

NEWS & INFORMATION 101

How to find news and information about legislators, legislation, and politics, and how to determine its validity.

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NEWS & INFORMATION 101

- Finding information about your legislators and legislation.
- Finding and determining the validity of news and information online.

YOUR LEGISLATORS

- <https://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/menu/cgafindleg.asp>



LEGISLATION

- Find a bill...
 - ...through the sponsor or co-sponsor.
 - ...by searching the Legislative Document Search.
- Bill status & details.
 - What, when and who...
- Legislation in the news.

THE CRAAP TEST

- **C**urrency
- **R**elevance
- **A**uthority
- **A**ccuracy
- **P**urpose

CURRENCY

- When was the information posted or published?
- Has the information been revised or updated since it was posted or published?



DEWEY DEFEATS TRUMAN

G. O. P. Sweep Indicated in State; Boyle Leads in City

REPUBLICAN Ticket Ahead of 1944 Vote

RECORD CITY VOTE SEEN IN LATE TALLIES

Town Balloting Gives Trend

Probably Wins

Probably Wins

Probably Wins

Probably Wins

Probably Wins

Probably Wins

Probably Wins

Top Coghlan in Hot Race for Attorney

Probably Wins

Probably Wins

Probably Wins

Probably Wins

Probably Wins

Probably Wins

Probably Wins

Probably Wins

Suburban Ballot Near 775,000

Probably Wins

Probably Wins

Probably Wins

Probably Wins

Probably Wins

Probably Wins

Probably Wins

BULLETINS ON ELECTIONS

NEW STATE

RECORD CITY

RECORD CITY

RECORD CITY

RECORD CITY

RECORD CITY

RECORD CITY

RECORD CITY

RECORD CITY

Early Count Gives G.O.P. Senate Edge

Probably Wins

Probably Wins

Probably Wins

Probably Wins

Probably Wins

Probably Wins

Probably Wins

Probably Wins

PUTS G.O.P. BACK IN THE WHITE HOUSE

Probably Wins

Probably Wins

Probably Wins

Probably Wins

Probably Wins

Probably Wins

Probably Wins

Probably Wins

Stable Electoral Margin Seen

Probably Wins

Probably Wins

Probably Wins

Probably Wins

Probably Wins

Probably Wins

Probably Wins

Probably Wins

THE WEATHER

Table with weather forecasts for various regions including Chicago, New York, and other cities.

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

RELEVANCE

- Does the information relate to your topic or answer your question?
- Who is the intended audience?
- Is the information of the appropriate level?
- Have you looked at a variety of sources before determining that this is the one you will use or share?
- Would you be comfortable citing this source?

The Antonin Scalia School of Law Must Change Its Name. Hilarious AF

POSTED 11 MONTHS [COMMENTS](#)



What would Antonin Scalia have done?

Acronyms say the darndest things. George Mason University recently renamed its law school to honor the late Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia, who died in February of natural causes. Justice Scalia often courted controversy for his conservative ideology. The school announced it would change the name of its law school to The Antonin Scalia School of Law, or ASSol. An anonymous \$30 million donation on March



Popular Articles



Bill O'Reilly Gets Owned On Twitter For Cheap Shot About Maxine Waters' Hair



ate Intelligence
nmittee Leaders Vow
rough Russian
estigation

State Department Worker Is Accused of
Hiding Ties to China



Betsy DeVos Calls for
More School Choice,
Saying Money Isn't the
Answer



Justices Dig Through 1984
Murder, Weighing
Withheld Evidence





Ivanka Trump, Shifting
Plans, Will Become a
Federal Employee

PAID POST: GOLDMAN SACHS
The Fast-Approaching Drone
Era



After
Cont
Max



 Working toward retirement
can take a lifetime
 [Get started](#)

POLITICS

Law School Renamed for Antonin Scalia, Again. Blame Acronym.

By NICHOLAS FANDOS APRIL 5, 2016



RELATED COVERAGE



Antonin Scalia, Justice on the Supreme
Court, Dies at 79 FEB. 13, 2016



At Memorial, Scalia Remembered as Happy
Combatant MARCH 1, 2016



SIDEBAR
Scalia Lands at Top of Sarcasm Index of

AUTHORITY

- Who is the author/publisher/source/sponsor?
- What are the author's credentials or organizational affiliations *and are they relevant?*
- Is the author qualified to write on the topic?
- Is there contact information, such as publisher or email address?
- Does the URL reveal anything about the source? (If it was shared on social media does the person, page or group reveal anything about the source?)



Photo © Gage Skidmore

ACCURACY

- Where does the information come from?
- Is the information supported by evidence?
- Has the information been reviewed or refereed?
- Can you verify the information in another source or from personal knowledge?
- Does the language or tone seem unbiased and free of emotion?
- Are there spelling, grammar or typographical errors?



Donald J. Trump ✓
@realDonaldTrump

 Follow



How low has President Obama gone to tapp my phones during the very sacred election process. This is Nixon/Watergate. Bad (or sick) guy!

RETWEETS
53,558

LIKES
164,723



4:02 AM - 4 Mar 2017

 106K

 54K

 165K

PURPOSE

- What is the purpose of the information?
- Do the authors/sponsors make their intentions or purpose clear?
- Is the information fact, opinion or propaganda?
- Does the point of view appear objective and impartial?
- Are there political, ideological, cultural, religious, institutional or personal biases?

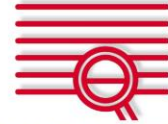


HOW TO SPOT FAKE NEWS



CONSIDER THE SOURCE

Click away from the story to investigate the site, its mission and its contact info.



READ BEYOND

Headlines can be outrageous in an effort to get clicks. What's the whole story?



CHECK THE AUTHOR

Do a quick search on the author. Are they credible? Are they real?



SUPPORTING SOURCES?

Click on those links. Determine if the info given actually supports the story.



CHECK THE DATE

Reposting old news stories doesn't mean they're relevant to current events.



IS IT A JOKE?

If it is too outlandish, it might be satire. Research the site and author to be sure.



CHECK YOUR BIASES

Consider if your own beliefs could affect your judgement.



ASK THE EXPERTS

Ask a librarian, or consult a fact-checking site.

JOURNALISTIC INTEGRITY

- [SPJ Code of Ethics](#)
- On the Media's [Breaking News Consumer's Handbook: Fake News Edition](#)
- Reporting vs. Opinion

FACT CHECKING SITES

- [FactCheck.org](https://www.factcheck.org)
- [Snopes.com](https://www.snopes.com)
- [PolitiFact](https://www.politifact.com)
- [PunditFact](https://www.punditfact.com)

WHEN IN DOUBT...

...ask a librarian.

