

# SOURCES OF LAW

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FEDERAL LAW – APPLIES TO EVERYONE	Where Can I Find It?	Who initially creates it?	Who interprets/enforces it?
The Constitution (The Supreme Law of the Land)	<a href="https://www.law.cornell.edu/constitution">https://www.law.cornell.edu/constitution</a>	Founding Fathers, amended by Congress.	Supreme Court is the ultimate arbiter of “constitutionality.”  Case law made in the federal courts and by the Supreme Court. The decisions in these courts REFINE and INTERPRET the law.
Federal Statutes	<a href="https://uscode.house.gov">https://uscode.house.gov</a>	Congress (House of Representatives, Senate, + President). Note the Titles, which delineate subject matter.	Federal courts.
Federal Regulations (administrative law that further defines how Federal Law will be carried out and enforced)	<a href="https://www.govinfo.gov/app/collection/cfr/2022/">https://www.govinfo.gov/app/collection/cfr/2022/</a>	Executive Branch, including the President and/or Congress. Creates administrative agencies like the Environmental Protection Agency, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Securities and Exchange Commission who then make the rules and regulations.	Federal agencies, sometimes federal courts or administrative hearing process through administrative law judges.
STATE LAW – APPLIES ON A STATE BY STATE BASIS			
State Constitutions	Typically located on the <a href="#">government website for a particular state</a> . Some interesting <a href="#">facts here</a> .	State Legislature (state House of Representatives, state Senate)	State courts.
State Statutes	Typically on state court websites or other .gov location.  <a href="#">TN, OH</a>	State Legislature (state House of Representatives, state Senate, Governor).	State courts.
State Regulations (administrative law that further defines how state law will be carried out and enforced)	Often on secretary of state website, or other .gov location  <a href="#">TN, OH</a>	State executive branch and administrative agencies. The power to create these agencies is typically defined in the state Constitution, and often resides with State Legislatures and Governor. Examples include: Arts Commission, Economic and Community Development, Housing Development, Labor and Workforce Development, Department of Insurance, etc.	State agencies, sometimes state courts or administrative law judges.
MUNICIPAL/LOCAL LAW (County, city, village, township, etc) – APPLIES AT THE LOCAL LEVEL			
Municipal and local ordinances (bylaws, measures)	<a href="https://guides.loc.gov/municipal-codes/current-municipal-codes">https://guides.loc.gov/municipal-codes/current-municipal-codes</a>	Laws passed by local governing body, often of a city, county, village, or township.	Municipal courts, administrative agencies like zoning commissions, etc.

Individuals can influence lawmaking by voting for candidates who will then be responsible for proposing laws, voting on laws, etc. Advocates, companies, organizations and individuals can also influence lawmaking through the use of lobbyists.