Sample Questions for Basic Legal Search Using Fastcase

Hypothetical- McFadden v. U.S.

ISSUE: Whether, to convict a defendant of distribution of a controlled substance analogue- a substance with a chemical structure that is “substantially similar” to a schedule I or II drug and has a “substantially similar” effect on the user ( or is believed or represented by the defendant to have such a similar effect) – the government must prove that the defendant knew that the substance constituted a controlled substance analogue, as held by the Second, Seventh, and Eight Circuits, but rejected by the Fourth and Fifth Circuits.

Exercise 1: Identify the actual question from the above fact pattern:

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Exercise 2: Identify at least two legal principles from the fact pattern:

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Exercise 3: Identify at least two fact based terms, using the 5 W’s that can be added to your search phrase.

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Exercise 4: Identify at least one factor to narrow your search

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Exercise 5: How could you use non case law searches to focus this search?

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