

## Summary

LegalHub is a social media application, similar to Instagram, that is specifically geared towards users involved in the legal system. This app provides standard social-media functions like posting, liking, commenting, and messaging but also allows users to network with attorneys, provide legal advice (which the app's AI and moderators thoroughly vet) and donate money to friends in need. LegalHub's AI also helps users find like-minded friends facing similar situations and preferably residing in the same jurisdiction.

## Transactions (non-exhaustive)

1. Create/update profile
2. Upload new official legal documents/paperwork
3. Connect with friends and attorneys
4. Create posts
5. Comment on posts
6. Like posts and comments
7. Send direct messages to friends and attorneys
8. Review attorneys
9. Donate money to friends
10. Flag inaccurate content as misinformation

## Notes on LegalHub's Sample Database

1. LegalHub has systems in place for flagging misinformation and incorrect legal advice. I did not create a table for reports of misinformation because LegalHub's moderators (rather than users) handle these reports. Also, any post, comment, DM, etc. found to contain misinformation will be automatically deleted and the creator docked credibility points.
2. I did not create tables for users' legal documents or official paperwork because those documents are confidential and not accessible or modifiable by any user besides the owner.
3. This database, therefore, is non-exhaustive and simply summarizes the core transactions, processes, and user stories of LegalHub. It provides a backbone of how

LegalHub works and attempts to cover as much user and attorney functionality as reasonably possible.

## Draft 2 - Changes from Draft 1

1. Users, attorneys, user profiles, and attorney profiles all used to be represented by four separate tables. I combined all the fields from User and Attorney into one big Person table. Also in the new Person table are fields that UserProfile and AttorneyProfile have in common.
2. I have since renamed the UserProfile and AttorneyProfile tables UserSpecificInfo and AttorneySpecificInfo to separate information relevant to just users or just attorneys from the general Person table and eliminate null values (that are applicable to users or attorneys but not both - for example, credibility points for users only and star rating for attorneys only).
3. I added another intersection table for cases and users. In the previous iteration of LegalHub's database, users and cases were linked through attorney-client relationships. However, this table does not specify whether clients were plaintiffs or defendants. That information was stored in the Case table; this configuration allowed one user to belong to many cases but not for one case to involve more than two users (one plaintiff and one defendant). Furthermore, not all LegalHub users have attorneys. Therefore, it is necessary to have two intersection tables representing the relationship between users and cases: one showing plaintiffs and defendants and the other showing attorneys and clients.
4. I added a relationship between PersonID in the Person table and CommenterID in the Comment table. That relationship should have existed in the first draft, but I forgot to ensure it was in there.

## Draft 2 - Detailed Descriptions of Relationships

1. People on LegalHub are either users or attorneys but not both. If an attorney is involved in a case as a plaintiff/defendant, or a former plaintiff/defendant becomes an attorney (which is rare but can happen), a separate record will be created in LegalHub's database for that particular person.

2. A legal case can involve many plaintiffs and many defendants. A user can likewise be involved in many legal cases, whether those cases are active or not (LegalHub archives closed cases for other users to learn from).
3. An attorney can represent many clients, and a client can seek the assistance of many attorneys. A single case can feature many attorney-client relationships. However, the table representing these relationships is separate from the table showing plaintiffs and defendants because not everyone involved in the legal system may be able to afford the services of an attorney.
4. In a legal case, the defendant can face several complaints (for civil cases) or charges (for criminal cases). For simplicity, both of these classifications will be referred to as charges. While the same type of charge (e.g. Possession of Schedule II with Intent to Sell) can be associated with many cases, each individual charge has unique attributes and is therefore only associated with one legal case.
5. Users can leave reviews for attorneys. A user can leave, and an attorney can have many reviews; however, each review is only associated with one reviewer and one attorney.
6. A person can send many direct messages, but a direct message can only be associated with two people: a sender and a receiver. The sender and receiver can both be either a user or an attorney. The same is true for friendships and donations, except for the fact that the two people involved in either must both be users and not attorneys.
7. A person can create many posts, but each post is only associated with one person.
8. A person can create many comments, but each comment is only associated with one person. Comments can also be replied to multiple times, but each reply or "child" comment can only have one "parent".
9. Because LegalHub's database relies heavily on numerical identifiers to refer to the names of users and attorneys, it includes queries that link the IDs to the names. The queries "User Names to Profile IDs" and "Attorney Names to Profile IDs" are, among many others, intended to make the database easier to read and navigate.