

# *New York State Unified Courts System Public Access Law Libraries Finding Statutes of Limitations*

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*Legal Research Question? Ask a Librarian*

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This handout describes legal research materials available on-line and in print in New York Court Public Access Law Libraries.

The information provided should be considered a starting point in your research and should not be interpreted as a comprehensive review of the subject or issue in question

## Definition

**statute of limitations:** The time period when a case must be started. For example, New York State has a 6 year statute of limitations for breach of a written contract. If John did not honor a contract with Susan on January 1, 2010, Susan must file her lawsuit before January 1, 2016. If the deadline passes, the "statute of limitations has run," or the claim is "time-barred," and Susan can't sue. There are very few conditions that let the time period be extended or kept from running ("**tolled**"). Definition from nycourts.gov [CourtHelp Glossary](#)

## Finding Statutes of Limitations for New York State Law

- New York State Statutes Index should be checked under the entry **Statute of Limitations**.
- Special Note: Westlaw's Practice Commentaries serve as legal essays and should serve as the starting point for research.

## Indexes to New York Laws – LexisAdvance and Westlaw

LexisAdvance and Westlaw both have indexes to their New York Consolidated Laws. If you do not find your topic in one index, try the other.

Type **New York Consolidated Laws Index** in the **Query Box**. LexisAdvance provides a pop-up to this title. Click on the pop-up and scroll down to the **S** and click on the plus sign to list the index entries. Scroll down to **Statute of Limitations** and click on **Limitation of Actions**

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		<a href="#">NY - New York Consolidated Laws Service - Index</a>	

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Abandoned property, comptroller, statute no bar to abandoned status or action by, [AbandProp §1400](#).

Abatement, survival, and revival of actions. See [ABATEMENT, REVIVAL AND SURVIVAL](#).

Abbreviation to one year after notice, [CPLR §216](#), [CPLR §216](#) Forms 1 to 8.

Absence of defendant from state, [CPLR §207](#), [CPLR §207](#) Forms 1 to 5.

Accident and health insurance.  
General provisions, [Ins §3216](#).

## Westlaw

The Index to McKinney's Consolidated Laws of New York Annotated is under **Tools and Resources**.

Under **S** scroll down to the Index entry **Statute of Limitations**

[Home](#) > [Statutes & Court Rules](#) > [New York Statutes & Court Rules](#) > [New York Statutes Index](#)  
**Statute of Limitations** | [★ Add to Favorites](#) | [🔗 Copy link](#)  
Browse index below or search above. [i](#)

[Limitation of Actions](#)

[Limitation of Prosecutions](#)

After Clicking on **Limitation of Actions > A-Federal Government**, you will see a list and the hyperlink to the pertinent New York law.

[Home](#) > [Statutes & Court Rules](#) > [New York Statutes & Court Rules](#) > [New York Statutes Index](#) > [Limitation of Actions](#)  
**A - Federal Government** | [★ Add to Favorites](#) | [🔗 Copy link](#)  
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[Abandoned Property Statute of Limitations Not a Bar, Actions or Proceedings in Connection with: NY Aband Prop § 1400](#)

[Abbreviation of Time After Notice: NY CplR § 216](#)

[Absence from State or Residence Under False Name, Computing Period: NY CplR § 207](#)

[Accounts and Accounting](#)

[Accrual of Cause and Interposition of Claim: NY CplR § 203](#)

[Acknowledgement or Payment, Revival of Cause by, Transitional Provisions of Law: NY CplR § 218](#)

[Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome, Damages, Blood Products Manufacturers: NY CplR § 214-E](#)

[Adoption](#)

[Adverse Claimants, Intervention: NY CplR § 216](#)

[Adverse Possession](#)

[Affidavits, Notice of Other Claims: NY CplR § 216](#)

[Agricultural Machinery and Equipment, Warranties: NY Gen Bus § 697-a](#)

[Albany Parking Authority, Action Against: NY Pub Auth § 1493-Q](#)

[Alcoholic Beverages, Forfeiture and Seizure of Fixtures, Used in Illegal Manufacturing, Sale or Consumption: NY AL Bev Con § 123](#)

[Aliens, Wartime: NY CplR § 209](#)

[Alimony, Enforcement of Order: NY CplR § 211](#)

[Amended Pleading, Claim Asserted in: NY CplR § 203](#)

[Annulment](#)

## Discussion

### LexisAdvance

- New York Jurisprudence is available on LexisAdvance, but there is no index. The chapter “Limitations and Laches” provides in-depth discussion on Statute of Limitations.
- New York Civil Practice: CPLR (Weinstein, Korn & Miller) in Table II has the following sections which can be helpful: CPLR Timetable; Statutes of Limitation and Conditions Precedent; Other Timing Issues.

## Westlaw

New York Jurisprudence and its Index are available on Westlaw. The Index is posted under **Tools and Resources** on the New York Jurisprudence page. After clicking on it, go to S and click on **Statute of Limitations**.

The screenshot shows the Westlaw interface for New York Jurisprudence. At the top, there is a breadcrumb trail: Home > Secondary Sources > New York Secondary Sources > New York Texts & Treatises. Below this is the page title "New York Jurisprudence" with options to "Add to Favorites" and "Copy link". A search bar is present with the text "Search TOC" and "Reading Mode". A list of categories is shown on the left, including "Abandoned, Lost, and Escheated Property", "Abstracts and Land Titles", "Accession, Confusion, and Improvements", "Accounts and Accounting", "Acknowledgments, Affidavits, Oaths, Notaries, and Commissioners", and "Actions". A red circle highlights the "TOOLS & RESOURCES" menu item, which includes the link "New York Jurisprudence General Index". Below the menu is a navigation bar with "WORKFLOWS TEST 2", "Folders", "History", "Favorites", "Alerts", and a user profile icon. The main content area shows the "STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS" document, with a search bar and "All Content" selected. The document title is "New York Jurisprudence, Second Edition | NYJUR Index (Approx. 62 pages)". The document content includes the following text:

NYJUR Index

**New York Jurisprudence, Second Edition**  
Index updated November 2018

**New York Jurisprudence 2d General Index**

**STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS**

**STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS**

General discussion, [Limitation § 1 et seq.](#)  
Abatement, survival, and revival of actions  
    general discussion, [Limitation § 11](#)  
    death and death actions  
        tolling of statute, [Death § 53](#), [Death § 257 to 260](#)  
        toxic substances exposure, [Death § 265](#), [Limitation § 12](#)  
foreclosure, [Mortgages § 478](#)  
lengthening or shortening of limitations, below  
    renewal of statutory period or revival of obligation, below  
    toxic substance exposure, revival of tort action for, [Death § 265](#), [Limitation § 12](#)  
Abbreviation of limitation period. Lengthening or shortening of limitation, below

### **Important Disclosures:**

#### Legal Advice

NY State Court System staff are pleased to provide you with basic legal information of relevance to New York State courts, caselaw, statutory and regulatory materials from standard legal reference sources. Our court employees, however, may not provide legal advice, interpret the law or assist with the processing of specific motions or cases.

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