

Tech to Make You More Efficient:

Leveraging mainstream AI tools in your organization or practice

MSBA Legal Summit – Ocean City, June 2025

Russ
Bloomquist

Maryland Legal Aid Maryland Legal Services Corp Maryland State Law Library

Dave
Pantzer

Lee
Sampson

life hack:

Wear extra fingers so photo / video evidence will be inadmissible as it will appear to be AI generated.



Quick Poll

What is the most highly significant case to come out of the Maryland Supreme Court in the past couple of years?

Extra points if the topic is a little abstruse or wonky, and if there was a dissent.

30 seconds...

From last year...



[Heygen translation](#)

This presentation – the big picture

1. Introductions
2. First, a few commercial off-the-shelf tools that you can get started with right away.
 - A. ChatGPT Team Workspace (Dave)
 - B. Notebook LM (Lee)
 - C. Others (All)
3. Then, bigger AI and automation projects underway in Maryland.
 - A. mlaGPT (Russ)
 - B. Downloadable tools (Russ)
 - C. Offline options (Lee)
4. Finally, discussion of AI Use Policies and security, and Q/A. (All)

Audience Poll – how much do you use AI?

					
0 – Never I don't even know how you get to the web page!	1 – A tiny bit I asked it where I should go out to eat while I'm at the conference.	2 – Monthly Every now and then I have an idea that I try.	3 – Weekly I've started to consider how it can help with everything.	4 – Daily I use AI tools routinely, and tell others how they can.	5 – I am AI I could reprogram ChatGPT to give number 4 a thumb!

Question 2: Do you currently pay to use AI tools?

Commercial Off-the-Shelf Tools

- Overview of user-friendly tools legal nonprofits can adopt immediately:
 - - ChatGPT Team Workspace
 - - Notebook LM
 - - Microsoft Copilot
 - - Zoom
 - - Everlaw for nonprofits



ChatGPT ***Team Workspace*** – What it is

- High end general chatbot
- Build your own specialized chatbots with specific instructions and data/knowledge files
- Share chatbots within your team (or more broadly)
- Does not use workspace data to train its models

ChatGPT ***Team Workspace*** – Use Cases and Examples

1. Internal knowledge base

Upload resources (e.g., directories, policies, laws, guidance documents, etc.) and when you get a tricky question, ask it!

ChatGPT *Team Workspace* – Setting it up

1. Visit chat.openai.com

The screenshot shows a Google Chrome browser window with a dark theme. The title bar says "New Incognito Tab". The address bar has a placeholder "Search Google or type a URL". Below the address bar is a toolbar with various icons: MLSC, MLSC, PBRC, Sites/H, sites/share, AppTrack, Review Notes.docx, SS, SF, BudgComp, and Passport Forms. On the right side of the toolbar are "Incognito" and "All Bookmarks" buttons. The main content area displays the "You've gone Incognito" page from Google. It features a large circular icon with a silhouette of a person wearing a hat and glasses. Below the icon, the text "You've gone Incognito" is centered. A paragraph explains that others won't see your activity while browsing privately. It notes that data collection by websites and services like Google continues. It also mentions that downloads, bookmarks, and reading list items will be saved, with a link to "Learn more". Two columns of text follow: "Chrome won't save:" (browsing history, cookies, form info) and "Your activity might still be visible to:" (websites, employer, internet service provider). At the bottom, a dark callout box contains the text "Block third-party cookies" and "When on, sites can't use cookies that track you across the web. Features on some sites may break." with a toggle switch.

You've gone Incognito

Others who use this device won't see your activity, so you can browse more privately. This won't change how data is collected by websites you visit and the services they use, including Google. Downloads, bookmarks and reading list items will be saved. [Learn more](#)

Chrome won't save:

- Your browsing history
- Cookies and site data
- Information entered in forms

Your activity might still be visible to:

- Websites you visit
- Your employer or school
- Your internet service provider

Block third-party cookies

When on, sites can't use cookies that track you across the web. Features on some sites may break.



ChatGPT 4o ▾

Temporary



info@mlsc.org +

Add Teammates

Manage workspace

Tasks

My GPTs

Customize ChatGPT

Settings

Keyboard shortcuts

Help & FAQ

Release notes

Terms & policies

Get ChatGPT search extension

Log out

What can I help with?

Ask anything



Search

Deep research

Create image



New GPT

Draft

[Create](#)[Create](#)[Configure](#)[Preview](#)

Name

Description

Instructions

Conversations with your GPT can potentially include part or all of the instructions provided.

Conversation starters

[X](#)

Knowledge

Conversations with your GPT can potentially reveal part or all of the files uploaded.

[Upload files](#)

Capabilities

- Web Search
- Canvas
- 4o Image Generation
- Code Interpreter & Data Analysis (?)

Allow this GPT to run code. When enabled, this GPT can analyze data, work with files you've uploaded, do math, and more.

[Create new action](#)[Ask anything](#)[+](#)

ChatGPT **Team Workspace** – Use Cases and Examples

2. Speedy or repeated analysis of formatted documents for specific question

Example: A chatbot to review organizational financial audits.

I will upload a PDF of a financial audit for a nonprofit. Please review each page of the audit and then provide a summary of information that I need to be aware of. Focus on any red flags or risks.

After doing this, please separately indicate, for the present year and the prior year, the following tests, placing them in a table: Current ratio; Quick ratio; Debt to Assets Ratio; General Administration-Fundraising Cost Ratio.

Please also calculate the change in net assets; and state the number of months of liquidity.

Financial Audit Review Tool



Financial Audit Review Tool

By Dave Pantzer

Ask anything



What are you researching?

The screenshot shows a user interface for a search or research tool. At the top, there is a bar with several icons: a plus sign (+), a magnifying glass labeled "Search", a blue "Deep research" button (which is highlighted in light blue), an upward arrow, a "Create image" icon, three dots, a microphone icon, and a dark speech bubble icon.

A dropdown menu is open over the "Deep research" button. The menu title is "Sources". It contains the following items:

- Web search (with a toggle switch that is turned on)
- Github (with a "Connect" button)
- Dropbox (with a "Connect" button)
- SharePoint (with a "Connect" button)
- Connect apps

April 24, 2025 update: We're significantly increasing how often you can use deep research —Plus, Team, Enterprise, and Edu users now get 25 queries per month, Pro users get 250, and Free users get 5. This is made possible through a new lightweight version of deep research powered by a version of o4-mini, designed to be more cost-efficient while preserving high quality. Once you reach your limit for the full version, your queries will automatically switch to the lightweight version.

ChatGPT ***Team Workspace*** – Natural Language Coding

Natural language coding – tell the computer in plain language what you want it to do

The GPT will prompt the user to upload the first report. The GPT will prompt the user to upload further reports, one by one, until the user replies, "done" instead of uploading a report.

The GPT will then prompt the user with this menu: "[N]-Narrative; [S]-Statistics; [F]-Final Summary; [A]-Ask me; [D]-Done" and await the corresponding response (Either N, S, F, A, or D). A

If the user enters N, the GPT will provide a brief summary of the narrative portions of the reports that were uploaded.

If the user enters S, the GPT will provide a brief summary of the statistical portions of the reports that were uploaded.

If the user enters F, the GPT will provide a very brief summary of the state of the program, based on the complete picture that emerges from all the uploaded reports.

If the user enters A, the GPT will say, "Ask your question..." and await the user's question. The GPT will then answer the question based on the relevant portions of the relevant reports. The GPT will then return to the main N, S, F, A, D prompt.

If the user enters D, the GPT will thank the user for their input and ask if they want the N, S, F, S, D menu back or if they are really done.

Sample Output

2. What challenges have the [GRANT PROGRAM] programs encountered this quarter?

Several recurring challenges were highlighted across the reports:

- **Attorney Recruitment Shortages:** [Grantee], [Grantee], and [Grantee] all pointed out difficulties in recruiting attorneys, particularly in rural or specialized areas. [Grantee] mentioned the need for attorneys with specific language skills, such as Amharic and Vietnamese, to serve growing immigrant populations. Similarly, [Grantee] struggled to place high-conflict cases due to limited attorney availability.
- **Attorney Burnout:** [Grantee] and [Grantee] expressed concerns about attorney burnout, especially as the same volunteers often handle multiple or more complex cases. [Grantee] reported similar issues, particularly in areas with fewer practicing family law attorneys.
- **Case Complexity:** [Grantee] and [Grantee] reported that cases are becoming more complex, leading to longer durations to close cases. This also ties into the challenge of attorney burnout, as volunteers are taking longer to resolve the cases they handle.

These challenges indicate a growing strain on resources, both in terms of attorney availability and their ability to manage increasingly complex caseloads.

ChatGPT ***Team Workspace*** – Building Data Visualization

Building Data Visualization

BZ	CA	CB	CC	CD	CE	CF	CG	CH	CI	CJ	CK	CL	CM	CN	CO	CP	CQ	CR	CS	CT	CU	CV	CW
78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100	101
MLSC	Non-MI	All Brief Advice	MLSC	Non-MI	All Counseling	MLSC	Non-MI	All Negotiations	MLSC	Non-MI	All Document Preparation	MLSC	Non-MI	All Administrative Proceedings	MLSC	Non-MI	All Litigation	MLSC	Non-MI	All Other Remedies	MLSC	Non-MI	All Closed - Level
90	77	167	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	193	126	319	11	18	29	0	0	0	294	221	515
2	2	4	1045	266	1311	0	0	0	51	1	52	638	226	864	88	6	94	0	0	0	1824	501	2325
111	137	248	30	15	45	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	32	14	46	0	0	0	175	166	341
9	54	63	48	45	93	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	75	60	135	3	10	13	135	169	304
16	42	58	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	28	50	78	0	0	0	44	92	136
20	56	76	13	35	48	5	1	6	7	5	12	1	0	1	2	0	2	0	4	4	48	101	149
1597	4904	6501	484	1860	2344	2	7	9	333	1009	1342	4	18	22	477	1856	2333	94	340	434	2991	9994	12985
0	0	0	35	332	367	0	1	1	1	8	9	0	0	0	5	53	58	0	0	0	41	394	435
882	606	1488	114	166	280	46	37	83	0	0	0	23	3	26	9	9	18	0	61	61	1074	882	1956
243	7	250	179	8	187	1	0	1	26	0	26	0	0	0	147	5	152	5	1	6	601	21	622
765	726	1491	148	142	290	0	0	0	49	47	96	0	0	0	44	43	87	0	0	0	1006	958	1964
27	246	273	15	64	79	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	55	154	209	1	12	13	98	478	576
7	29	36	29	124	153	7	31	38	0	1	1	15	65	80	106	449	555	0	0	0	164	699	863
94	62	156	97	38	135	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	46	20	66	0	0	0	237	120	357
176	46	222	1625	397	2022	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	321	120	441	0	29	29	2122	592	2714
3	9	12	8	13	21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	134	0	134	1	190	191	146	212	358
51	470	521	5	38	43	0	0	0	0	3	3	6	6	12	22	72	94	2	11	13	86	600	686
9057	296	9353	348	37	385	140	8	148	566	38	604	165	20	185	1214	842	2056	58	4	62	11548	1245	12793
54	63	117	184	171	355	29	12	41	133	31	164	0	0	0	94	482	576	41	14	55	535	773	1308
0	3	3	0	6	6	3	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	34	199	233	0	0	0	37	208	245
453	52	505	916	97	1013	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	73	9	82	18	3	21	1460	161	1621
0	863	863	0	686	686	0	2	2	0	391	391	0	14	14	0	1395	1395	0	0	0	0	3351	3351
88	71	159	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	5	1	6	23	19	42	0	0	0	118	91	209
5	41	46	12	100	112	0	1	1	0	6	6	0	20	20	17	85	102	0	0	0	34	253	287
156	344	500	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	2	4	0	0	0	87	28	115	0	0	0	245	375	620
100	125	225	426	520	946	4	4	8	97	118	215	0	1	1	18	21	39	40	48	88	685	837	1522
14	193	207	0	0	0	10	141	151	0	0	0	0	0	0	19	258	277	73	1016	1089	116	1608	1724
345	106	451	26	3	29	5	1	6	162	62	224	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	538	172	710
70	3	73	14	2	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	13	19	3	4	7	0	0	0	93	22	115
3	16	19	3	4	7	0	0	0	5	19	24	2	0	2	5	0	5	0	0	0	18	39	57
0	0	0	13	96	109	2	20	22	40	477	517	5	13	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	60	606	666
6061	1120	7181	0	5	5	0	1	1	0	0	0	21	84	105	33	268	301	0	0	0	6115	1478	7593
0	0	0	38	177	215	0	0	0	0	0	0	53	115	168	0	0	0	0	0	0	91	292	383

FY21

FY22

FY23

FY24

[Create](#) [Configure](#)

Name
Operating Grant Raw Data - askme

Description
Add a short description about what this GPT does

Instructions

The knowledge file for this GPT is a multi-sheet spreadsheet representing the raw data for several grantees. We will ask the GPT questions about trends, based on the information. Most of the time, we will ask about a specific grantee (for example, FY24 means fiscal year 2024). The GPT will respond to questions. For example, if we ask about the number of cases over time for a certain grantee, the GPT will respond with a line chart showing the trends of how many cases of a certain kind that a certain grantee has done over time. In general, there is one column for each grantee, under the heading "Organization." The data points we will ask about are in column one on each tab, under the heading "Organization."

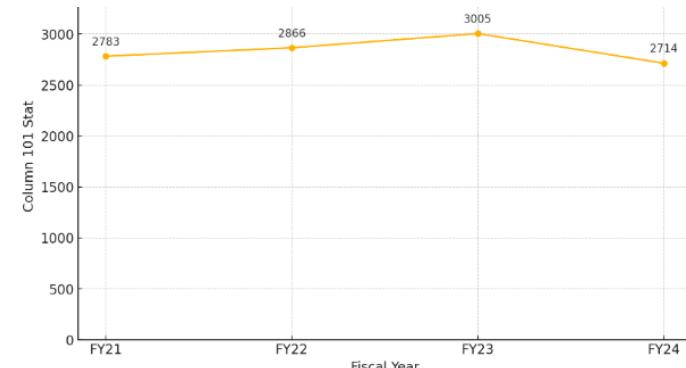
Conversation starters

Knowledge

If you upload files under Knowledge, conversations with your GPT may include file contents. Files can be uploaded here. Code Interpreter is enabled

The following files are only available for Code Interpreter:

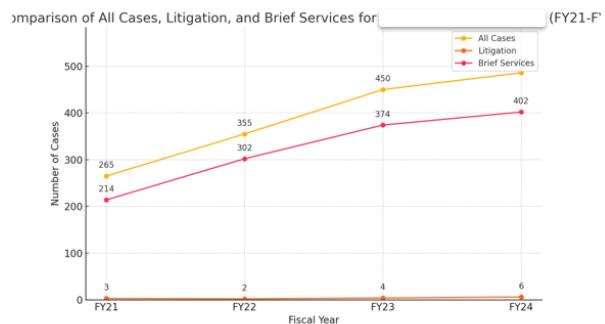
 Dave.xlsx	Spreadsheet
---	-------------



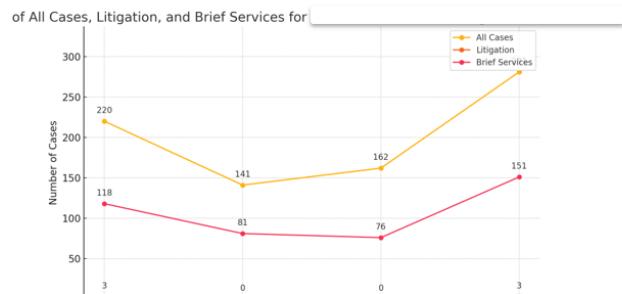
- Please provide a line chart plotting the number of "All Closed - Level" cases for << X>>, across the four years labeled FY21, FY22, FY23, and FY24
- please plot the stat in column CW over time for grantee "<< X>>"
- please include data labels for the nodes on the graph, so I can see the exact numbers
- please plot column 101 over time for << X>>, including data labels on the graph
- please adjust the scale of the y-axis, so that it starts at 0
- please adjust the y-axis to go to 20% higher than the highest point
- now please add in another line, in another color, for the data points in column 95. please label this series "Litigation"
- Please rename the Column 101 Stat series to All Cases
- Now please add in a line called Brief Services, which is the sum of the data points in columns 80 and 83
- can you please make this graph for each grantee and output them all into a big word document?

Operating Grant Data – FY21 to FY24

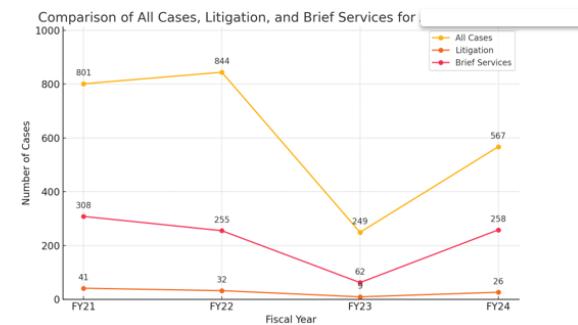
Grantee 1



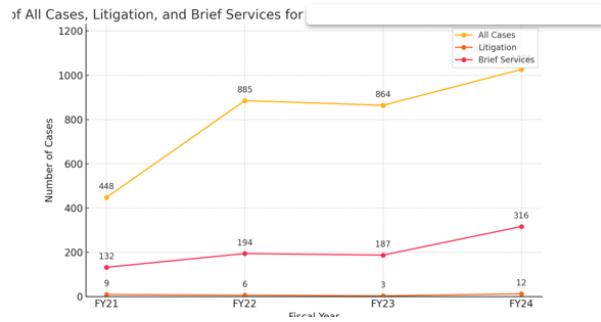
Grantee 2



Grantee 3

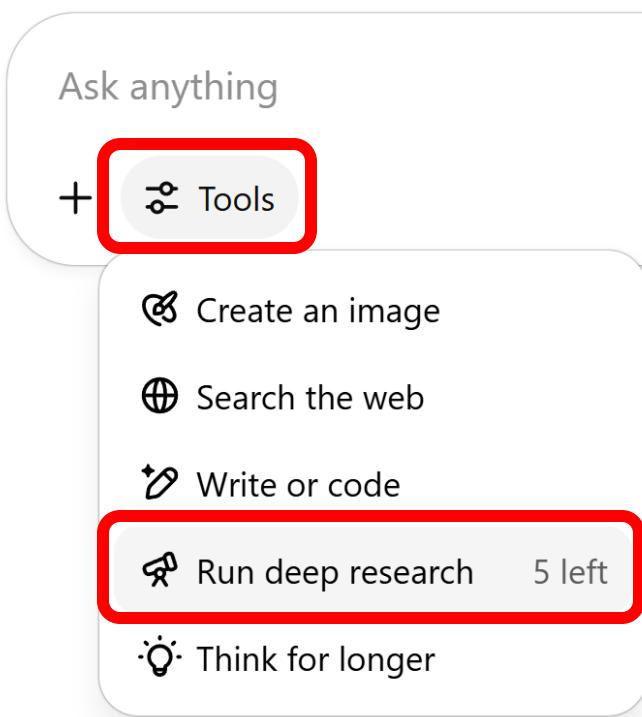


Grantee 4



ChatGPT for Legal Research

Where should we begin?



ChatGPT for Legal Research

I am looking for early Maryland authorities (pre-19th century preferred, but anything before 1850 or so is helpful) concerning the law of self-defense. Self defense may also be spelled "self defence." Additionally, self defense may be discussed in the context of homicide or murder. Sources could include court opinions, legal treatises, practice guides, etc. Any help you can provide would be greatly appreciated.

ChatGPT for Legal Research

That sounds like an interesting research project! To ensure I find the most relevant materials, could you clarify a few details:

- Are you looking specifically for Maryland sources, or would colonial-era American or British sources that influenced Maryland law also be useful?
- Would you like references to historical statutes or legislative materials, or are you focusing mainly on judicial opinions and legal treatises?
- Do you need full-text documents, or would citations and summaries suffice?
- Are you looking for digital sources, or are print references also acceptable?

Let me know so I can tailor my research accordingly!

ChatGPT for Legal Research

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- Do you need full-text documents, or would citations and summaries suffice?
- Are you looking for digital sources, or are print references also acceptable?

Let me know so I can tailor my research accordingly!

Ran for 10 minutes and produced a 5 page report
citing 24 sources

ChatGPT for Legal Research

Speaker icon Early Maryland Authorities on Self-Defense Law



Early Maryland Authorities on Self-Defense (Pre-1850)

Maryland Declaration of Rights (1776)

Maryland's Revolutionary-era constitution explicitly adopted the English common law, which included self-defense doctrines. Article III of the 1776 Declaration of Rights provided that "the inhabitants of Maryland are entitled to the Common Law of England... and to the benefit of such English statutes" that were applicable

avalon.law.yale.edu

This reception meant that traditional common-law rules of **justifiable or excusable homicide** (such as killing in necessary self-defense) became part of Maryland law. In other words, from its founding

ChatGPT for Legal Research

Citations: 1 Hale, *History of the Pleas of the Crown* (1736) (castle doctrine at pp. 486–487) [founders.archives.gov](#) ;
(classification of homicide, se defendendo at p. 481) [founders.archives.gov](#) . (*Print reference: Matthew Hale, Historia
Placitorum Coronæ vol. 1 (Philadelphia 1847 reprint of 1736 ed.), pp. 478–487.*)

Gemini for Legal Research

Start research

I've completed your research. Feel free to ask me follow-up questions or request changes.

Maryland Self-Defense Law, Pre-1850
Jun 3, 11:17 AM

Ask Gemini

+ Video Deep Research ...

Maryland Self-Defense Law, Pre-1850

Export Create X

The Foundations of Self-Defense Law in Early Maryland (Pre-1850)

This report provides a comprehensive examination of the law of self-defense in Maryland, focusing on the period prior to the 19th century and extending to approximately 1850. The inquiry delves into the foundational common law principles, identifies influential legal treatises and commentaries, and offers guidance on accessing relevant historical legal authorities, particularly concerning self-defense in the context of homicide or murder.

I. Introduction: Defining the Scope of Early Maryland Self-Defense Law

The legal landscape of early Maryland, much like other nascent American states, was fundamentally shaped by its inheritance of English common law. This common law tradition served as the primary source for defining criminal defenses, including self-defense. It is important to note that Maryland's self-defense doctrine was not primarily governed by statutory law during this era; rather, it relied heavily on judicial precedent and established legal customs. This historical continuity is evident in modern Maryland law, which continues to operate largely under common law principles for self-defense, underscoring the deep roots of these legal concepts. ...

The non-statutory nature of self-defense law in early Maryland carries significant implications for legal research. Since there was no comprehensive legislative code specifically outlining self-defense,

Ran for 15 minutes and produced a 16 page report citing 26 sources

Gemini for Legal Research

- Hale, Sir Matthew. *Historia Placitorum Coronae: The History of the Pleas of the Crown*. London: E. and R. Nutt, and R. Gosling, for F. Gyles, T. Woodward, and C. Davis, 1736. (Published posthumously).
 - Volume 1, Chapter XXXI, discusses "Concerning homicide and first of selfkil" starting on page 411. [28] Further discussions on homicide and related topics can be found on pages 425 et seq., 47, 300, 437, 440, 444, 445, and 440–441. [29, 30]

ChatGPT vs. Gemini for Legal Research

- **DO NOT USE AS A SOURCE OF TRUTH**
- Best for topics with public domain sources
 - Pre 1930
- Identify secondary or primary sources
- ChatGPT has better print citations
- ChatGPT generally more helpful summary
- Gemini favors law reviews and journals

ChatGPT – Strategies

- Within its analysis, ask for citations to examples.
- Instead of relying on verbiage, ask it to identify themes.
- Build in visual verification aids, like numerical tags on graphs and charts.
- Use it as an assistant, to speed you up.
- It can produce output in MS Office format, not just text and images.
- Providing more context in your questions helps it produce more appropriate output.



NotebookLM

- Analysis and research
- Summarize and query many large documents
- Learn about a topic
- Create outlines
- Quickly check citations
- PDFs, websites, audio files, and Google docs



- Not intended to draft content for the user



 Plus NotebookLM

Settings

Welcome to NotebookLM Plus

+ Create new

   Most recent ▾

Title	Sources	Created	Role	
 Maryland District Court Appeal and Transcript Request	16 Sources	May 19, 2025	Owner	
 INST 726 notebook	81 Sources	Feb 24, 2025	Owner	



NotebookLM

Plus Maryland District Court Appeal and Transcript Request

Analytics Settings

Studio

Audio Overview

Create an Audio Overview in more languages! [Learn more](#)

Deep Dive conversation
Two hosts

Customize Generate

Notes

+ Add note

Study guide Briefing doc

FAQ Timeline

Maryland Appellate Procedures and Costs
What are the initial costs associated with filing an appeal in Maryland? There are several costs involved in filing an appeal in...

Save to note

16 sources

Start typing... 16 sources

Add note Audio Overview Mind Map

How do Maryland District Court appeals and transcript requests generally proceed?

NotebookLM can be inaccurate; please double check its responses.

Sources

Chat

Studio

Audio Overview

Deep Dive conversation
Two hosts

Customize Generate

Notes

+ Add note

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Start typing... 16 sources

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NotebookLM can be inaccurate; please double check its responses.

Sources



+ Add

Discover

Select all sources

 RULE 1-325.pdf

 RULE 7-109.pdf

 RULE 7-113.pdf

 RULE 8-411.pdf

 Westlaw Edge - 8 full text items for Maryland...

 cantaffordappellatecosts.pdf

 cosaguideselfrepresentation.pdf

 dca027br.pdf

 dca119.pdf

 dccv037.pdf



Maryland District Court Appeal and Transcript Request

16 sources

These documents outline the procedures and requirements for pursuing appeals in Maryland courts, including the District Court, Circuit Court, and the Appellate Court of Maryland, formerly the Court of Special Appeals. They detail the steps involved in filing a direct appeal or an application for leave to appeal, distinguishing between the two processes. Key aspects covered include filing deadlines, the content and transmission of the record on appeal (including transcripts and record extracts), payment and waiver of court costs and fees, and the potential for dismissal if rules are not followed. Information is also provided on access to confidential records and resources for self-represented litigants.

Save to note



Add note

Audio Overview

Mind Map

Start typing...

16 sources



How do Maryland District Court appeals and transcript requests generally proceed?

Configure Chat

Notebooks can be customized to work as a virtual research assistant, a personal tutor, a shared knowledge-base/help center, and more.

Define your conversational style

Default

Analyst

Guide

Custom

Best for general purpose research and brainstorming tasks.

Choose your response length

Default

Longer

Shorter



Maryland District Court Appeal and Transcript Request

16 sources

These documents outline the procedures and requirements for pursuing appeals in Maryland courts, including the District Court, Circuit Court, and the Appellate Court of Maryland, formerly the Court of Special Appeals. They detail the steps involved in filing a direct appeal or an application for leave to appeal, distinguishing between the two processes. Key aspects covered include filing deadlines, the content and transmission of the record on appeal (including transcripts and record extracts), payment and waiver of court costs and fees, and the potential for dismissal if rules are not followed. Information is also provided on access to confidential records and resources for self-represented litigants.

Save to note



Add note

Audio Overview

Mind Map

Start typing...

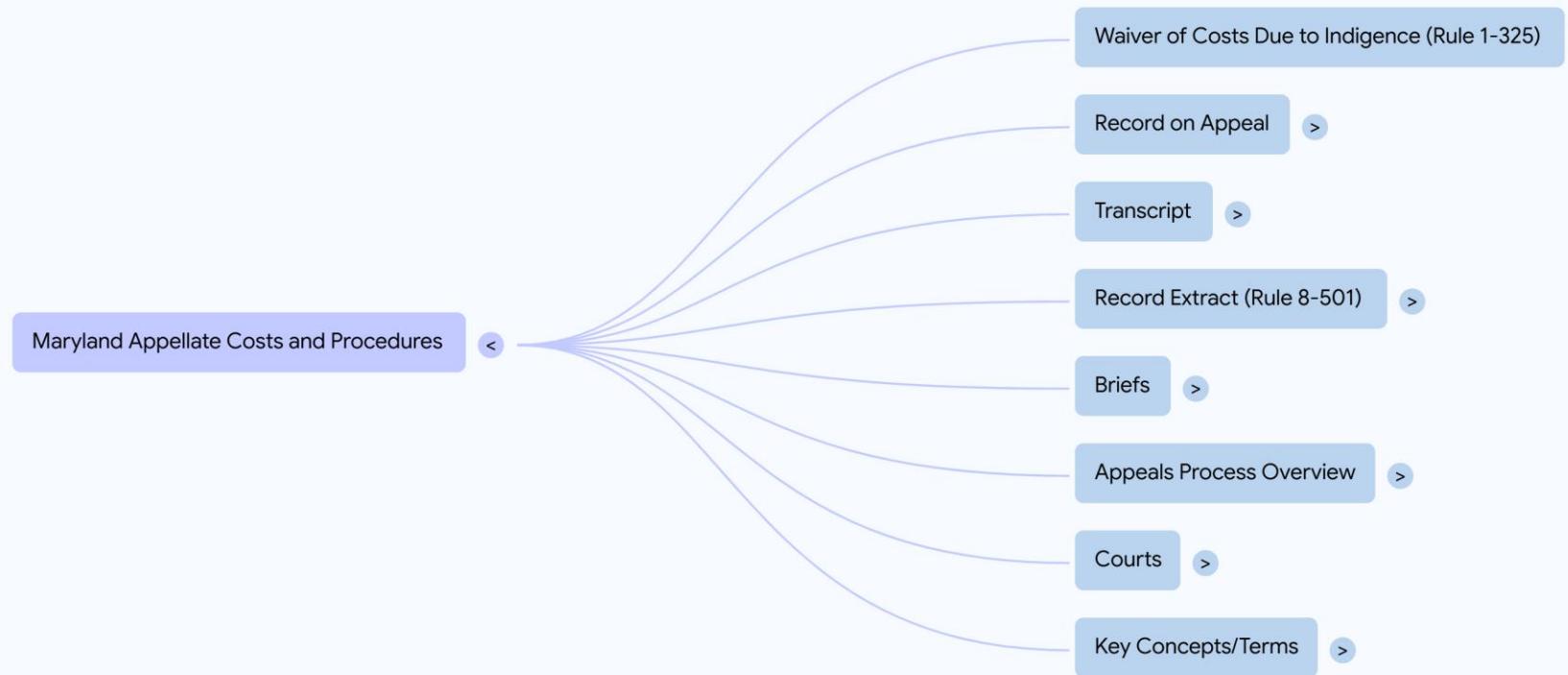
16 sources

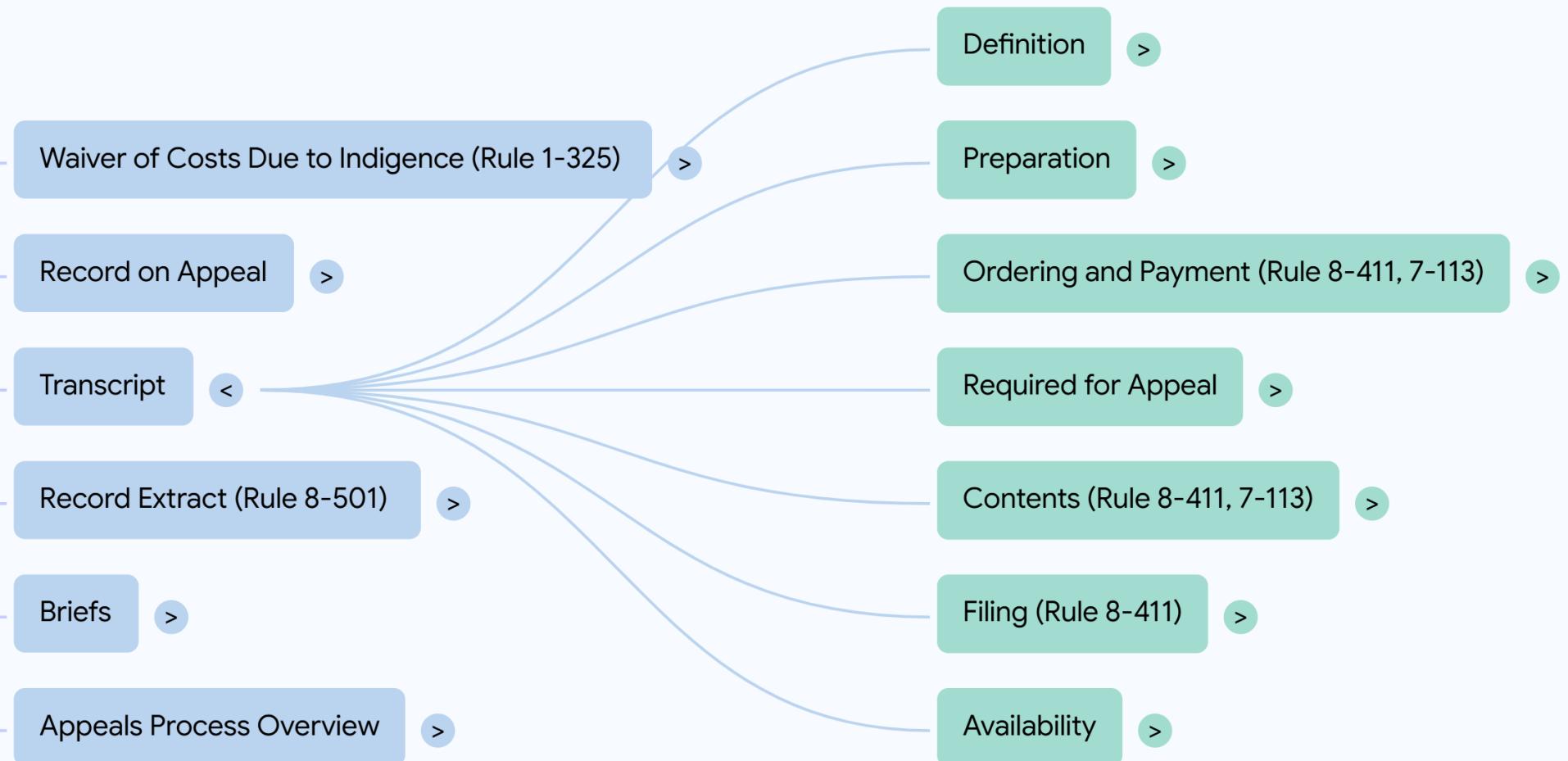


How do Maryland District Court appeals and transcript requests generally proceed?

Maryland Appellate Procedure Guide

Based on 16 sources





Discuss what these sources say about Preparation, in the larger context of Transcript.

Based on the sources provided, the concept of "Preparation" in the context of a Transcript in Maryland Appellate Costs and Procedures primarily refers to the process of creating the written document from the original recording of lower court proceedings, the associated costs, and the responsibilities for ensuring this preparation and its inclusion in the record.

Here's what the sources say about Transcript Preparation:

1. What is Prepared?

- A transcript is the **written version** of everything that was said during the trial or hearings in the lower court 1
- Specifically, it involves the **transcription** of testimony 1 ..., or that part of the testimony the parties agree is necessary 3

1. What is Prepared?

- A transcript is the **written version** of everything that was said during the trial or hearings in the lower court 1

- Specifically, it involves the testimony the parties agree

- It also includes a **transcript** recorded 1

- For recordings made by video unless the appellate court orders a **complete and accurate record**.

A Civil Appeal Information Report is not required in criminal cases, juvenile causes, appeals from guardianships terminating parental rights, appeals from actions for a writ of error coram nobis, and

applications and appeals by prisoners seeking relief related to confinement or conditions of confinement.

Review Md. Rules 8-205 & 8-206.

cosaguideselfrepresentation.pdf**Source guide**

Review Md. Rule 8-205(c) for the precise due date.

The Civil Appeal Information Report is filed with the Clerk of the Court of Special Appeals. If you are the appellant, be sure to complete the form and the Certificate of Service on the last page. Also, attach a copy of the Notice of Appeal and a copy of the written order or judgment of the circuit court.

Failure to file the Civil Appeal Information Report on time may result in the dismissal of the appeal.

Sometime after the filing of the Civil Appeal Information Report, the Court of Special Appeals will enter an order directing the case to proceed without a pre-hearing or scheduling conference or directing the parties to appear for a pre-hearing or scheduling conference. Most cases will proceed without a pre-hearing or scheduling conference.

A Civil Appeal Information Report is not required in criminal cases, juvenile causes, appeals from guardianships terminating parental rights, appeals from actions for a writ of error coram nobis, and

applications and appeals by prisoners seeking relief related to confinement or conditions of confinement.

Review Md. Rules 8-205 & 8-206.

4. Transcripts The appellant must timely order and pay for all transcripts of the lower court proceedings that are relevant to the Court of Special Appeals' review of the case on appeal. A transcript is the written record of everything that was said in the lower court during the trial or hearing. Rule 8-411(a) specifies what transcripts are required.



cosaguideselfrepresentation.pdf

Source guide

Summary

This guide from the Maryland Court of Special Appeals provides essential information for non-lawyers navigating the appellate process in Maryland. It clearly distinguishes between a **direct appeal** and an **application for leave to appeal**, explaining when each is required and the **strict deadlines and filing requirements** associated with both. The document outlines the **steps involved in pursuing an appeal**, from filing the initial notice or application to preparing necessary documents like the **record extract and briefs**, and understanding the court's decision and mandate. It also includes helpful resources such as a glossary, fee schedules, and sample forms to aid those representing themselves.

Key Topics

[Self-Representation G...](#)

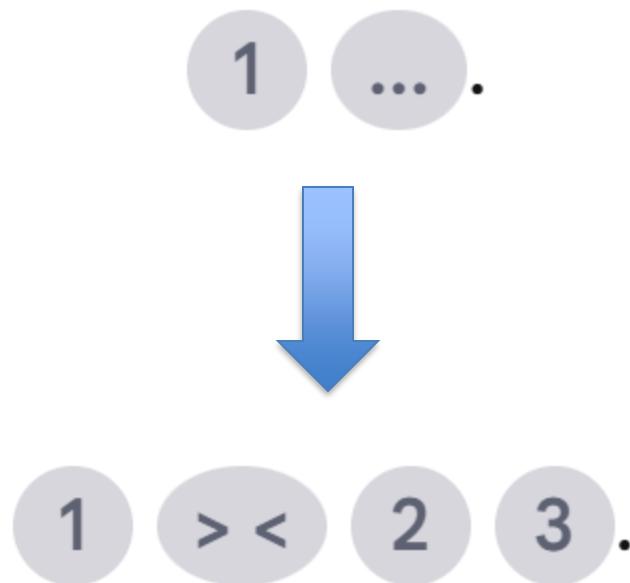
[Appellate Court Revi...](#)

[Notice of App...](#)

[Application for Le...](#)

[Filing Requireme...](#)

NotebookLM



please distinguish the difference between preparation of transcripts when appealing from district court to circuit court, versus appealing from the circuit court to the appellate court

Based on the provided sources, there are notable differences in the preparation and handling of transcripts when appealing from the District Court to the Circuit Court compared to appealing from the Circuit Court to the Appellate Court (formerly the Court of Special Appeals) 1

Here's a breakdown of the distinctions:

1. Appeals from District Court to Circuit Court:

- **When Required:** A transcript of the District Court proceeding is a required component of the record *only* for appeals in a civil action where the amount in controversy exceeds \$5,000 (or \$2,500 if the case was filed prior to October 1, 2003), *if* the appeal is heard on the record 5 Not all appeals from District Court to Circuit Court require a transcript; this requirement is specific to certain civil cases heard on the record above a monetary threshold 5

What I use it for

- New article drafting
 - Learning about and synthesizing a new topic quickly
 - Preparing an outline
- Searching for a citation
- **Podcast feature is useful if topic is boring**

Demo using opinion mentioned earlier

Other uses

- Compare different positions on a topic
- Compare specific clauses or terms in multiple contracts
- Brainstorm questions for discovery, witnesses, etc.

Observations

- Lots of sources is important
- Statements can come from the wrong context
- Remembering a project
 - **ONLY USE PUBLIC DATA!!**

Cost

- Free to use
 - Up to 50 sources per notebook
 - 500,000 words or up to 200MB for uploaded files
 - Share a notebook
- \$20 per month
 - Up to 300 sources per notebook
 - Share notebooks
 - Sharing controls (for example share only the chat)

Microsoft Copilot

- Integrated into Office tools:
 - - Summarize Word docs
 - - Draft emails and content
 - - Analyze Excel data
 - - Automate Teams and Outlook tasks

CoPilot in Excel

1	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1	County	2020	2021	2022	2023			
2	Allegany	2027	1765	1997	2002			
3	Anne Arundel	26884	22902	22001	29476			
4	Baltimore City	33213	28859	36597	39336			
5	Baltimore County	18343	22589	29958	30627			
6	Calvert	1944	2235	2453	2286			
7	Caroline	1051	925	1047	882			
8	Carroll	2258	1797	2297	2160			
9	Cecil	2300	2270	2439	2146			
10	Charles	4462	4408	4814	6520			
11	Dorchester	1041	923	1400	1263			
12	Frederick	7196	6858	9238	10095			
13	Garrett	531	515	549	524			
14	Harford	5679	5712	6107	6135			
15	Howard	4524	5178	5914	5594			
16	Kent	353	379	455	407			
17	Montgomery	16953	18470	25747	27735			
18	Prince George's	35523	29501	40595	46354			
19	Queen Anne's	894	818	747	787			
20	St. Mary's	2604	2893	3125	2822			
21	Somerset	1944	658	840	788			
22	Talbot	1161	1000	1100	910			
23	Washington	3457	3114	4311	4932			
24	Wicomico	4575	3855	5595	5654			
25	Worcester	1178	1087	1446	1299			
26								

Copilot (Preview)

Create formulas
Suggest a formula column

Understand
Summarize using PivotTables or charts

Apply color and formatting
Highlight all cells with [incomplete in red]

can you make a projection of each county's number for 2024?

Here's 1 formula column to review and insert:

=FORECAST.LINEAR(2024,[@2020]:[@2023],{2020,2021,2022,2023})

Show explanation

+ Insert column

AI-generated content may be incorrect

Copilot in Word

Summarize or interrogate an existing document

The screenshot shows a Microsoft Word document with the following content:

Apps.mdlab.org is a comprehensive platform offering a variety of tools. Some features include:

1. **Court Forms Generator:** This app integrates case search capabilities, allows users to enter a case number, select a court form, and the system merges the information.
2. **Digital Signature Manager:** Allows users to send select contracts or documents with digital signatures via text or email.
3. **Events and Venue Manager:** Users can publish legal clinic events and manage venue details.
4. **ExpungelMD:** This platform automates the expungement process, allowing users to check for record expungement. With just a client's name and date of birth, the system reviews eligibility criteria, generates the necessary legal forms, and sends them to the appropriate agency.
5. **Walk-in Registration:** A management tool for walk-in registrations, allowing users to track and manage client visits.
6. **MCLA App:** Designed for the Maryland Center for Legal Assistance, this app helps users communicate with self-represented litigants. It includes a module that generates multi-million-dollar invoices each quarter, serving over a thousand of self-represented litigants annually and much more.
7. **MLAGPT:** This generative AI tool can be used for a wide range of legal automation. The system can work with PDFs, Word documents, and process a variety of audio and video files. MLAGPT has a zero-degree of risk and our AI system is HIPAA compliant.

The Word ribbon is visible at the top, showing the Home tab is selected. The Copilot add-in is open on the right side of the screen, displaying a chat interface with the following text:

I can chat, respond to your questions, and help you with writing and summarizing this document.

Here are some things you can try

- Summarize this doc
- Ask a question about this doc...

Chat history

Summarize this doc Is there a call to action? C

Ask me anything about this document

Focus

Copilot in Word – editing “down”

Notes: MLSC will involve grantees in three phased groups.

- **Group 1:** 2-5 grantees – early adopters. These grantees will immediately test the first draft of the MLSC data template, to determine the extent to which they can immediately comply. This test and follow-up conversation determines the understandability and sufficiency of the template.
- **Group 2:** 5-8 grantees – broader cohort, representative of most grantee types, and willing to discuss. These grantees will review the template and discuss challenges they foresee. This conversation determines likely common challenges, and proposed basic frameworks for resolution.

Groups 1 and 2 will receive early access to technology grant funding (GA1) to facilitate resolutions to any reporting needs.

- **Group 3:** all remaining grantees.

All grantees will have access to technology grant finalized requirements.



Rewrite with Copilot

Visualize as a Table

Group	Number of Grantees	Description	Purpose	Grant Funding
Group 1	2-5	Early adopters	Test the first draft of the MLSC data template	GA1
Group 2	5-8	Broader cohort, representative of most grantee types	Review the template and discuss challenges	GA1
Group 3	All remaining grantees	All other grantees	Compliance with finalized requirements	GA2

Zoom

- Zoom AI Companion:
 - Summarizes meetings
 - Highlights key points and tasks
- - Add-ons: Otter.ai, Notta for transcription and analysis

AI for better meetings

Zoom recording/transcribing/translate features

zoom Products Solutions Resources Plans & Pricing

Profile Meetings Webinars Personal Contacts Personal Devices Whiteboards Notes **NEW** Surveys **Recordings** **AI Companion** Clips **NEW** Scheduler

Recordings > Maryland Legal Services AI Workgroup

Maryland Legal Services AI Workgroup 

May 8, 2024 03:01 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada) ID: 831 2542 4240

0 total views • 0 total downloads [Recording Analytics](#)

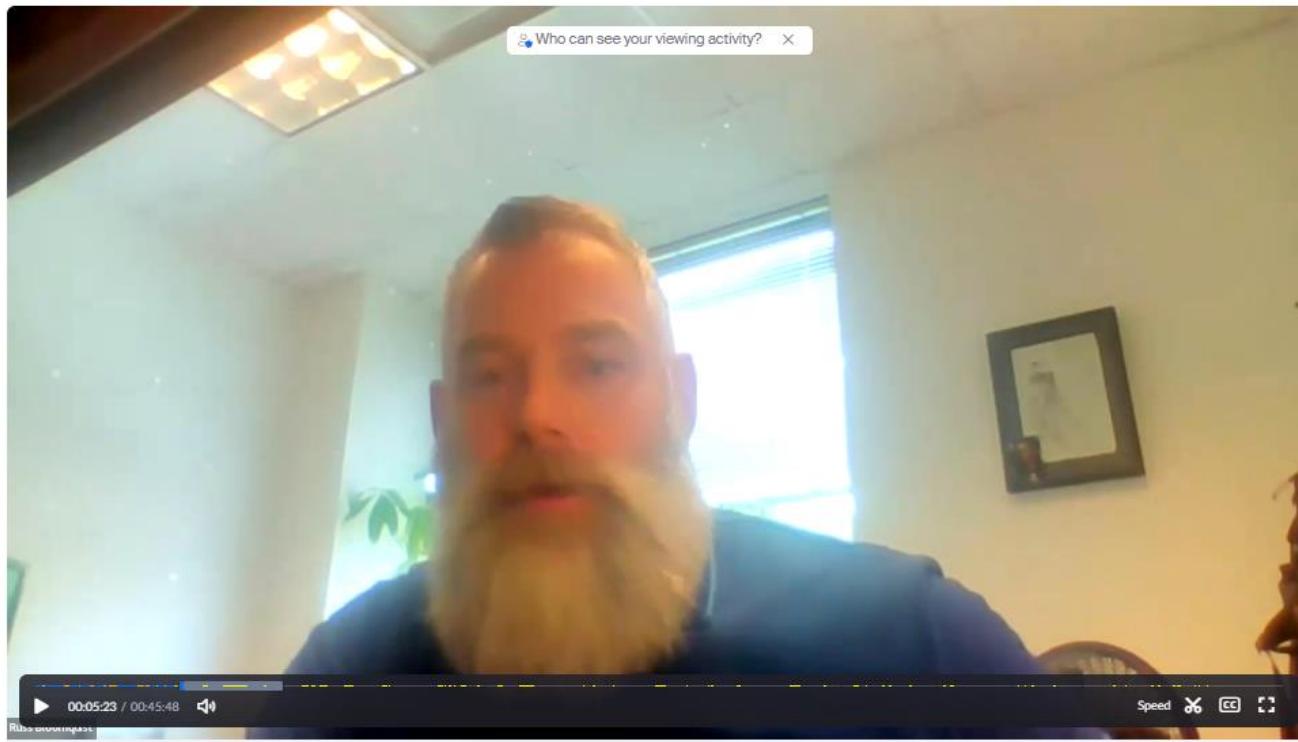
 **Recording 1** 
4 Files 467 MB

[Download](#) [Copy shareable link](#) [Add to Zoom Clips](#) [Delete](#)

[Watch Highlights](#)

The recording includes the files listed below:

-  Shared screen with speaker view
-  Audio only
-  Audio transcript - English(original)
-  Chat file



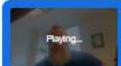
Summary and smart chapters

My meeting coach

Summary

The team discussed the use of AI in recording and summarizing grantee meetings, the implementation of an API for OpenAI's text generator at Legal Aid, and the development of a chat bot for various purposes. They also explored the potential of combining various AI APIs, the use of AI for tasks such as rewriting letters and simplifying panel descriptions, and the challenges and potential solutions related to understanding and utilizing APIs. Lastly, they touched on topics related to voice technology, the weaponization of technology, and the use of Unreal Engine for creating AI and ... [View All](#)

Smart Chapters

 From 00:00 AI in Grantee Meetings and...	 From 05:14 Playing... Database Credentials...	 From 09:05 Chat Bot Costs and Functionalit...	 From 13:02 Chat Application Features and...	 From 16:30 API Key System Implementatio...	
---	---	--	--	---	---

Database Credentials, Single Sign-On, Chat GPT API

Russ and Dave discussed the current database of credentials and the potential implementation of single sign-on in the future. They also talked about the use of the API for Chat GPT, which doesn't save any data for training and only holds user interaction data for 30 days. Russ mentioned that a 0 data retention policy is expected to be launched in June. Dave raised concerns about users potentially sharing confidential information, to which Russ responded that they have a prompt helper section in Chat GPT that advises against this. They concluded that while there's some concern, the current policy seems to be adequate for their use case.

[Audio Transcript](#) [Chat Messages](#)

Search transcript

got it caged so that the SI that the LIm. Can't learn from the prompts.

 Russ Bloomquist 08:06

It cannot.

So yeah, using the API for Chat GPT, it doesn't save any of your data for training, and it only according to their terms of use. It only saves their data on their server for a very short time, like 30 days.

Oh.

 Dave Pantzer, MLSC 08:22

What, what does it save for 30 days.

 Russ Bloomquist 08:24

Just anything that you're interacting with it for saved on their servers for 30 days, like the things that's generating and the inputs. But I believe in June, they're launching a 0 data retention policy with 5. So I think, starting in June, it will have a 0 data retention policy. So none of our data will be saved there at all.

[Resume autoscrolling](#)

Next Steps

1. Russ will share the link to the base version of the Chatbot he created for the team to explore and use as a starting point for their own projects.
2. Matthew will consider developing a publicly consumable version of the instructions he gave to his law students for their AI projects, to share with other teams and organizations.

Maryland Legal Aid's custom AI: mlaGPT

CHAT COMPLETION

Drafting/Editing Content
Idea Generation & Brainstorming
Summarization/Transformation

TRANSCRIPTION

Meeting & Client Notes
Content Creation via Audio/Video

ATTACHMENTS

Document Summarization
Document Analysis
Data Extraction & Transformation

R.A.G.

Enterprise Knowledge Base Tools
Resource and Referral Matching
Domain-Specific Legal Chat Bots

INTEGRATIONS

LegalServer
Power Automate/Teams
Outlook Rules/Email

MLAGPT – Retrieval-Augmented Generation Chatbots



Welcome to mlaGPT V3, Russ!

How can I assist you today?

Retrieval-Augmented Generation (RAG) enhances responses by pulling from internal data sources. Unlike chat completions, RAG bot outputs are limited to the current chatbot context (e.g., referrals, bankruptcy, etc.). For chat completion and content drafting that go beyond pre-trained data, use [mlaGPT](#).

MCLA KB Bot • Use the dropdown to switch between bots.

how to find someone that has been arrested

Submit

MCLA KB Bot Says:

To locate an incarcerated individual, you can use the following resources:

1. **VINE (formerly Vinelink):**

- Step 1: Visit [VINE's Maryland page](#).
- Step 2: Click "Search for Someone."
- Step 3: Select the appropriate state from the dropdown menu.
- Step 4: Enter the individual's name, ID, or case number. Searching by name will return the broadest results, which you can then narrow down by date of birth, case

- Fetches trusted source content
- Answers legal info questions
- Used in Bankruptcy Bot, Referral Bot

MLAGPT – RAG Chatbots in TEAMS

The screenshot shows a Microsoft Teams chat window. On the left is the Teams sidebar with navigation links like Chat, Activity, Chats, Discover, Mentions, Favorites, Chats, Teams and channels, and App. The main area shows a conversation with 'Referral Bot'. The bot has sent a message at 11:02 AM stating: 'There is no handrail on the staircase leading to my client's handicap parking space.' Below this, the bot has a section titled 'Legal Assistance for Staircase Handrail Issue' with the following text: 'If your client is facing an issue with the absence of a handrail on the staircase leading to a handicap parking space, there are several resources and organizations that might be able to assist:' followed by a bulleted list of three resources. At the bottom of the message, it says: 'These resources should provide a good starting point for addressing the issue with the staircase handrail. It may also be beneficial to consult with a private attorney for more personalized legal advice.' A message input field at the bottom says 'Type a message'.

Referral Bot 11:02 AM

There is no handrail on the staircase leading to my client's handicap parking space.

Referral Bot 11:02 AM

Legal Assistance for Staircase Handrail Issue

If your client is facing an issue with the absence of a handrail on the staircase leading to a handicap parking space, there are several resources and organizations that might be able to assist:

- **Maryland Commission on Civil Rights:** They provide information and assistance regarding housing discrimination and other civil rights issues. You can file a complaint or seek guidance through their website.
[Housing Discrimination Information](#)
[File a Complaint](#)
[Source: Referral-List.pdf, Page 6]
- **Civil Justice (Reduced Fee Attorney):** They offer legal services at a reduced fee and can be contacted for assistance with legal matters.
Phone: 443-853-1011
[Website: www.civiljusticeinc.org](#)
[Source: Referral-List.pdf, Page 6]
- **People's Law Library of Maryland:** This resource provides legal information and can guide you on various legal issues, including housing and disability rights.
[Website: www.uspoles.law.org](#)
[Source: Referral-List.pdf, Page 6]

These resources should provide a good starting point for addressing the issue with the staircase handrail. It may also be beneficial to consult with a private attorney for more personalized legal advice.

Type a message

MLAGPT – Preset Prompts



Welcome to mlaGPT V3, Russ!

How can I assist you today?

What's New in mlaGPT V3

- **PII Compliance:** mlaGPT now allows the secure processing of Personally Identifiable Information (PII) under a Zero Data Retention (ZDR) agreement, ensuring our AI service provider is in full compliance with privacy standards for sensitive data.
- **Extended Context Length:** mlaGPT has a 30X (96%) increase in context length, allowing for substantially more comprehensive output.
- **Memory Visualizer:** An available memory visualizer has been added, enabling users to monitor memory usage.
- **Reusable Preset Prompts:** Users can now create and save preset prompts for repeated use, streamlining workflows.
- **Improved Output Formatting:** The output format has been refined to enhance readability and usability with office applications.
- **Basic URL Data Scraping (Beta):** Beta functionality that allows users to pull text from web pages via URLs.
Disclaimer: Data scraping may have intermittent success and is not permitted on all websites. Use responsibly.
- **YouTube Data Scraping (Beta):** Easily gather metadata/transcripts from YouTube links to support research and analysis.

Prohibited

- **PHI:** Please note that Protected Health Information (PHI) is NOT allowed at this time.
- **Code Generation:** Code generation, the process of using AI to create programming code (e.g., PHP, Python, JavaScript, etc.), is not supported and is strictly prohibited.

Housing Ledger Review - Ledger.pdf • Available Memory: 98%

Presets • How can I help you today?

While mlaGPT aims for accuracy, users are responsible for fact-checking generated content.

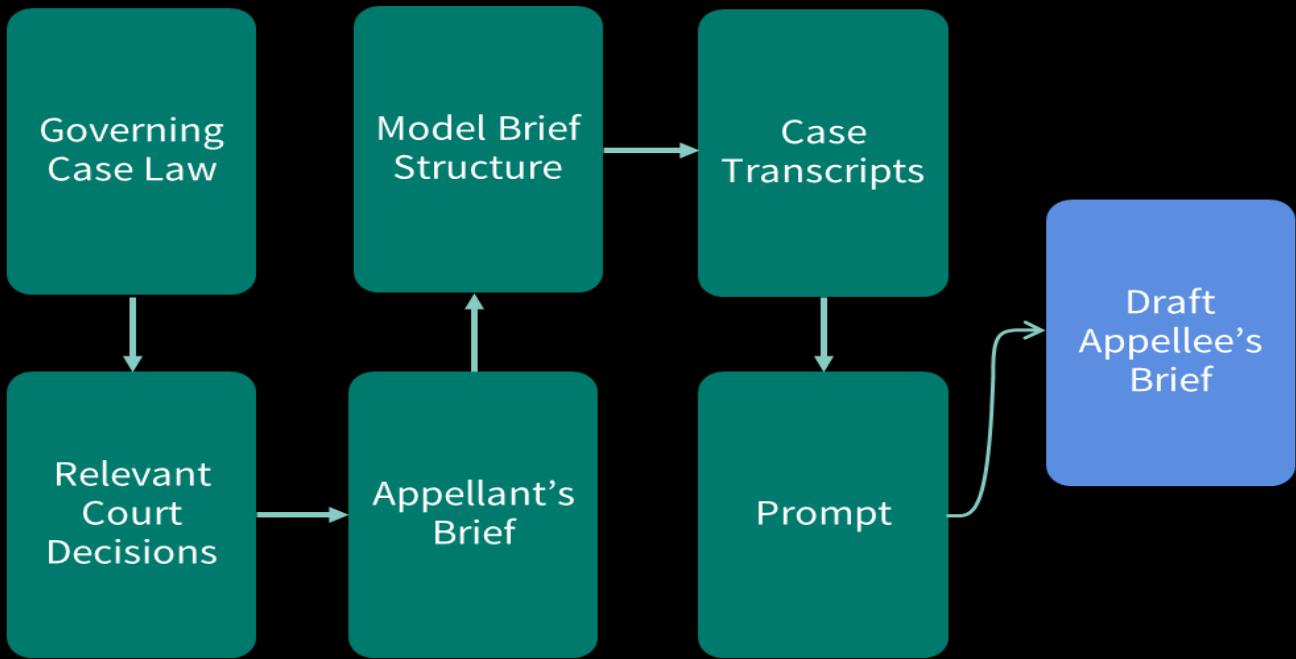
- Reusable Preset Prompts
- Memory Visualization

MLAGPT – AI Transcription



- Voice-to-text conversion:
- Voicemails, interviews, hearings
- Searchable text
- Summarize key points with ChatGPT

MLAGPT – Brief Generator



- Input facts and legal issue
- Get first draft with structure
- Lawyer reviews and edits

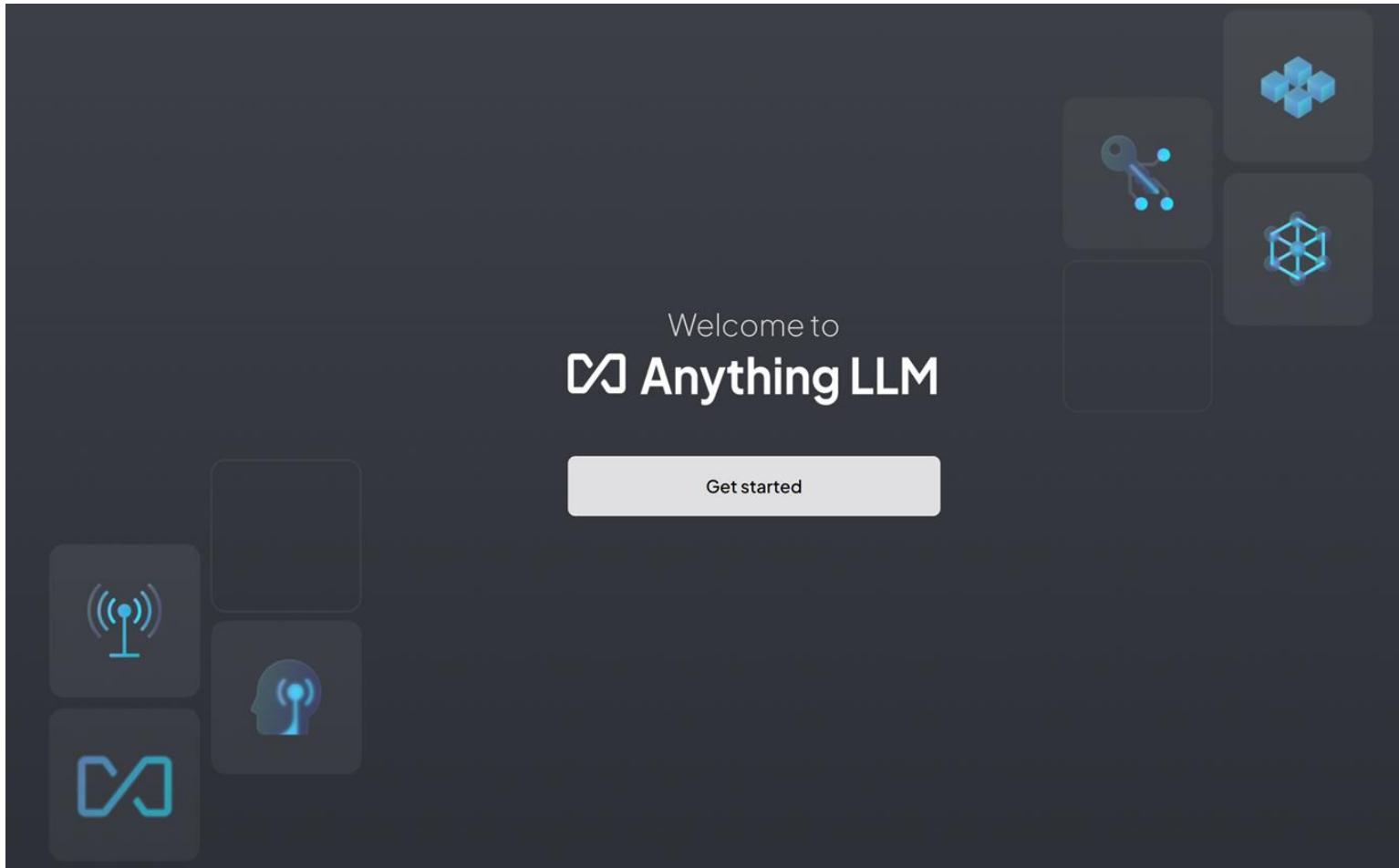
Downloadable AI Tools

- Offline-friendly models:
 - GPT4All, Llama 2
- - Run locally with no data sharing
- - Great for privacy-focused orgs

Offline AI Options

- No-internet-required tools:
 - AI kiosks or court support tools
 - Data privacy for sensitive work
 - Works in secure or remote areas

Anything LLM



Anything LLM

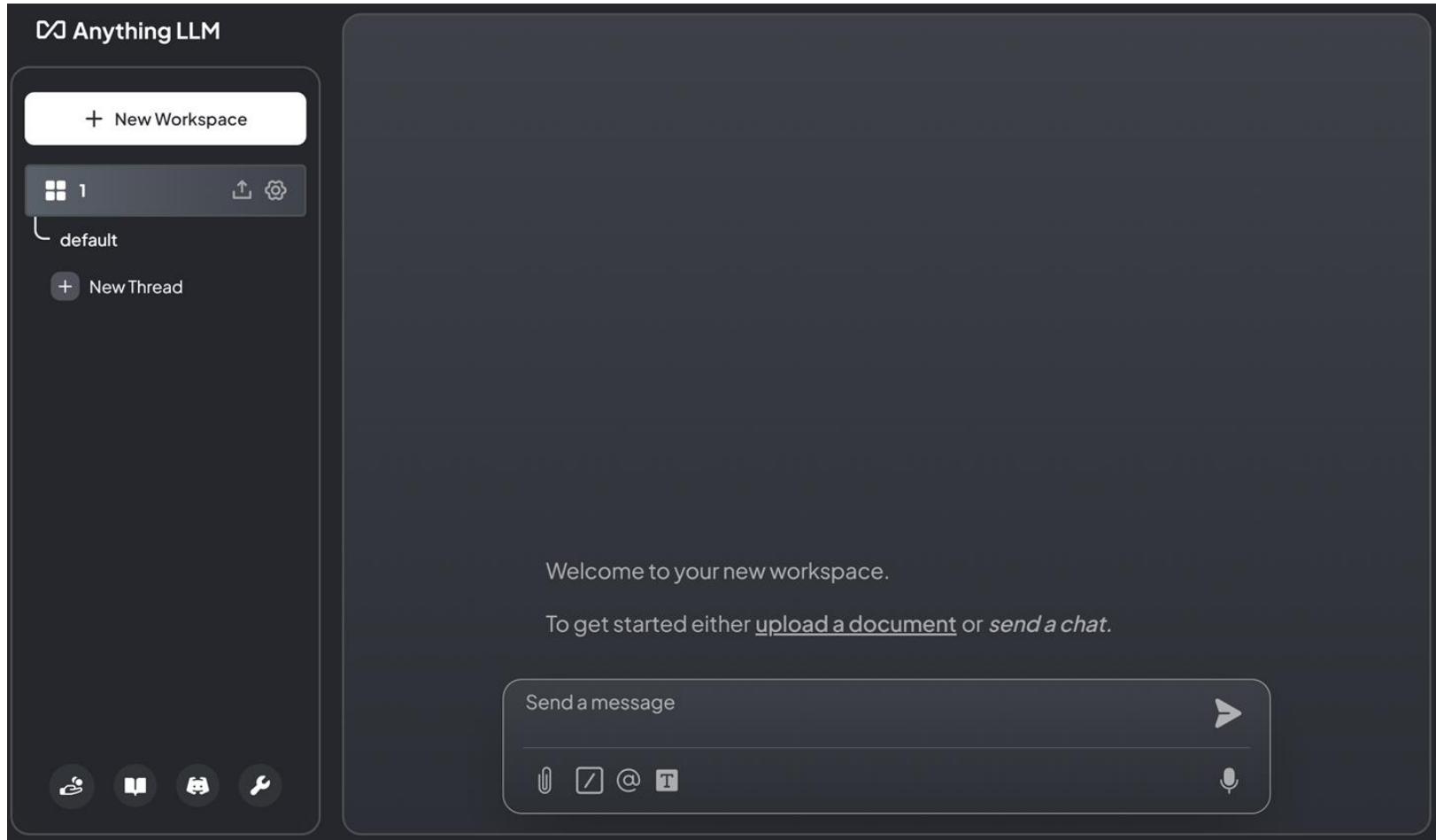
LLM Preference

AnythingLLM can work with many LLM providers. This will be the service which handles chatting.

The screenshot shows a dark-themed user interface for selecting an LLM provider. At the top is a search bar with the placeholder "Search LLM providers". Below it is a list of providers, each with an icon and a brief description:

- Azure OpenAI**: The standard option for most non-commercial use.
- Anthropic**: The enterprise option of OpenAI hosted on Azure services.
- Gemini**: Google's largest and most capable AI model.
- HuggingFace**: Access 150,000+ open-source LLMs and the world's AI community.
- Ollama**: Run LLMs locally on your own machine.

Anything LLM



Anything LLM

 aba-formal-opinion...
File embedded!

what is this document about? 

Anything LLM



what is this document about?



This document appears to be a formal opinion (Formal Opinion 512) from an American Bar Association (ABA) committee regarding the use of self-learning artificial intelligence (GAI) tools by lawyers. The opinion discusses the potential risks and ethical considerations related to using these tools, particularly with regards to client confidentiality and the protection of sensitive information.



Hide Citations ▾



[aba-formal-opinion...512.pdf](#)

Anything LLM

×

aba-formal-opinion-512.pdf

Referenced 4 times.

26
MODEL RULES R. 1.6; MODEL RULES R. 1.6 cmt. [3].

27
MODEL RULES R. 1.6(c).

28
ABA Formal Op. 477R, *supra* note 6, at 1 (A lawyer “may be required to take special security precautions to protect against the inadvertent or unauthorized disclosure of client information when ... the nature of the information requires a higher degree of security.”).

29
ⓘ 42% match

A series of seven horizontal gray bars of varying lengths, suggesting redacted text or code. They are positioned below the numbered notes and above the footer area.

Anything LLM

Prompt

The prompt that will be used on this workspace. Define the context and instructions for the AI to generate a response. You should provide a carefully crafted prompt so the AI can generate a relevant and accurate response.

Given the following conversation, relevant context, and a follow up question, reply with an answer to the current question the user is asking. Return only your response to the question given the above information following the users instructions as needed.

Anything LLM

LLM Temperature

This setting controls how "creative" your LLM responses will be. The higher the number the more creative. For some models this can lead to incoherent responses when set too high.

Most LLMs have various acceptable ranges of valid values. Consult your LLM provider for that information.

0.7

AI Use Policies and Security

Policy essentials:

- Confidentiality and supervision
- Approved tools list
- Accuracy review process
- Transparency and training

OpenAI BAA and ZDR

To obtain a Business Associate Agreement (BAA) with OpenAI for API services, follow these steps:

1

PREPARE YOUR INFORMATION:

Gather details about your company and the specific use case for which you require the BAA. **(Must include medical-related use case.)**

3

AWAIT RESPONSE:

OpenAI's team typically responds within 1-2 business days. They may request additional information to assess your request.

2

CONTACT OPENAI

Send an email to baa@openai.com, including information about your company and use case.

4

REVIEW AND SIGN:

If your request is approved, you'll receive the BAA for review and signature.

OpenAI BAA and ZDR

ZERO RETENTION ENDPOINTS

Only API endpoints eligible for zero data retention are covered under the BAA.

Ensure your use case aligns with these endpoints.

Zero data retention

Zero data retention will be applied to every [eligible request](#) made by this organization within 24 hours of activation.

Active

<https://platform.openai.com/settings/organization/data-controls/data-retention>

ENDPOINT	DATA USED FOR TRAINING	DEFAULT RETENTION	ELIGIBLE FOR ZERO RETENTION
/v1/chat/completions*	No	30 days	Yes, with restrictions*
/v1/responses**	No	30 days	Yes, with restrictions*
/v1/audio/transcriptions	No	Zero data retention	-
/v1/embeddings	No	30 days	Yes

* Yes: Except (a) image/file inputs, (b) schemas provided for Structured Outputs, or (c) audio outputs.

MSBA Ethical Use Considerations

- Overview of Ethical Considerations for Attorney Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence Technologies
 - Competence + Diligence
 - Supervision + Responsibilities
 - Confidentiality + GAI Risks
 - Scope of Representation, Communication, + Fees
 - Advertising + GAI- Generated Content
 - Candor, Misrepresentation,+ GAI

MSBA Ethical Use Considerations

Competence & Diligence

- Approach legal research with GenAI with caution
- Check the citations carefully
- Especially check other people's citations

MSBA Ethical Use Considerations

- The Impact of Generative AI on Critical Thinking: Self-Reported Reductions in Cognitive Effort and Confidence Effects From a Survey of Knowledge Workers
- "higher confidence in GenAI is associated with less critical thinking, while higher self-confidence is associated with more critical thinking.

MSBA Ethical Use Considerations

Supervision & Responsibilities

- Have a GenAI policy
- Talk about it, train staff about it, enforce it
- Update when needed – you'll encounter new situations at first that you didn't think about

MSBA Ethical Use Considerations

- Sanctions imposed for 'collective debacle' involving AI hallucinations and 2 firms, including K&L Gates
- 9 out of 27 citations in a 10 page brief were inaccurate in some way
 - 2 of the cases did not exist

MSBA Ethical Use Considerations

- Plaintiff was represented by 2 firms, Ellis George (EG) and K&L Gates
- Lawyer at EG "used various AI tools to generate an 'outline' for the supplemental brief."
- Outline sent to K&L
- "They incorporated the material into the brief. No attorney or staff member at either firm apparently cite-checked or otherwise reviewed that research before filing the brief with the Special Master."

MD Judiciary AI Policy

- Use approved platforms
- Don't input confidential data
- Verify output
- Be aware of bias

Generative AI & Legal Research: A Mismatch?

- [Article published in American Association of Law Libraries *Spectrum* magazine](#)
- **How GAI Works:** LLMs, the basis of GAI, are "word prediction machines" trained on vast data.
- **LLM Limitations:** General LLMs lack depth for nuanced legal questions.
- **Improving Reliability:** Methods include fine-tuning and Retrieval Augmented Generation (RAG).
- **Type 1 vs. Type 2 Thinking:** GAI excels at Type 1 (instinctual) but struggles with Type 2 (analytical) thinking.
- **Optimal GAI Uses:** Great for topic overviews, research step suggestions, and confirming lack of sources.

Conclusion and Next Steps

Takeaways:

- AI is a powerful helper
- Start small with clear rules
- Share what works
- Train staff and iterate
- Let values and collaboration lead innovation

Use Policies

- What to include:
 - - Responsible Use
 - - Training commitment
 - - Data Classification
 - - Approved Tools
- - Who can use what tools
- - Confidentiality limits
- - Supervision and training
- - Updates as tech evolves