

Week 2: Thomson Reuters New Year, New AI Tools Challenge

Westlaw Research with CoCounsel

January 26th – February 1st 2025

Objective [How to enter]

Welcome back to the New Year, New Tools Challenge. Let's continue your 3-week journey to meet [CoCounsel](#), your generative AI legal assistant. You will work through a sample appellate brief problem to practice prompting CoCounsel each week.

What you need to do for Week 2 - *Time estimate: 10 minutes*

1. If you have already completed Week 1's task, select that previous chat within CoCounsel and continue to step 2. Follow the steps below to access your appellate case file and load it into your CoCounsel chat pane.
2. Use the Research Skill to find primary law to support your position.
3. Submit your entry for Week 2 [here](#). If you want to be eligible for this week's prize, **1 of 12 Nebula Home Movie Projectors**, make sure to submit **by 2/01**.

Check out the entire challenge [here](#). You can complete other weekly contests and view your [grand prize entry status](#) along with the [official rules](#).

Case Overview

Your clients, employees from EMD Sales, are responding to an appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court by their employer, EMD Sales. Your clients claim they were denied overtime pay and do not fall under the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) salesman exception. EMD Sales argues the opposite.

The question presented is:

Whether the burden of proof that employers must satisfy to demonstrate the applicability of an FLSA exemption is a mere preponderance of the evidence-as six circuits hold-or clear and convincing evidence, as the Fourth Circuit alone holds.

Case File

The case file has been preloaded into your CoCounsel databases. You can access the source files for review within CoCounsel as well.

1. If I completed a prior week, how do I access my previous chat within CoCounsel? If not, how do I access the case file database within CoCounsel?

Accessing a Previous Chat in CoCounsel

1. Go to <https://cocounsel.thomsonreuters.com> and sign in using the same credentials that you use to sign into Westlaw, TWEN and the Law School Portal.
2. Click on My Work in the far-left navigation pane
3. Select your previous CoCounsel Chat from week 1

Accessing the Case File

1. Within [CoCounsel](#) chat pane, click on Upload and then select **Files from a database**.

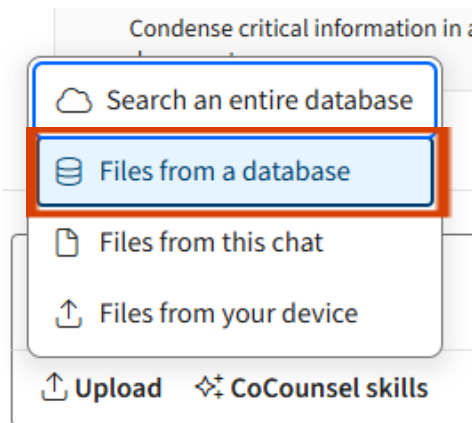


Figure 1. Upload selection menu

2. Select the Carrera Appellate Brief Case File database. If you're having trouble finding it, use the search box to narrow down the list of databases.

Select a database

Refresh Search

Name ↑↓	Created by	Date added ↓	Files ↑↓
Carrera Appellate Brief Case File	Erica Mohai	12/02/24, 10:59 AM	10

Figure 2. Database selection table

3. Now you are ready to use your legal assistant to get started on your assignment.

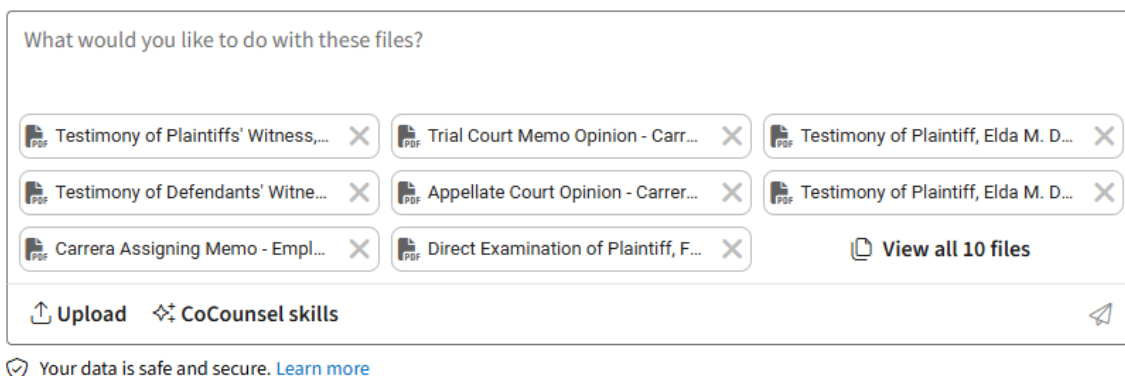


Figure 3. CoCounsel chat with case files attached

2. How do I use CoCounsel to locate primary law applicable to my issue?

Overview

Now that you have a grasp on the facts and issues in your case*, you can turn to finding primary law to support your position. CoCounsel uses the power of Westlaw Precision to gather answers to your most pressing legal questions. CoCounsel relies upon the trusted foundation found in West Headnotes, Key Numbers, Secondary Sources, and more to provide you with reliable answers.

*[Visit Week 1 to learn more.](#)

Steps

Research

1. Within the CoCounsel chat pane, type **What is the evidentiary standard applied to employers under the FLSA for determining if an employee falls under an exemption for overtime pay?** Submit your request.
2. When prompted to select a source (legal research platform), select AI-Assisted Research (Westlaw) and click **Start AI-Assisted Research.**

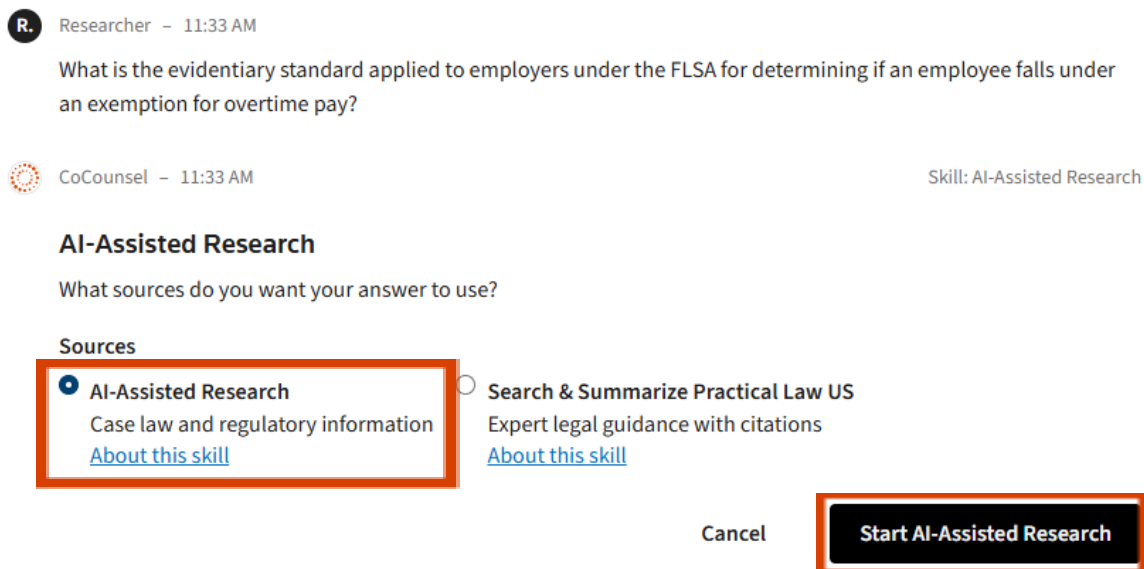


Figure 1. Source selector for research

3. Once your answer has been completed, click on **View all cited sources** to review the authorities from Westlaw that support the answer provided.
4. Let's ask a whole new research question related to our issue. Return to the CoCounsel chat and type **How are outside sales or outside salesman defined?** Submit your request.
5. Like before, you will be prompted to select a source (legal research platform) for your question. Select AI-Assisted Research (Westlaw) and click **Start AI-Assisted Research**.
6. Like before, click on **View all cited sources** once your answer has been delivered to review the authorities from Westlaw that support the answer provided.


3. How do I submit my entry for this week's contest?


Overview

CoCounsel allows you to easily download and take your work with you. To enter The New Year, New AI Tools Challenge, you will need to download your work so you can copy and paste it on the submission page.

Steps

1. Download the response from your outside salesman query.

 Researcher - Nov 13 1:53 PM
How are outside sales or outside salesman defined?

 AI-Assisted Research

 Follow up



Figure 2. Download button for a research response

2. Open the document, select all and copy the text of the document.
3. Submit your downloaded document [here](#) to complete your entry.
<https://lawschool.thomsonreuters.com/new-year-new-tools/week-2-submission/>

If you completed the above steps by 2/01, you'll be entered to win 1 of 12 Nebula Home Movie Projectors. Good Luck!