FREE KIT FOR LAWYERS

2,292
COURT DECISIONS
AS OF 12 NOV 2026

The AI Citation *Check Kit*

Don't be case number 2,293.

01 Why it matters
02 The 5-minute protocol
03 Printable checklist
04 Free official databases
05 Citation log template
06 Internal rule for your manual

Free from José Palacios · CorpusProof

josepalacios.ai · corpusproof.com

01 · WHY IT MATTERS

Courts no longer ask *which tool* you used. They ask who signed.

2,292 court decisions worldwide dealing with AI-hallucinated content in filings, listed in Damien Charlotin's AI Hallucination Cases database (last updated 12 November 2026). The list grows every week.

UNITED STATES · CALIFORNIA

$5,000

Salgado v. Fred Palla Farms, Inc.

California Court of Appeal, Fifth District, 6 November 2026. Fabricated case law in a lawyer's filing: monetary sanction of USD 5,000 and a referral to the State Bar.

Source: Charlotin database entry, read 13 Nov 2026.

SPAIN · GALICIA

€1,800

High Court of Justice of Galicia (TSXG), Social Chamber

Fine on a lawyer for an appeal containing 24 invented or unverified citations. The court set the amount by reference to the yearly cost of a legal AI tool with verified sources (€1,500 to €3,000) and noted that CENDOJ, the official case-law database, is free.

Source: official CGPJ note, poderjudicial.es, 15 Jul 2026.

ENGLAND & WALES

[2025] EWHC 1383 (Admin)

Ayinde v London Borough of Haringey; Al-Haroun v QNB

Divisional Court (Dame Victoria Sharp P and Johnson J), 6 June 2025. A warning to the whole profession about citing AI-generated authorities that do not exist.

Source: The National Archives, Find Case Law.

> Lawyers who use AI "have a professional duty therefore to check the accuracy of such research by reference to authoritative sources".
>
> Ayinde v London Borough of Haringey [2025] EWHC 1383 (Admin), para 7.

The pattern behind every decision: the tool is never the defendant. The person who signs the filing is. Using AI is not the problem. Filing what nobody opened is.

Facts on this page come only from the cited primary or official sources. Figures reported only by the press have been left out.

The *5-minute* check before you sign.

Run it on every AI-assisted draft, at the very end, after the last edit. Five minutes is the gate for a short filing; a long brief takes longer. The rule does not change: nothing is filed that a human has not opened.

1 Extract every authority — 1 MIN

List each case, statute, regulation and quotation in the draft, with its pinpoint (paragraph or page), in the citation log.

- Include authorities cited inside quotations and footnotes.
- Include anything the AI "summarised" for you.

2 Open it at the source — 1 MIN

Find each authority in an official or reputable database (see page 5). Not in the AI tool, not in a search snippet, not in a blog.

- Search by citation first, then by party names.
- If it does not appear in any database, treat it as non-existent.

3 Confirm it is the same authority — 1 MIN

Party names, court, date, citation and neutral citation all match what the draft says.

- A real name with a wrong year or court is still a wrong citation.

4 Read the pinpoint paragraph — 1 MIN

Go to the exact paragraph cited. Does it say what the draft claims it says? Is every quotation word for word?

- Check the holding is not from a dissent or an argument the court rejected.
- If in doubt whether it is still good law, flag it for a full note-up.

5 Log, fix, sign — 1 MIN

Record the URL you opened and Y/N for each check. Anything not Y/Y is corrected, replaced or removed before signature.

- The person who checked initials each line.
- Keep the log on the matter file.

RED FLAGS: STOP AND VERIFY TWICE

- A citation you cannot find in any database
- Generic party names or an unusual citation format
- Authorities you have never seen from a familiar area
- A quotation that fits your argument too perfectly
- A paragraph number beyond the length of the judgment
- A summary with no paragraph or page reference

03 · PRINT ME

Pre-signature citation checklist

MATTER CODE _____ DOCUMENT _____ FILING DATE _____

BEFORE CHECKING

- [ ] The draft is final: no edits after this check.
- [ ] Every authority, quotation and pinpoint is listed in the citation log.
- [ ] I know which parts of the draft were produced or suggested by AI.

FOR EVERY AUTHORITY

- [ ] Opened in an official or reputable database, not in the AI tool.
- [ ] Party names, court, date and citation match the draft.
- [ ] The pinpoint paragraph or page was read in full.
- [ ] It says what the draft claims it says.
- [ ] Quotations are word for word, with correct paragraph numbers.
- [ ] No sign it has been overruled, reversed or repealed (note up if unsure).

BEFORE SIGNING

- [ ] Every log line reads Y / Y, or the authority has been removed or replaced.
- [ ] The court's practice direction on AI has been checked (disclosure, certification).
- [ ] No client confidential data was pasted into a tool the firm has not approved.
- [ ] The citation log is saved on the matter file.

I have personally verified every authority in this document against its source.

NAME _____ SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

Free official and public databases

Every link below was opened or confirmed on 13 November 2026. Prefer the official court or government source; use the free legal information institutes to cross-check.

How to use this list: paste the citation into the official source for that court. If it is not there, try the free institute (CourtListener, BAILII, CanLII, AustLII). If it is in neither, do not file it.

UNITED STATES		
CourtListener	Free Law Project. Federal and state opinions, search by citation.	courtlistener.com
govinfo · US Courts Opinions	Official opinions from federal appellate, district and bankruptcy courts.	govinfo.gov/app/collection/uscourts
Supreme Court of the United States	Official opinions of the Court.	supremecourt.gov/opinions
eCFR	Electronic Code of Federal Regulations.	ecfr.gov
UNITED KINGDOM		
Find Case Law	The National Archives. Official record of judgments and tribunal decisions.	caselaw.nationalarchives.gov.uk
BAILII	British and Irish Legal Information Institute. Case law and legislation.	bailii.org
legislation.gov.uk	Official UK legislation, with point-in-time versions.	legislation.gov.uk
UK Supreme Court	Judgments of the UK Supreme Court.	supremecourt.uk
Courts and Tribunals Judiciary	Selected judgments and practice guidance.	judiciary.uk/judgments
EUROPEAN UNION AND COUNCIL OF EUROPE		
EUR-Lex	Official EU law: treaties, regulations, directives, EU case law.	eur-lex.europa.eu
InfoCuria (CURIA)	Court of Justice of the EU: cases, judgments, Opinions.	infocuria.curia.europa.eu
HUDOC	European Court of Human Rights case law (Council of Europe, not EU).	hudoc.echr.coe.int

CANADA		
CanLII	Canadian Legal Information Institute. Case law and legislation, all jurisdictions.	canlii.org
Justice Laws Website	Official consolidated federal Acts and regulations.	laws-lois.justice.gc.ca
Supreme Court of Canada	Judgments of the Supreme Court of Canada.	scc-csc.lexum.com/scc-csc/en/nav.do
AUSTRALIA		
AustLII	Australasian Legal Information Institute. Case law and legislation, with note-up of citing cases.	austlii.edu.au
Federal Register of Legislation	Official Commonwealth legislation.	legislation.gov.au
SPAIN		
CENDOJ	CGPJ case-law search: Supreme Court, National Court, regional High Courts and more.	poderjudicial.es/search/indexAN.jsp
BOE	Official State Gazette and consolidated legislation.	boe.es
IRELAND		
Courts Service · Judgments	Official judgments and determinations of the Irish courts.	courts.ie/judgments
Irish Statute Book	Official Acts and statutory instruments.	irishstatutebook.ie
GERMANY		
Rechtsprechung im Internet	Federal Ministry of Justice. Decisions of the federal courts.	rechtsprechung-im-internet.de
Gesetze im Internet	Current federal statutes and regulations.	gesetze-im-internet.de
Bundesverfassungsgericht	Decisions of the Federal Constitutional Court.	bundesverfassungsgericht.de
FRANCE		
Légifrance	Public service for legal information: legislation, regulations, case law.	legifrance.gouv.fr
Judilibre	Cour de cassation search: decisions of the Cour de cassation and courts of appeal.	courdecassation.fr/recherche-judilibre
TRACKING AI CITATION CASES		
AI Hallucination Cases	Damien Charlotin's database of court decisions on AI-hallucinated content.	damiencharlotin.com/hallucinations

Coverage and access vary by database. If you rely on a subscription service, record which in the log. Jurisdiction not listed? Use the official court website or national legal information institute.

One line per authority. Kept on the file.

Print this page, or use the Excel version included with this kit (Citation-Log.xlsx: 200 rows ready, Y/N drop-downs, any N turns red).

Date	Matter code	Citation	Source opened (URL)	Para. checked Y/N	Says what we claim Y/N	Checked by	Notes
2026-11-13	*EX-0001*	*Example: [2025] EWHC 1383 (Admin), para 7*	*caselaw.nationalarchives.gov.uk/ewhc/admin/2025/1383*	*Y*	*Y*	*Initials*	*Example row*

Rule: the document is not signed until every line reads Y / Y, or the authority has been removed or replaced.

Internal rule: verification of authorities in AI-assisted work

Adapt the names and roles to your firm. Check it against your regulator's rules and your courts' practice directions before adopting it.

PASTE-READY TEXT

Rule _____ · Verification of legal authorities

1. **Scope.** This rule applies to every document filed with a court or tribunal, or sent to a client or third party, that cites legal authority and was drafted, researched or summarised with the help of any AI tool.
2. **Personal verification.** Every case, statute, regulation and quotation must be opened and read at its source, in an official or reputable database, by a fee earner before the document is signed or sent. An AI tool's output is never a source.
3. **What is checked.** For each authority: that it exists; that the name, court, date and citation are correct; that the cited paragraph or page says what the document claims; and that quotations are exact.
4. **Citation log.** Each check is recorded in the firm's citation log (date, matter code, citation, source URL, paragraph checked Y/N, says what we claim Y/N, checked by, notes) and kept on the matter file.
5. **Unverified means removed.** An authority that cannot be verified is removed or replaced. It is never filed "to be checked later".
6. **Responsibility.** The person who signs the document is responsible for its authorities, whoever or whatever drafted it. Supervisors must confirm the log is complete before approving.
7. **Court requirements.** Fee earners must follow any practice direction or order on AI use, including disclosure or certification, of the court or tribunal concerned.
8. **Confidentiality.** Client data may only be entered into AI tools approved by _____.
9. **Errors.** Any wrong or non-existent authority discovered after filing is reported at once to _____ so it can be corrected with the court.

Approved by _____ on _____ · Review date _____

NEXT STEP

Want citation checks built into *your workflow?*

A checklist works when someone remembers it. A workflow works every time. CorpusProof helps law firms put AI to work with verification, policies and training built in.

Book an AI diagnostic at corpusproof.com

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Disclaimer. This kit is general information, not legal advice. It does not replace your professional judgement, your regulator's rules or your court's practice directions, which you must follow. Case details are summarised from the sources cited on page 2 as read on 13 November 2026; database links were confirmed the same day and may change. Free to share unchanged with attribution.