

AI Prompts for Legal Research

The Complete Professional Guide

56 Prompts • 6 Categories • Battle-Tested by Practicing Attorneys

- Case Research & Analysis
- Document Drafting
- Client Communication
- Discovery & Evidence
- Legal Strategy
- Time-Saving Tasks

From Pioneerly
thecaseforgrowth.com

How to Use This Guide

This guide contains 56 professional AI prompts designed for legal professionals. Each prompt provides structured guidance for working with AI tools like ChatGPT, Claude, and similar language models.

To use a prompt: Copy the text, replace the bracketed placeholders [LIKE THIS] with your specific information, and paste it into your AI tool. The more specific details you provide, the better your results will be.

Pro tip: Save your customized versions and refine them over time. The best prompts are iteratively improved based on actual results.

Case Research & Analysis

1. Case Law Summary

Analyze [CASE NAME] and provide: 1) Key facts, 2) Legal issues addressed, 3) Court's holding, 4) Reasoning, 5) Practical implications for [YOUR PRACTICE AREA]

2. Statute Interpretation

Explain [STATUTE/CODE SECTION] in plain English. Include: 1) Purpose and scope, 2) Key requirements, 3) Common interpretations, 4) Recent amendments, 5) How it applies to [SPECIFIC SITUATION]

3. Legal Issue Spot

Review this fact pattern: [FACTS]. Identify: 1) All potential legal issues, 2) Applicable areas of law, 3) Potential claims or defenses, 4) Jurisdiction-specific considerations, 5) Priority issues to research

4. Jurisdiction Comparison

Compare how [LEGAL ISSUE] is handled in [STATE A] vs [STATE B]. Include: 1) Key statutory differences, 2) Case law trends, 3) Procedural variations, 4) Practical impact on outcomes

5. Recent Developments Research

Summarize recent (last 12 months) legal developments in [PRACTICE AREA] regarding [SPECIFIC ISSUE]. Include: 1) New case law, 2) Statutory changes, 3) Regulatory updates, 4) Emerging trends

6. Adverse Authority Analysis

Analyze this opposing case: [CASE]. Provide: 1) How it differs from our facts, 2) Distinguishing arguments, 3) Weaknesses in the court's reasoning, 4) Alternative interpretations, 5) Counter-authorities

7. Settlement Value Assessment

Based on these facts [FACTS] and applicable law [JURISDICTION/STATUTES], analyze: 1) Potential verdict range, 2) Strengths and weaknesses of case, 3) Cost of litigation, 4) Reasonable settlement range, 5) Risk factors

8. Precedent Finding

Find cases similar to [DESCRIBE SITUATION] in [JURISDICTION] involving [LEGAL ISSUE]. Prioritize: 1) Most recent cases, 2) Same court level, 3) Favorable holdings, 4) Similar fact patterns

9. Legislative History

Research the legislative history of [STATUTE]. Provide: 1) Original intent, 2) Committee reports, 3) Floor debates, 4) Amendments over time, 5) How courts have interpreted this history

10. Conflict of Laws Analysis

Analyze which state's law should apply to [DISPUTE] involving parties from [STATE A] and [STATE B] with events in [STATE C]. Consider: 1) Choice of law rules, 2) Most significant relationship test, 3) Policy considerations

Document Drafting

11. Demand Letter

Draft a professional demand letter for [CLIENT] to [RECIPIENT] regarding [ISSUE]. Include: 1) Statement of facts, 2) Legal basis for claim, 3) Damages/remedy sought, 4) Deadline for response, 5) Consequences of non-compliance. Tone: [firm/conciliatory]

12. Motion to Dismiss Draft

Draft a Motion to Dismiss under Rule [12(b)(6)] for [CASE]. Arguments: [LIST GROUNDS]. Include: 1) Caption, 2) Introduction, 3) Statement of facts, 4) Legal argument with citations, 5) Conclusion. Format for [JURISDICTION]

13. Discovery Requests

Draft [interrogatories/requests for production/requests for admission] for [CASE TYPE] focusing on [KEY ISSUES]. Target areas: [LIST TOPICS]. Make them specific, relevant, and difficult to evade

14. Contract Clause

Draft a [TYPE] clause for a [CONTRACT TYPE] that addresses [SPECIFIC ISSUE]. Requirements: 1) Protect [PARTY], 2) Cover scenarios: [LIST], 3) Comply with [JURISDICTION] law, 4) Clear and enforceable language

15. Settlement Agreement

Draft a settlement agreement for [PARTIES] resolving [DISPUTE]. Terms: [LIST TERMS]. Include: 1) Release language, 2) Confidentiality clause, 3) Payment terms, 4) Enforcement provisions, 5) Representations and warranties

16. Memorandum of Law

Write an internal memorandum analyzing [LEGAL QUESTION] for [CLIENT/CASE]. Structure: 1) Question Presented, 2) Brief Answer, 3) Facts, 4) Discussion (with case citations), 5) Conclusion. Jurisdiction: [STATE/FEDERAL]

17. Objection Response

Draft a response to opposing counsel's objection to [DISCOVERY REQUEST/MOTION/EVIDENCE]. Their grounds: [OBJECTION]. Counter with: 1) Legal basis for request, 2) Relevance, 3) Authority supporting your position, 4) Proportionality argument

18. Affidavit Draft

Draft an affidavit for [AFFIANT NAME] regarding [SUBJECT MATTER] for use in [PROCEEDING]. Include: 1) Personal knowledge statements, 2) Relevant facts in chronological order, 3) Exhibits reference, 4) Proper oath language for [JURISDICTION]

19. Retainer Agreement

Draft a client retainer agreement for [PRACTICE AREA] representation. Include: 1) Scope of representation, 2) Fee structure [hourly/flat/contingency], 3) Costs and expenses, 4) Client responsibilities, 5) Termination provisions, 6) Conflict waiver language

20. Cease and Desist Letter

Draft a cease and desist letter to [RECIPIENT] regarding [INFRINGEMENT/HARMFUL ACTIVITY]. Include: 1) Description of protected rights, 2) Specific infringing conduct, 3) Legal basis for demand, 4) Concrete actions required, 5) Timeline for compliance, 6) Consequences

21. Notice of Appeal

Draft a Notice of Appeal for [CASE] from [LOWER COURT DECISION] to [APPELLATE COURT]. Include: 1) Proper caption, 2) Identification of judgment appealed, 3) Statement of jurisdiction, 4) Relief sought. Format per [JURISDICTION] rules

22. Expert Witness Disclosure

Draft expert witness disclosure for [EXPERT NAME] in [CASE]. Include: 1) Qualifications summary, 2) Opinions to be offered, 3) Basis for opinions, 4) Materials reviewed, 5) Compensation, 6) Prior testimony list. Comply with [FRCP 26/State Rule]

Client Communication

23. Case Update Email

Write a client update email for [CLIENT] regarding [CASE/MATTER]. Recent developments: [LIST EVENTS]. Include: 1) Summary of what happened, 2) Implications for case, 3) Next steps, 4) What client needs to do, 5) Timeline. Tone: professional, reassuring

24. Complex Legal Concept Explanation

Explain [LEGAL CONCEPT] to client in plain English. Use: 1) Simple analogies, 2) Real-world examples, 3) Why it matters to their case, 4) Avoid jargon. Context: [CLIENT'S SITUATION]

25. Bad News Communication

Draft a sensitive email to [CLIENT] explaining [NEGATIVE DEVELOPMENT] in their case. Include: 1) Clear statement of what happened, 2) Why it happened, 3) Impact on case, 4) Options going forward, 5) Recommendations. Be honest but constructive

26. Settlement Recommendation

Write a memo to [CLIENT] recommending [ACCEPT/REJECT] settlement offer of [AMOUNT/TERMS]. Analysis: 1) Offer vs. trial risks, 2) Costs consideration, 3) Non-monetary factors, 4) Likely trial outcomes, 5) Your professional recommendation with reasoning

27. Initial Consultation Follow-up

Draft follow-up email after consultation with [PROSPECTIVE CLIENT] about [MATTER TYPE]. Include: 1) Thank you, 2) Summary of their situation, 3) Preliminary assessment, 4) Proposed approach, 5) Fee structure, 6) Next steps, 7) Deadline to respond

28. Document Request to Client

Write an email to [CLIENT] requesting specific documents for [PURPOSE]. Need: [LIST DOCUMENTS]. Include: 1) Why each document is needed, 2) Acceptable formats, 3) Deadline, 4) How to send securely, 5) What to do if they can't find something

29. Deposition Preparation Instructions

Create deposition preparation instructions for [CLIENT]. Cover: 1) What to expect, 2) Key dos and don'ts, 3) How to answer questions, 4) What to wear, 5) Topics likely to be covered: [LIST], 6) How to stay calm and credible

30. Billing Statement Explanation

Draft a cover letter for [CLIENT] explaining their invoice. Bill includes: [MAJOR LINE ITEMS]. Address: 1) Work performed, 2) Outcomes achieved, 3) Value provided, 4) Next phase costs, 5) Payment options. Be transparent and appreciative

31. Case Closure Letter

Write a case closure letter for [CLIENT] after [RESOLUTION]. Include: 1) Summary of outcome, 2) Actions taken, 3) Final deliverables, 4) Outstanding items (if any), 5) Future considerations, 6) Thank you and request for feedback/referral

32. Statute of Limitations Warning

Draft urgent communication to [CLIENT] about approaching statute of limitations for [CLAIM]. Deadline: [DATE]. Include: 1) Clear explanation of risk, 2) Actions needed immediately, 3) Consequences of inaction, 4) Decision they must make, 5) Your recommendation

Discovery & Evidence

33. Deposition Questions

Generate deposition questions for [WITNESS NAME, ROLE]. Topics to cover: [LIST ISSUES]. Structure: 1) Background questions, 2) Timeline establishment, 3) Document foundation, 4) Key facts, 5) Impeachment areas. Strategy: [exploratory/pin down/impeach]

34. Document Review Checklist

Create a review checklist for [DOCUMENT TYPE] in [CASE TYPE]. Include: 1) Privilege review criteria, 2) Relevance markers, 3) Key terms to flag, 4) Redaction requirements, 5) Metadata considerations, 6) Production format requirements

35. Evidence Organization

Organize these exhibits [LIST/DESCRIBE DOCUMENTS] for [TRIAL/MOTION/HEARING]. Create: 1) Numbering system, 2) Categorical grouping, 3) Timeline sequence, 4) Relevance to each claim/defense, 5) Foundation witness for each

36. Privilege Log Entry

Create privilege log entries for [NUMBER] documents withheld in [CASE]. For each entry include: 1) Document date, 2) Author/recipient, 3) Brief description, 4) Privilege claimed, 5) Basis for privilege. Be specific but protect privilege

37. ESI Protocol

Draft ESI (electronically stored information) protocol for [CASE]. Address: 1) Custodians, 2) Data sources, 3) Search terms, 4) Date range, 5) Format of production, 6) Cost allocation, 7) Clawback provisions

38. Chain of Custody Documentation

Create chain of custody documentation for [EVIDENCE TYPE] in [CASE]. Track: 1) Initial collection details, 2) Storage location, 3) Each transfer/access, 4) Current location, 5) Condition/alterations, 6) Persons with access

39. Authentication Foundation

Draft questions to authenticate [DOCUMENT/EVIDENCE TYPE] through [WITNESS]. Establish: 1) Witness's familiarity, 2) How document was created, 3) Custody/control, 4) Reliability indicators, 5) Recognition of signatures/marks

40. Expert Discovery Analysis

Analyze opposing expert report by [EXPERT NAME] on [TOPIC]. Identify: 1) Methodology weaknesses, 2) Unsupported conclusions, 3) Missing analysis, 4) Contradictions, 5) Daubert/Frye challenges, 6) Deposition topics

Legal Strategy

41. Case Theme Development

Develop a compelling case theme for [CLIENT] in [CASE TYPE]. Consider: 1) Key facts, 2) Legal theories, 3) Jury appeal, 4) Emotional elements, 5) Simple narrative arc. Create a one-sentence theme that captures the heart of the case

42. Motion Strategy

Analyze whether to file [MOTION TYPE] in [CASE] given these facts: [FACTS]. Evaluate: 1) Legal merit, 2) Procedural timing, 3) Strategic advantages/risks, 4) Impact on settlement, 5) Cost-benefit, 6) Judge's tendencies. Recommend: [file/don't file/wait]

43. Negotiation Position

Develop negotiation strategy for [MATTER]. Our position: [STARTING POINT]. Their position: [OPPOSING POSITION]. Analyze: 1) BATNA (best alternative), 2) Walk-away point, 3) Leverage points, 4) Concession strategy, 5) Creative solutions, 6) Opening move

44. Jury Selection Strategy

Create voir dire strategy for [CASE TYPE] involving [KEY ISSUES]. Identify: 1) Ideal juror profile, 2) Red flags to avoid, 3) Questions to uncover bias about [SPECIFIC ISSUES], 4) Cause challenges, 5) Peremptory challenge priorities

45. Appellate Strategy

Assess appeal prospects for [ISSUE] from [TRIAL COURT DECISION]. Analyze: 1) Standard of review, 2) Preservation of error, 3) Likelihood of reversal, 4) Cost vs. benefit, 5) Appealable issues, 6) Potential outcomes. Recommend: [appeal/settle/accept]

46. Risk Assessment Matrix

Create risk assessment for [LITIGATION/TRANSACTION]. Identify: 1) Best case scenario, 2) Worst case scenario, 3) Most likely outcome, 4) Major uncertainties, 5) Risk mitigation strategies, 6) Percentage likelihood of each outcome

47. Alternative Dispute Resolution

Evaluate ADR options for [DISPUTE]. Compare: 1) Mediation vs. arbitration vs. litigation, 2) Costs, 3) Timeline, 4) Likely outcomes, 5) Preservation of relationship, 6) Enforceability. Recommend best approach given [CLIENT'S PRIORITIES]

48. Pre-Trial Brief Strategy

Outline pre-trial brief for [CASE]. Key arguments: [LIST]. Structure to: 1) Frame favorable narrative, 2) Address weaknesses proactively, 3) Emphasize strong evidence, 4) Distinguish adverse authority, 5) Provide clear relief requested

Time-Saving Tasks

49. Email Triage

Review these emails [PASTE EMAILS] and: 1) Categorize by urgency, 2) Identify required actions, 3) Draft quick responses where appropriate, 4) Flag items needing detailed attention, 5) Summarize key information from each

50. Meeting Agenda

Create agenda for [MEETING TYPE] with [PARTICIPANTS] regarding [MATTER]. Include: 1) Topics to cover, 2) Time allocation, 3) Key questions to address, 4) Decisions needed, 5) Preparation required from attendees, 6) Desired outcomes

51. Call Notes Summary

Summarize this client call/meeting: [NOTES/RECORDING]. Extract: 1) Key discussion points, 2) Decisions made, 3) Action items (with owners), 4) Follow-up needed, 5) Deadlines mentioned, 6) Client concerns/questions

52. Calendar Blocking

Review my tasks for [MATTER]: [LIST TASKS]. Create time-blocking schedule for this week that: 1) Prioritizes urgent items, 2) Batches similar work, 3) Accounts for [COURT DATES/MEETINGS], 4) Includes buffer time, 5) Balances reactive vs. proactive work

53. Research Quick Check

Before I dive deep into research on [LEGAL ISSUE], quickly check: 1) Has this been clearly settled by [JURISDICTION] courts? 2) Most relevant cases I should start with, 3) Any recent changes in law, 4) Is this worth extensive research or straightforward?

54. Template Creation

Convert this [DOCUMENT TYPE] into a reusable template. Identify: 1) Standard language to keep, 2) Fields to make customizable [in brackets], 3) Optional sections to include, 4) Best practices notes to add, 5) Common variations needed

55. Delegation Brief

Create delegation instructions for [TASK] to [ASSOCIATE/PARALEGAL/ASSISTANT]. Include: 1) Objective and context, 2) Step-by-step process, 3) Resources needed, 4) Quality standards, 5) Deadline, 6) When to check in, 7) Example or reference

56. Status Report

Generate status report for [CLIENT/SUPERVISOR] on [MATTER]. Include: 1) Work completed since last update, 2) Current status of key issues, 3) Upcoming deadlines, 4) Outstanding items, 5) Budget status, 6) Next steps

Next Steps

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