



Practical Ways to Keep Up with Legal and Regulatory Change in Your Practice Area



The nonstop tide of legal and regulatory change can be overwhelming for lawyers. Here are three practical ways to keep up with developments in your area of expertise.

The pace, volume and nuance of change is staggering in the legal and regulatory industry. One moment, you're up to date on the latest laws and regulations in your focus area. But, in the next, newly amended expectations or court precedents uproot everything you thought you knew.

Hopefully, you're already aware of the changes before a client mentions it to you — rather than getting caught off guard, and having them catch on to the fact you didn't know.

Finding ways to stay on top of these updates is crucial to ensure you're supporting your clients and team with the latest, most up-to-date knowledge.

Take the finance industry, for example. The average number of yearly global regulatory changes is 56,000. Most of these updates can be found on the internet, on websites belonging to regulatory bodies, government agencies, courts and every other sort of authority. The internet is rich with this continuously evolving information.

But it's tricky to keep up with. Of course, you're already doing lots to stay current in your practice area. Maybe you've joined a professional association that hosts seminars, courses and educational events. You talk to colleagues about the latest developments. Your firm likely pays for expensive databases that promise to notify you of important changes.

But staying up-to-date on everything you need to know — especially the specific, niche pieces of information — requires more than just working your network, and relying on databases that, ultimately, are limited in the legal and regulatory content they provide. What are you to do when your client or team requires you to keep up with the latest in a very specific industry area, or application of legal practice?

Leverage Asynchronous Techniques to Keep Pace with Regulatory Changes

Thankfully, there are a few thrifty and clever solutions that can keep you automatically up-to-date when legal and regulatory changes occur, rather than forcing you to seek out updates through the grapevine, attend a seminar, or consult expensive software.

What's more, among these techniques is a legal and regulatory monitoring tool that allows you to get notified, in real-time, of changes from any web sources on the internet, so you can stay on top of the exact information you're expected to know about.

Three Practical Ways to Keep Up with Legal and Regulatory Change in Your Focus Area

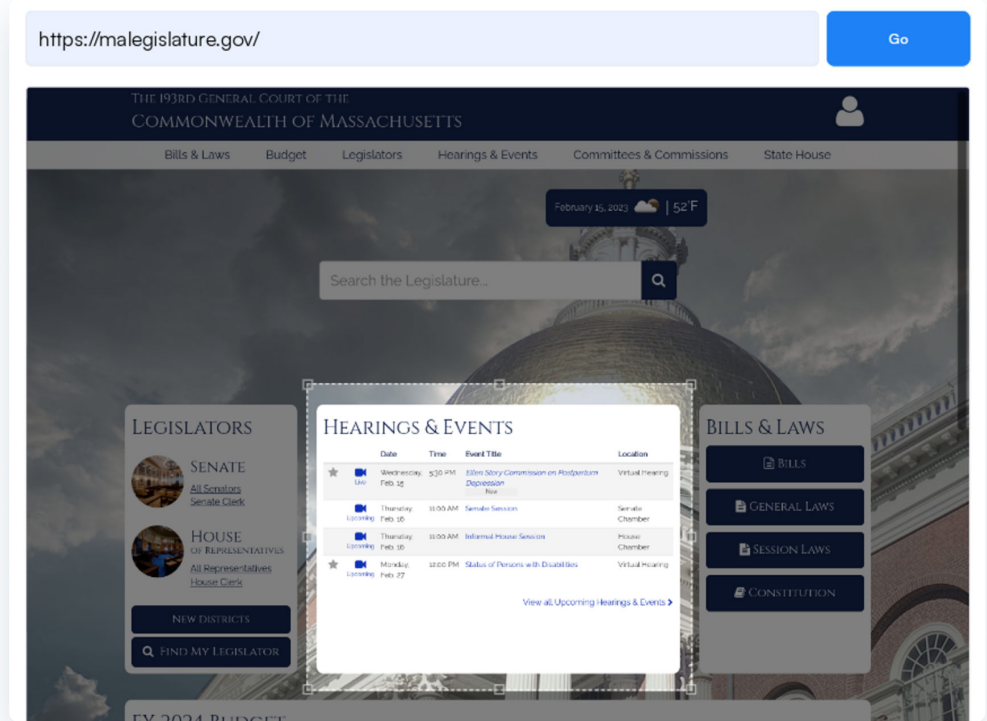
1. Website Change Monitoring Services

Stay on Top of the Exact Information You Need

"Website change monitoring" describes a category of tools that scan certain web pages you tell them to, for the precise changes you're after. When the tool detects the update, you receive an email alerting you of the change. They're a simple and cost-effective way to keep your knowledge current in the [legal and regulatory industry](#).

[Visualping](#) is the leading website change monitoring tool, available online. 98% of AM Law 100 use Visualping, as well as the world's top 25 global law firms. When it detects a change on a page you're monitoring, it sends you a screenshot of the page, the changes highlighted for you to see.

What's more is that it allows you to track any web pages you want, from anywhere on the internet. You can set Visualping to track any specific information on legislative websites, such as hearings and debate, that your firm's database software may not provide alerts on. It includes information from any hard-to-find web sources — that only you know to check. You can even get notified of changes to PDFs.



With a little know-how, you can use the power of the internet — and simple automated monitoring — to stay on top of the exact developments that matter to you and your team.

Automatically Keep Your Knowledge Up-to-Date

Instead of manually refreshing pages for updates that may or may not occur at that time, website change monitoring services, like Visualping, do the work for you. It's a huge time saver, and guarantees you'll be aware of the update once it happens.

Just go to [Visualping's](#) homepage, and enter the web page you want to track. Select the page area you want to get notified about, then set how frequently you want Visualping to check for changes, and the tool will check the page on your behalf.

Visualping also offers real-time monitoring, so you can get notified of a page change within five minutes of it occurring online. Keeping pace with urgent and time-sensitive changes doesn't have to involve laboriously rechecking websites several times a day.

Here are some examples of the most common pages monitored by legal knowledge professionals with [Visualping](#). No matter your legal practice area, there is surely a page or two (or perhaps a few dozen) that you could monitor to stay in the know:

Legislative Updates

- [House of Representatives Hearing Schedule](#)
- [Senate Floor Proceedings](#)
- [Federal Government Bill Progress](#)

Regulatory Updates

- [Federal Department of Health News](#)
- [Federal Immigration Program Delivery Updates](#)
- [GDPR Enforcement Tracker](#)
- [EPA Requests for Public Comment](#)
- [Federal Reserve Board Interpretations](#)
- [Government Task Force “What’s New?” Page](#)

Judicial Updates

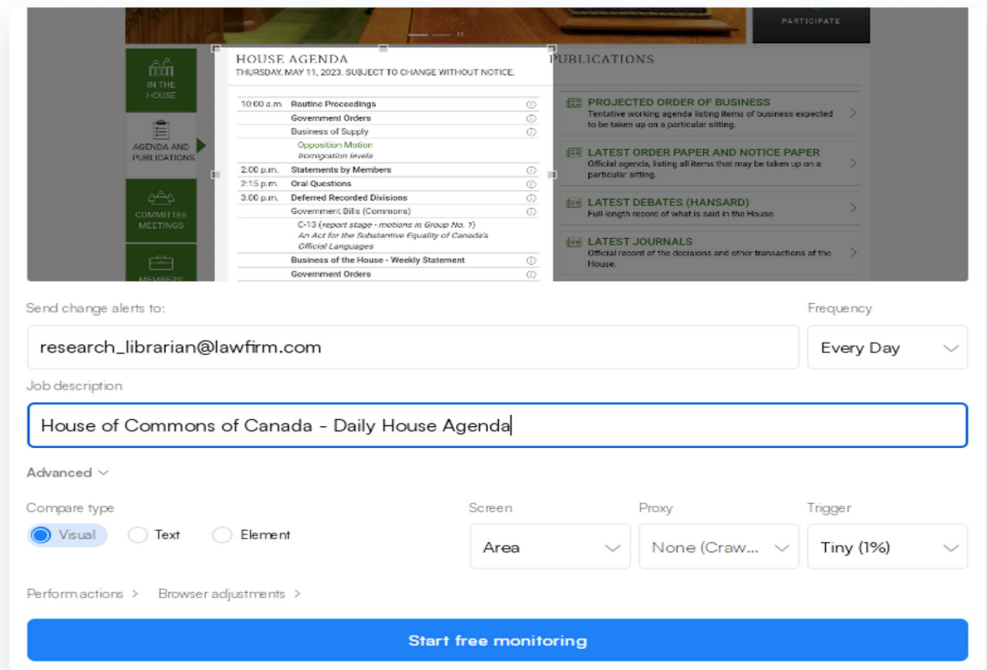
- [State Court Opinions and Orders](#)
- [Regional Court Daily Law Lists](#)
- [District Court Standing Orders](#)
- [State Government Business Permits](#)

By allowing you to monitor any primary information sources, web change monitoring services are an accessible alternative for staying on top of the exact information that lives in a specific corner of the internet.

Customize Your Monitoring for Filtered, Intelligent Alerts

As well as monitoring any web pages on the internet, you can select certain areas of a web page to track, so you only get notified of what you care about. You also choose whether to monitor visual changes or textual page changes, so your notifications are just right.

As an added bonus, [Visualping](#) offers a keyword alert feature, so you can only get a notification when certain words, phrases or numbers are added or removed from a given page or page area.



HOUSE AGENDA
THURSDAY MAY 11, 2023. SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE.

10:00 a.m. Routine Proceedings
Government Orders
Business of Supply
Opposition Motion
Immigration Inevitable

2:00 p.m. Statements by Members
2:15 p.m. Oral Questions

3:00 p.m. Deferred Recorded Divisions
Government Bills (Conversions)
C-13 (report stage - motions in Group No. 1)
An Act for the Substantive Equality of Canada's
Official Languages

Business of the House - Weekly Statement
Government Orders

Send change alerts to:
research_librarian@lawfirm.com

Frequency
Every Day

Job description
House of Commons of Canada - Daily House Agenda

Advanced

Compare type
☒ Visual ☐ Text ☐ Element

Screen
Area

Proxy
None (Craw...)

Trigger
Tiny (1%)

Perform actions > Browser adjustments >

Start free monitoring

If monitoring web pages for changes is starting to sound a little technical, Visualping also offers its Business users a dedicated support team. They'll actually take care of setting up and managing the pages you want to track, so you can just focus on getting to work.

For more information on how Visualping can support your legal and regulatory monitoring efforts, [contact Visualping's team](#) — they'd be happy to help.

2. Social Media Accounts

Hundreds of millions of people log on to social media every day. But beyond mainstream memes and the latest hashtags, social media is also a powerful tool for staying on top of regulatory changes.

Most regulatory agencies, for example, actively post and maintain a social media account. They use social media to share information about their activities, and important policy updates

If you're already scrolling through social media feeds on a regular basis, following these pages is an easy way to stay on top of regulatory changes.

To start you off, below is a list of some agency accounts you may want to follow:

- USDA: [Twitter](#)
- DOT: [Twitter](#)
- OSHA: [Twitter](#)
- EPA: [Twitter](#) | [other active accounts](#)
- FDA: [Twitter](#)

Another good source of Twitter accounts with regulatory news and updates is the JD Supra family of accounts. Whatever your niche, seek out the experts on Twitter!

After following these accounts, be sure to click the “notify” button on specific pages you really care about. That way, whenever they make a new post, you’ll get a special alert. Allow Twitter to send you notifications on your phone, and you’ve got regulatory alerts streaming straight to your phone.

3. Newsletters, Blogs and RSS Feeds

Blogs and feeds are still a good source of regulatory intelligence. Just as you might seek out the agencies and experts on Twitter, see what is offered by these folks on their own websites — you might be surprised!

For example, some regulatory agencies publish their own journals, newsletters and blogs, such as OSHA Quicktakes. As well as briefing you on important industry trends, many of these resources include important legislative changes and regulatory news.

Of course, many legal experts also post their perspectives and opinions on their blogs. Check out [Justia](#) or the [Lexblog open archive](#) for two exhaustive lists.

Once you’ve identified all the sites you want to follow, you have a few options for staying up to date with their postings. Your chosen approach will depend on whether you want to get alerts in your email inbox, or in a separate location.

If you're fine with getting updates in your inbox, simply look for a newsletter sign-up option on the blog. If one isn't offered, Visualping (mentioned above) can fill in and provide you with email updates when any blogroll is updated.

If you'd rather not add clutter to your email, [RSS feeds](#) are a super handy way to stay up to date with blogs. I suggest using Feedly to subscribe to any number of feeds. In cases where an RSS feed isn't available, try a service like [Kill the Newsletter](#). Otherwise, Visualping can generate an RSS feed for any page you monitor with the service.

Whatever your approach, signing up for these resources is another great way to keep regulatory updates coming your way. You'll know when there's a new regulation, whether it concerns you, and its requirements. With some strong curation, regularly glancing through a stack of subject lines in your inbox or your Feedly will help you stay attuned to valuable information that you might not have known to look for.

Final Thoughts: Regulatory Change Is Nonstop, but Manageable

The legal and regulatory environment continuously evolves. Especially in today's most highly-regulated industries, staying one step ahead of legislative updates, amended regulations, court precedents and anything else on the internet is one of the legal profession's most demanding hurdles.

With the help of these online strategies, legal professionals can more easily keep up with the updates that require their attention. And, with [Visualping](#), you can stay on top of the exact legal and regulatory changes that require your attention, from anywhere on the web, in real-time. [Contact their support team](#) for more information on how the tool can supplement your research today.

With the help of these asynchronous techniques, make keeping up with constant change more manageable.