

Take-Home Assignment: Florida Secretary of State Business Search

Build a microservice using Python and Playwright to crawl the Florida Secretary of State website to retrieve publicly available business details. The service should be complemented by a ReactJS frontend that allows users to search for a business by name and view results in a tabular format. All retrieved data should be stored in a local database.

Objective

Requirements

1. Backend

Task:

- Crawl the [Florida Secretary of State business search page](#) to obtain business details based on user input from the front end.
- Extract details such as business name, registration date, state of formation, principals' names and contact information, and any available documents (e.g., annual reports).

Tools:

- **Language:** Python 3
- **Framework:** Flask or FastAPI
- **Web Crawling Tool:** Playwright

2. Database

- **Options:** PostgreSQL or Supabase
- **Functionality:**
 - Store all extracted business details in a structured format.

3. Frontend

- **Framework:** ReactJS
- **Features:**
 - A simple search box to enter the business name.
 - As the user hits the search button, this should trigger the backend crawler to fetch the information about the business

- Retrieve information from the database and display the results fetched in a tabular format

4. Additional Components

- **API Design:**
 - Design RESTful endpoints to handle requests from the frontend.
 - Include at least two endpoints: one for initiating the crawl based on the user's search and another for retrieving stored results from the database.
- **Error Handling:**
 - Implement robust error handling in the backend to manage issues during the web crawling process.
- **Documentation:**
 - Provide a README file detailing setup instructions, API usage, and an overview of the architecture.
- **Example Business Names to test:**
 - ACME COMEDY
 - Borador, LLC
 - Fighters, Inc

Evaluation Criteria

- **Functionality:** The application should meet all the functional requirements specified above.
- **Code Quality:** Code should be clean, well-organized, and properly commented.
- **Error Handling:** The system should gracefully handle and report errors, especially those related to web crawling and data storage.
- **Documentation:** The README should provide clear instructions for setting up and testing the application, along with a brief discussion of the design choices.

Submission Instructions

- Submit the entire project by providing a link to a GitHub repository.
- Ensure that all dependencies are properly documented and that the project can be easily set up with a minimal setup script or clear instructions. (Docker preferred)

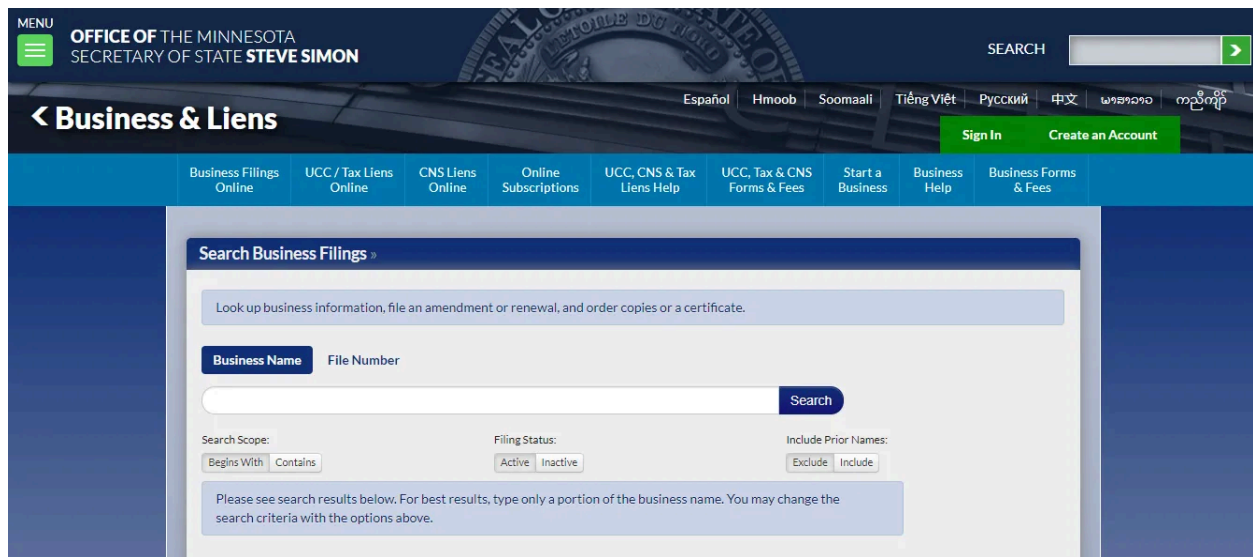
Resources

- [Python Playwright Documentation](#)
- [ReactJS Official Documentation](#)
- [PostgreSQL Documentation](#)
- [Supabase Documentation](#)

How to Search on Florida Secretary of State Registry

The state of Florida makes it relatively simple to look up business information via the [website of the Secretary of State](#). Below we'll walk through the steps for doing this, and show you some additional resources you might not know about.

The clean and contemporary landing page looks like this:

The screenshot shows the 'Business & Liens' section of the Minnesota Secretary of State website. At the top, there's a dark blue header with the 'OFFICE OF THE MINNESOTA SECRETARY OF STATE STEVE SIMON' logo on the left and a search bar on the right. Below the header is a navigation bar with various links like 'Español', 'Hmoob', 'Soomaali', etc. The main content area is titled 'Search Business Filings' and includes a search bar with tabs for 'Business Name' and 'File Number'. Below the search bar are filters for 'Search Scope' (Begins With, Contains), 'Filing Status' (Active, Inactive), and 'Include Prior Names' (Exclude, Include). A message at the bottom of the search area says: 'Please see search results below. For best results, type only a portion of the business name. You may change the search criteria with the options above.'

Although few in number, the most useful filters for limiting your search results are available right from the search page. You can limit your search to results that 'begin with' or 'contain' the search term you've entered. You can choose to see only active companies, or inactive as well. And, you can choose to include or exclude companies for which your search term was a prior name. If you know it, you can also search by the state's File Number by clicking that tab above the search bar.

Once you've chosen your options and entered your search term, performing the search takes you to the results page.

Search Results			Print
Click on "Details" to proceed.			
Business Name			
Acme Acq. Co.			Details
Business Status:	Business Type:	Name Type:	
Active	Business Corporation (Domestic)	Prior Minnesota Business Name	
Acme Awning Company			Details
Business Status:	Business Type:	Name Type:	
Active	Assumed Name	Minnesota Business Name	
ACME BODY HEALTH LLC			Details
Business Status:	Business Type:	Name Type:	
Active	Limited Liability Company (Domestic)	Minnesota Business Name	
Acme Care Services Inc			Details
Business Status:	Business Type:	Name Type:	
Active	Business Corporation (Domestic)	Minnesota Business Name	
ACMF collective			Details

This page displays all matching results for your search, up to a maximum of 500 (in which case you'll be asked to refine your search). The results are sorted alphabetically by the business name, and you can't reverse the sort order, or sort by any other field.

The results page shows only limited information for each record: the status of the business (active versus inactive), the business name, and the type of name it is (current or prior).

Clicking on the 'Details' link brings you to the Business Record Details page. There are a few options towards the bottom of the page; the top of the page with the baseline business information looks like this:

Business Record Details »

Print

Order Certificate

File Amendment / Renewal

Order Copies

« Back to Search Results

Minnesota Business Name

Acme Tuckpointing & Restoration Company

Business Type

Business Corporation (Domestic)

MN Statute

302A

File Number

753979100021

Home Jurisdiction

Minnesota

Filing Date

4/17/2014

Status

Active / In Good Standing

Renewal Due Date

12/31/2023

Registered Office Address

842 Vandalia Street

Saint Paul, MN 55114

USA

Number of Shares

1000000

Registered Agent(s)

(Optional) Currently No Agent

Chief Executive Officer

Brian Norelius

842 Vandalia Ave

St. Paul, MN 55114

USA

Principal Executive Office Address

842 Vandalia Ave

St. Paul, MN 55114

USA

This screen offers a lot more information than the results page. Here, you can see the name and address of Executives of the business and the Registered Agents, the initial filing date and the next renewal date, and the home jurisdiction (the state in which the business was formed).

Scrolling down further on the same page brings you to the Filing History.

Filing History

Renewal History

Select the item(s) you would like to order:

Order Selected Copies

<input type="checkbox"/>	Filing Date	Filing	Effective Date
<input type="checkbox"/>	4/17/2014	Original Filing - Business Corporation (Domestic) (Business Name: Acme Acq. Co.)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	5/21/2014	Amendment - Business Corporation (Domestic) (Business Name: Acme Tuckpointing & Restoration Company)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	2/22/2018	Registered Office and/or Agent - Business Corporation (Domestic)	

Using the checkboxes, you can order copies of the filing documents if required (for a fee). There is no option to preview or download copies of the documents otherwise.

Clicking 'Renewal History' displays the dates at which the business's annual renewal was filed, like so:

[Filing History](#)**Renewal History**

Filing Date	Filing
8/31/2015	Annual Renewal - Business Corporation (Domestic)
6/13/2016	Annual Renewal - Business Corporation (Domestic)
9/14/2017	Annual Renewal - Business Corporation (Domestic)
10/5/2018	Annual Renewal - Business Corporation (Domestic)
9/11/2019	Annual Renewal - Business Corporation (Domestic)
4/27/2020	Annual Renewal - Business Corporation (Domestic)
9/30/2021	Annual Renewal - Business Corporation (Domestic)
8/5/2022	Annual Renewal - Business Corporation (Domestic)