

Research into words and phrases judicially defined identifies the judicial definition or interpretation of a word or phrase by the courts. The citation of the case is provided and, usually, the relevant section from the decision is quoted.

electronic sources

The subscription services of Westlaw Canada *LawSource*, LexisNexis *Quicklaw*, and Maritime Law Book provide a searchable method to find words and phrases judicially considered.

In Westlaw Canada *LawSource*, access the words and phrases search by selecting [Words & Phrases Judicially Defined] on the home page. Enter your search term(s) into the [Word/Phrase] search box. You can limit your search results by jurisdiction and by timeframe.

Searchable words and phrases since 2000 are available in LexisNexis *Quicklaw's* [Canadian Legal Words and Phrases] source. The source also includes selected case law definitions from the United Kingdom and the Commonwealth dating back to the 15th century, and a collection of legal maxims, Latin phrases and terms defined in Canadian federal and provincial statutes, rules and regulations. Search the word or phrase in the [Defined Terms] box. Results can be refined by jurisdiction. Alternatively, you can browse for a specific defined word or phrase.

Words and phrases from Maritime Law Book headnotes are searchable by selecting [Judicially Defined Words] as the database search. Enter words or phrases, select the databases to include, search and link to the decision.

It is sometimes helpful to conduct a full-text search in one of the case law databases for the word or phrase in the same sentence as the truncated words “define” or “mean” or “interpret.” Example: “attempted violence” /s defin! or mean! or interpret!

print sources

Canadian

Gardner, John D. and Gardner, Karen, M. eds. *Sanagan's encyclopedia of words and phrases, legal maxims*, Canada. 5th ed. Carswell, 2005-

[KF 159 E52 2005](#)

This is a multi-volume, looseleaf, updated set with definitions from Canadian courts. Judicial definitions for each word or phrase are identified by jurisdiction with quotation and case reference.

Rodrigues, Gary P. ed. *Crankshaw's Criminal Code of Canada, R.S.C. 1985. Words and phrases*. Carswell, 1993-

[KF 9219 C3 C73 1993](#)

The Words and Phrases volume in the loose-leaf set contains an alphabetical list of

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words and phrases defined judicially, by statute, or considered by the Law Reform Commission of Canada. A quotation from the source and the citation are given.

Words & phrases judicially defined in Canadian courts and tribunals. Carswell, 1993-

This multi-volume set with annual cumulative supplements is a component of Canadian Abridgment. It includes words and phrases judicially defined in Canadian courts and tribunals. Each entry referenced includes the word or phrase in its context from the judgment. Both statutory and common law terms from every area of law are contained. Negative definitions, as well as positive, are included. It is the equivalent of the Words & Phrases Judicially Defined database on Westlaw Canada *LawSource* as described above.

Non-Canadian

Greenberg, Daniel and Millbrook, Alexandra. *Stroud's judicial dictionary of words and phrases.* 7th ed. Sweet & Maxwell, 2006.

[KF 156 S77 2006](#)

This is a three-volume set with supplements which includes definitions and annotations to English cases and statutes and to Commonwealth cases. Also included are some old words and expressions no longer commonly used. An explanation, brief excerpt, and the source are provided.

Hay, David ed. *Words and phrases legally defined.* 4th ed. LexisNexis, 2007.

[KF 156 W67 2007](#)

This is a two-volume set with supplements and includes judicial definitions from superior courts of the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, from Halsbury's Laws of England and from statutes. An excerpt with the definition and the source are given.

Words and phrases. Permanent ed. 1658 to present. West, 1940-

[KF 156 W66](#)

Judicial consideration and definition of American words and phrases from state and federal courts are included in multiple volumes with cumulative annual pocket parts. Each definition contains a citation from the court that provided the definition, and a West Key Number classification.

law reports

Carswell

A WORDS AND PHRASES CONSIDERED section is included in each bound volume and in each *Consolidated Index* volume for all the jurisdictional and topical reports. The section covers the cases included in these volumes.

Maritime Law Book

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