:
      1. Click on the green Search to conduct a more refined search
      2. Check out possible combinations in the left frame, Refine/Save Your Search
      3. Open Location and type in your city: New York
      4. Open Campus Interviews and select your school: Stanford
      5. Once you get your results, click on the firm link for details
   B. News (All News, Legal News, local or topical news)
      1. Choose News from the homepage
      2. Click on the Advanced link
      3. Type clia piper into the Legal Paragraph template
      4. Type corporate transactional into Any of these terms
      5. Sort results by date to get the most recent at top
   C. Find attorneys with common interests and skills
      1. Click Directories on the homepage
      2. Choose West Legal Directory® for profiles of law offices, branch offices, government offices and corporate law offices as well as biographical records of attorneys from all 50 states, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and the District of Columbia; profiles are updated as soon as the firm or individual informs us of changes
      3. To find attorneys in the United States who practice international law and speak Arabic:
         a. Type international into Areas of Practice
         b. Type Arabic into Languages
D. Research your law school's alumni
1. Click on Directories on the homepage and choose West Legal Directory
2. Type mintz levin into Firm, Court or Organization Name
3. Type Suffolk into Law School information

E. Firm profile
What does the firm like to say about itself?
1. Start typing Profiler into the Search bar and choose Profiler – Attorneys and Judges
2. Type jones day into Firm, Court or Organization Name
3. Choose California for State
4. Type intellectual property into Practice Area
5. To locate attorneys who attended your law school, open the Fields menu
6. Choose Education
7. Type Texas in the EDU field and locate: EDU(texas)

F. Research the interviewer or firm partner
1. Start typing Profiler into the Search bar and choose Profiler – Attorneys and Judges
2. Type Deming Sherman into the First and Last Name field
3. Choose Rhode Island for State
4. Learn about the attorney by reviewing the linked documents on the Links For tab to the left of the attorney's profile. These documents will give you a sense of what he/she has been involved in and written about
5. Create detailed, filtered Litigation History Reports

Network building:
Attorneys often are more willing to provide help and advice to students from their own alma maters. Find law school alumni who work in your area of law or at the firms that interest you. Reconnect with alums you knew as an undergrad who are practicing law. Law firms typically send alums to conduct the on-campus interviews. If you can't find out the identity of your interviewer in advance, research the alums at the firm first. One likely could be your interviewer.

Network building: Knowing an attorney's interests not only can demonstrate your knowledge of and interest in the firm, but also give you distinct ways to make connections with the attorney. Use this knowledge to initiate information-gathering interviews and build your professional network.

Caveat: Introduce topics of common interest subtly. You do not want to appear nosy or overly aggressive, so do not disclose that you know many personal details about the attorney.

Good luck with your networking and interviewing!
lawschool.westlaw.com/careerfocus