



Public Records Resources Online : How to Find Everything There Is to Know About "Mr. X"

Summary of public records on Mr. X ...

- **Smartlinx Reports** on **Lexis.com** <http://www.lexis.com/> .
- **CLEAR** (formerly Choicepoint/AutoTrackXP) <http://clear.thomsonreuters.com>
- **Accurint** <http://www.accurint.com>
- **Westlaw** PUBRECS-XX (Where XX is the two-letter abbreviation) and PEOPLE-ALL.

His social security number is ...

- **SSN Validator** <http://www.ssnvalidator.com/> and **SSN Watch** <http://privacy.cs.cmu.edu/dataprivacy/projects/ssnwatch/>.
- **Selective Service Online Verification** <https://www.sss.gov/RegVer/wfVerification.aspx>

He was born / died ...

- Social Security Death Records at: **RootsWeb** <http://ssdi.rootsweb.com/>, **Ancestry.com** <http://search.ancestry.com/search/db.aspx?dbid=3693> and **Genealogy.com**.
- **Death Indexes Online** <http://www.deathindexes.com/>.
- **Westlaw** Death Records (DEATH-ALL) and Obituaries (OBITPAGE). Also state files for KY, MA, MI, MN, MT, and NC. (DECEASED-XX).
- **Lexis Smartlinx** and Death Records.
- **VitalChek** <http://www.vitalchek.com/> and **VitalRec** <http://www.vitalrec.com/> (some content \$).
- **National Obituary Archive** <http://www.arrangeonline.com/>, **ObitsArchive** <http://www.obitsarchive.com>, **Obituaries 101** <http://www.big101.com/OBITUARIES101.htm> and **Obituary Daily Times** <http://obits.rootsweb.com/cgi-bin/obit.cgi>. Also, see **News** section, on p. 5.
- **BirthDatabase.com** <http://www.birthdatabase.com/>

He was married / divorced ...

- **Lexis** Marriage License Records for selected states.
- **Westlaw** Marriage Records for CO, CT, FL, IN, KS, ME, MN, NV, OH, OK, TX, WI (MARRIAGE-XX)
- **Lexis** Divorce Records for selected states. Also try **Courtlink Dockets Search**.
- **Westlaw** Divorce Records for AZ, CA, CO, CT, FL, GA, IL, KS, LA, ME, MD, MI, MN, MO, NY, NV, NC, OH, OK, OR, , PA, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, WI. (DIVORCE-XX). Also try **DOCK-ALL** and **ADVERSE-ALL**.
- Marriage Records sites: **CA** http://www.vitalsearch-ca.com/gen/ca/_vitals/camarrin.htm, **KY** <http://ukcc.uky.edu/%7Evitalrec/>,

ME <http://www.maine.gov/sos/arc/research/vitalrec.html>,
 TX <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/vs/marriagedivorce/default.shtm>,
 WV <http://www.wvculture.org/vrr/>,
 Western States <http://abish.byui.edu/specialCollections/westernStates/search.cfm>,
 GenWed <http://www.genwed.com>,
 RootsWeb <http://userdb.rootsweb.com/marriages/>,
 SearchEngineZ http://searchenginez.com/marriage_records_usa.html.
 • Divorce Records sites: KY <http://ukcc.uky.edu/%7Evitalrec/>,
 TX <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/vs/marriagedivorce/default.shtm>,
 RootsWeb <http://userdb.rootsweb.com/divorces/>,
 SearchEngineZ http://searchenginez.com/divorce_records_usa.html.
 • VitalChek <http://www.vitalchek.com/> and
 VitalRec <http://www.vitalrec.com/> (some content \$).

He lives / lived ...

- Superpages <http://www.superpages.com/global/>, Infobel <http://www.infobel.com/teldir/>, The Ultimates <http://www.theultimates.com/>, Switchboard.com <http://www.switchboard.com/>, 411 Locate http://www.411locate.com/reverse_lookup.htm, Canada 411 <http://www.canada411.com/>, Yahoo! <http://people.yahoo.com/>, MelissaDATA <http://www.melissadata.com/lookups/index.htm>.
- NumberingPlans <http://numberingplans.com/>, FoneFinder <http://www.fonefinder.net/>, Phone Validator <http://www.phonevalidator.com/>, Intelius Cell Phone Directory <http://www.intelius.com/reverse-phone-lookup.html>, and NeuSTAR Lookup <http://www.npac.com/lawenforcement/ivr.shtml>.
- Westlaw Public Records tab - People Finder databases.
- Lexis People Finder and Military Personnel Finder (updated through 05/01).
- Virtual Chase People Finder Guide http://www.virtualchase.com/topics/people_finder_index.shtml.
- National Address Server <http://www.cedar.buffalo.edu/adserv/>, Mail Drops Database <http://www.finaid.org/scholarships/mailedropsearch.phtml>, USPS Zip Code Lookup http://zip4.usps.com/zip4/citytown_zip.jsp, Yahoo! Local <http://local.yahoo.com>, Google Local <http://local.google.com> and Ask.com Local <http://www.ask.com/local>.

He owns / is licensed to drive ...

- Westlaw Public Records tab - Asset databases.
- Lexis SmartLinx Location Summary Reports, Real Property Records, Motor Vehicle Registrations, Boat Registrations, Aircraft Registrations, Stock Ownership, Drivers Licenses, and FAA Pilots.
- DMV Offices <http://www.aamva.org/KnowledgeCenter/ResearchCtr/Resources/>
- National Insurance Crime Bureau VINCheck https://www.nicb.org/theft_and_fraud_awareness/vincheck
- NETR Real Property Records Online <http://publicrecords.netronline.com>, VisionAppraisal.com <http://www.visionappraisal.com/databases/> for parts of CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, VT, VA and Appraisal Resource <http://www.appraisalresource.com/> for parts of CT, RI, and MA.
- Courthouse Direct Real Property Documents <http://www.courthousedirect.com/> \$.
- Zillow <http://www.zillow.com>, Trulia <http://www.trulia.com/>, TerraFly Property & Neighborhood Information <http://terrafly.com/> and
 Yahoo! - Real Estate Assessment <http://realestate.yahoo.com/realestate/homevalues/>.
- BLM Federal Land Patent Records <http://www.glorerecords.blm.gov/>.
- FAA Databases http://www.faa.gov/licenses_certificates/ and Aircraft Ownership Records http://www.landings.com/_landings/pages/search/search_nnr-owners.html.
- Bank Account Resources <http://www.blackbookonline.info/bboindexsearch.aspx?q=Banks>.
- Public Records Directory <http://publicrecords.onlinesearches.com/>
- Search Systems - <http://www.searchsystems.net/> - has foreign public records sources

He is a licensed ...

- **Professional Licensure Information by State [internal guide]** and **Researching Expert Witnesses Online [internal guide]**. Also try the **Professional License Verifier** <http://verifyprolicense.com/>.
- **Westlaw** Professional Licenses (LICENSE-ALL), Medical (MEDLICENSE-ALL), Attorneys (ATTYLICENSE-ALL), Accountants (ACCTLICENSE-ALL), DEA Records (DEA), FAA Records (FAA), Hunting and Fishing Licenses (HUNTFISH-ALL), Concealed Weapons Licenses (selected states - CCW-ALL).
- **Lexis** Professional Licenses, Health Care Providers, Health Care Provider Sanctions, DEA Registrants, FCC Licenses, Tax Professionals and Hunting & Fishing Licenses.
- **DEA Office of Diversion Control** – Cases Against Doctors http://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/crim_admin_actions/
- **State Lawyer Licensing Databases** <http://www.llrx.com/features/lawyerlicenses.htm>, **Thomson Legal Record** http://legalrecords.findlaw.com/ss/search_index.jsp, **Attorney Information** links <http://www.legaldockets.com/attorneys/>, **Westlaw** ATTYLICENSE-ALL, or **Disciplined Attorneys Search** <http://pibuzz.com/disciplined-attorneys>
- **Nat'l Lawyer Reg. Databank** <http://www.abanet.org/cpr/regulation/databank.html> \$.
- **Foreign Registered Agents Search** <http://www.usdoj.gov/criminal/fara/links/search.html>

His corporate affiliations ...

- **Guide to Corporation Records by State [internal guide]**
- **Westlaw** Executive Affiliations (EA-ALL).
- **Lexis** Duns Market Identifiers, SEC Filings, and Executive Directories.
- **ZoomInfo** <http://www.zoominfo.com/>, **Business.com** **People search** http://www.business.com/search/index_people.asp, and **Ziggs** <http://www.zoominfo.com/>, <http://www.ziggs.com/>.

Information about his companies / charities ...

- **Guide to Corporation Records by State [internal guide]** and **Company Research Guide [internal guide]**
- **Dun & Bradstreet** Business or Federal Information Reports <http://dnb.com/us/>
- **Lexis** Smartlinx Business Reports, Company Analyzer, Experian Reports, SEC Filings, Bankruptcy Filings, UCC Filings, Judgments and Liens, Civil and Criminal Filings, Guidestar, and OSHA Inspection Reports.
- **Westlaw** Corporate Filings (CORP-ALL), Fictitious Names (FBN-ALL), Corporate Litigation Prep (LITPREP-ALL), Name Availability (NA-ALL), Business Finders (BUSFIND-ALL), SEC Filings (EDGAR), Adverse Filings (ADVERSE-ALL), Bankruptcy Filings (BKR-ALL), UCC Filings (UCC-ALL), and Lawsuits (LS-ALL).
- **SEC Edgar** <http://www.sec.gov/edgar.shtml>, **SECInfo** <http://www.secinfo.com/>, and **CORI Contract Information Database** <http://cori.missouri.edu/>
- **Thomas Global Register** <http://www.tgrnet.com/>.
- **Customs Rulings Database** <http://rulings.customs.gov/>.
- **Insurance Company Search** <https://eapps.naic.org/cis/>.
- **FCC Telecommunications Company Database** <http://gullfoss2.fcc.gov/cib/form499/499a.cfm>.
- **Federal Central Contractor Registration** <https://www.bpn.gov/ccrsearch/Search.aspx>, **Government Contracts Won** (DOD only) <http://www.governmentcontractswon.com/>, **Federal Procurement Data System** (registration required) https://www.fpds.gov/fpdsng_cms/, **Past Performance Information Retrieval System** (registration required) <http://www.ppirs.gov>, **GSA Excluded Parties Database** <http://epls.arnet.gov/>, **POGO Federal Contractor Misconduct Database** <http://www.contractormisconduct.org/>, **OMB Watch** <http://fedspending.org/>, and **HHS OIG Excluded Individuals / Entities** <http://exclusions.oig.hhs.gov/>.
- **OFAC List of Specially Designated Nationals and Blocked Persons** <http://www.treas.gov/offices/enforcement/ofac/sdn/>, **BIS Denied Persons** <http://www.bis.doc.gov/ComplianceAndEnforcement/ListsToCheck.htm>, **World Bank Listing of**

Ineligible Firms <http://www.worldbank.org/debarr>, **Bank of England Financial Sanctions** <http://www.bankofengland.co.uk/>.

- **Commodity Futures - Background Affiliation Status Information** <http://www.nfa.futures.org/basicnet/> and **Case Status Reports** <http://www.cftc.gov/ConsumerProtection/CaseStatusReports/index.htm> (CFTC fraud investigations).
- **FINRA BrokerCheck** <http://www.finra.org/Investors/ToolsCalculators/BrokerCheck/index.htm>
- **FDIC Failed Banks List** <http://www.fdic.gov/bank/individual/failed/banklist.html>
- **Stock Transfer Agent Database** <http://www.stocktransfer.com/>.
- **Pension and Benefit Data** <http://www.freerisa.com/> (free registration required).
- **Patents & Trademarks** <http://patents.uspto.gov/>.
- **AFL-CIO Job Quality Database** <http://www.workingamerica.org/jobtracker/>
- **Guidestar Charity Search** <http://www.guidestar.org/>,
Foundation Center <http://foundationcenter.org/> and **990 Search** <http://foundationcenter.org/findfunders/990finder/>, **America's Charities** <http://www.charities.org/>,
and **BBB Wise Giving Alliance** <http://www.give.org/>.
- **NASCO State Charity Agencies List** <http://www.nasconet.org/agencies>.

His court records and filings ...

- **Guide to Court Resources [internal guide]**
Lexis Courtlink <http://www.lexisnexis.com/courtlink/online/> and
WestDockets <http://courtxpress.westlaw.com>
- **Pacer U.S. Party / Case Index** <http://pacer.uspci.uscourts.gov/>.
- **Westlaw:** Dockets, Adverse Filings (ADVERSE-ALL), Bankruptcies (BKR-ALL), UCCs (UCC-ALL), Lawsuits (LS-ALL), Criminal Records (CRIM-ALL), Arrest Records (ARREST-ALL), Liens and Judgments (LJ-ALL), Jury Verdicts (JV-ALL), and Office of Foreign Assets Control - Blocked Persons (OFAC).
- **Lexis:** Courtlink, Bankruptcy Filings, Judgments and Liens, UCC Filings, Civil and Criminal Filings, Criminal Records, Jury Verdicts, Federal Agency Decisions, and OFAC - Blocked Persons.
- Web criminal records sites (some \$): **Inmate Locators on the Web** <http://www.corrections.com/links/show/20> and **Vinelink** <http://www.vinelink.com/>.
- **Article on Criminal Background checks** http://www.virtualchase.com/articles/criminal_checks_national.html
- **Public Records Directory** <http://publicrecords.onlinesearches.com/>

His Web site / E-mail address ...

- **Fagan Finder URLInfo** <http://www.faganfinder.com/urlinfo/> and **CentralOps.net** <http://centralops.net/co/>
- **ARIN WHOIS Database Search** <http://ws.arin.net/whois>,
DomainTools.com <http://www.domaintools.com/>,
Checkdomain.com <http://www.checkdomain.com/>,
Register.com <http://www.register.com/>, **VeriSign** <http://www.verisign.com/>, and
Whois Company Web Site Lookup http://www.networksolutions.com/en_US/whois/index.jhtml.
- **DNS Stuff** <http://dnsstuff.com/>, **Trace Route** <http://www.traceroute.org/>, and **DNS 411** <http://dns411.com/tips/>.
- **My Email Address Is** <http://my.email.address.is/> and
Ultimate E-mail Directory <http://www.theultimates.com/email/>.
- Use **Google** <http://www.google.com> and search for:
"email * @companydomain.com" or "email ** companydomain.com" to find
someone's e-mail address. (Try e-mail also).
- **WayBack Machine** <http://www.archive.org>.

He went to college ...

- **Web U.S. Universities, by State Database** <http://www.utexas.edu/world/univ/state/>.

- **Classmates.com** (registration required) <http://www.classmates.com>.
- **DegreeVerify - National Student Clearinghouse** \$ <http://www.studentclearinghouse.org/ddev/dv.htm>.
- Dissertation/Theses searches: **WorldCat** <http://firstsearch.oclc.org/fsip>, **Proquest Digital Dissertations** <http://proquest.umi.com/login>, **Networked Digital Library of Theses and Dissertations** <http://www.ndltd.org/find>, and **Foreign Doctoral Dissertations Database** <http://www.crl.edu/collections>.

Information about him in the News ...

- **Lexis All News, All Languages Database**
- **Westlaw AllNewsPlus Database**
- **Newsbank** <http://infoweb.newsbank.com/>
- **Proquest Historical Newspapers** <http://proquest.umi.com/login>
- **Google News Archive** <http://news.google.com/archivesearch>
- **OpenSource.gov** - 1996 to present (registration required) <http://www.opensource.gov> and **FBIS - 1974-1996** <http://infoweb.newsbank.com/?db=FBISX> [English translations of foreign media]
- **OnlineNewspapers.com** <http://www.onlinenewspapers.com/>

His voter registration & campaign contributions ...

- **Westlaw** Voter Registrations (VOTERS-ALL) and Political Donors (POLITICAL-DONORS)
- **Lexis** Voter Registrations
- **Campaign Finance Information Center** <http://www.campaignfinance.org/states/index.html> and **Campaign Finance Site** <http://www.campaignfinancesite.org/>.
- **FEC Databases** http://www.fec.gov/finance/disclosure/disclosure_data_search.shtml
OpenSecrets <http://www.opensecrets.org/>, **TransparencyData.com** <http://transparencydata.com>,
Follow the Money <http://www.followthemoney.org/>,
Project Vote Smart <http://www.vote-smart.org/>, and
PoliticalMoneyLine <http://www.tray.com/>.
- **IRS Political Organization Filing & Disclosure** <http://www.irs.gov/charities/political/article/0,,id=109644,00.html>.
- **State Voter Registration Verification Web Sites** <http://www.fvap.gov/reference/links.html>
- **Senate Lobbying Disclosure Act Database** <http://soprweb.senate.gov/index.cfm?event=selectfields>,
House Database <http://disclosures.house.gov/ld/ldsearch.aspx>, **Lobbying Database** <http://www.opensecrets.org/lobbyists/index.asp>, **Lobby Search** <http://www.lobbysearch.com/>,
Lobbyist Directory <http://www.vancouver.wsu.edu/fac/kfountain/>.

Information about him on the Web ...

- **Google** <http://www.google.com/>, **Yahoo!** <http://search.yahoo.com/>, **Ask.com** <http://www.ask.com>, and **Bing** <http://www.bing.com/>
- **ZoomInfo** <http://www.zoominfo.com/>, **Pipl** <http://www.pipl.com/>, **Spock** <http://www.spock.com>, and **Wink** <http://wink.com/>.
- **Google Groups** <http://groups.google.com/>, **Omgili Discussions Search** <http://omgili.com>, **ICQ Boards** <http://www.icq.com/boards/> **Search IRC** <http://searchirc.com/>, **Ask.com Blogs Search** <http://www.ask.com/?tool=bls&o=0&l=dir>, **Zuula Blog Search** <http://www.zuula.com/>, **Technorati** <http://technorati.com/blogs/> and **IceRocket** <http://www.icerocket.com/>.
- **MySpace** <http://www.myspace.com>, **Facebook** <http://www.facebook.com>, **LinkedIn** <http://www.linkedin.com>, **Spoke** <http://www.spoke.com/> and other **Social Networking Sites** http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_social_networking_websites

General Sources

Access to Archival Databases System <http://www.archives.gov/aad/>

The AAD System gives you "online access to a selection of nearly 50 million historic electronic records created by more than 20 federal agencies on a wide range of topics."

Asset Search Blog <http://www.assetsearchblog.com/>

Published by a New York attorney, the blog features information on asset searching, fraud investigation, and legal strategies for recovering hidden assets.

Black Book Online <http://www.blackbookonline.info/>

From the Publishers of *The Investigator's Little Black Book*, provides a number of categories of public records resources including locator information, criminal history, death records, reverse lookups, and several others.

Craig D. Ball <http://www.craigball.com/hotlinks.html>

Craig Ball is a trial lawyer from Texas who is known throughout the country for his cyber sleuthing presentations. He maintains an extensive set of links on his Web site to many helpful resources for digging up dirt on people and companies.

EInvestigator.com <http://www.einvestigator.com/links/index.html>

Private investigation links, resources, and search tools by subject.

Global Locate <https://www.global-locate.com/v4.1/page.asp>

Global-Locate, by Integrity, provides accurate address, phone and identification details on citizens of 207 nations. Available only to qualifying businesses and law enforcement.

Journalists' Toolbox - Public Records <http://www.journaliststoolbox.org/>

The Journalist's Toolbox is a directory geared towards reporters and editors. This section of the site includes a valuable set of links and strategies for locating online public records.

Portico <http://indorgs.virginia.edu/portico/>

This University of Virginia site gives links to Web sites containing publicly available information, compiled for the use of the advancement community. Categories include: Tools/Directories, Biographical, Occupations, Personal Property, Salaries, Stocks, Business, Media, Non-Profits, and International. Resources vary, depending on the state. Most lead to official county Web sites.

Public Record Finder <http://www.publicrecordfinder.com/>

This directory and search engine links to more than 6,000 free public record sites around the world. Access by record type or state, or search by keyword.

Public Record Research Library <http://www.brpub.com/pubrecsites.asp>

BRB Publications, Inc., home of the "Public Record Research Library," offers this list of nearly 400 state, county, city and federal (court) URLs where you can access public record information for free, especially bankruptcy filings, company records, and real estate information.

Public Records Directory <http://publicrecords.onlinesearches.com/>

This site provides links to criminal, civil court, marriage, divorce, jail, inmate, sex offender, real, and personal property records as well as recorded documents and many other free public records sources.

Public Records USA <http://www.factfind.com/public.htm>

From the Investigative Research Center, find links to public and open source records including aviation information, corporate databases, federal licensing, financial information, intellectual property, maritime, medical, telecommunications, vital records, federal agencies, and general/reference information for public records access.

Reverse Lookup Directories

[http://dir.yahoo.com/Reference/Phone Numbers and Addresses/Reverse Lookup Directories/](http://dir.yahoo.com/Reference/Phone_Numbers_and_Addresses/Reverse_Lookup_Directories/)

This Yahoo! Directory page contains links to a number of reverse lookup tools that allow you to find people and businesses by entering an area code and phone number.

Search Systems <http://www.searchsystems.net/>

Created and maintained by Pacific Information Resources, this useful metasite has links to over 5,300 searchable public records databases (pay databases are listed with a green \$ icon).

State Legal Resource Center [internal guide]

Created by the Justice Libraries' staff, the State Legal Resource Center provides links to state and local government sites, public records resources, laws, regulations, online databases, municipal codes, general legal resources, and more. Also includes Westlaw and Lexis search boxes.

Tapping Officials' Secrets <http://www.rcfp.org/cgi-local/tapping/index.cgi>

Published by the Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press, this site is a compendium of information on every state's open records and open meetings laws. Each state's section is arranged according to a standard outline, making it easy to compare laws in various states.

Virtual Gumshoe <http://www.virtualgumshoe.com/>

The site indexes and categorizes Web-based resources for public records research. Find sites for obtaining criminal records and information, registries of missing persons, state motor vehicle department sites, freedom of information act guidelines for various agencies, and more.

Ask your librarian to do searches in databases that you can't access!

Last Updated May 11, 2010 Jennifer L. McMahan