

Family law property decisions database

The Legal Aid Queensland family law property decisions database contains an archive of family judgments from federal courts.

Database contents

Decisions

- ▶ The database contains family law decisions about property settlement matters.

Key benefits

- ▶ Users can access family law property decisions from multiple courts, and search property settlements based on criteria such as type and length of relationship, contributions, future needs, and other considerations.

Unique search fields

Case details

- ▶ Search by court, judge, date, stage, maintenance application status, and keywords.

Relationship details

- ▶ Specify the length and type of relationship, and number of children under 18.

Asset pool

- ▶ Consider specifics of the asset pool such as contributions, future needs, pool size, and major or unusual assets.

How to use the database

Search fields

- ▶ Use the database's unique fields to search for specific aspects of a case.

Operators

- ▶ Employ the database's search operators to create a targeted search string.

Scope of searching

- ▶ This is not a full-text database, meaning the PDF attached to the record is not searched. In addition, the more fields used, the narrower the search becomes, as the fields are joined by an AND operator when the search is executed.



Search basics

Start broad and refine as required

- ▶ Begin with a few basic criteria such as catchwords and jurisdiction. If you get too many results, add one or more additional search criteria. If you get too few results, take out one or more search criteria.

Useful functionalities

- ▶ View the full PDFs of decisions for a more in-depth understanding of the case or view the decision in AustLII's LawCite for more information such as related cases.

Helpful tips

- ▶ Case is ignored in the database, so you can use either upper or lowercase. Punctuation is ignored as well, except for the search operators: (&, !, /, =, :). Be mindful of all the search fields, as sometimes a dropdown can be active without you realising, which will result in an error, or no results returned.

A video tutorial with tips for searching this database is available on Grants Online. The video can be found under the information resources tab, or on the database search page. Contact the library at library@legalaid.qld.gov.au for more information.