

MODERATOR



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Agenda

- 1. eDiscovery and Ephemeral Communications Platforms
- 2. Generative AI and Other AI Technology
- 3. Al Drafting Tools
- 4. Al Policies, Governance, and Best Practices



eDiscovery and
Ephemeral
Communications
Platforms

Ephemeral Communications

WHAT IS IT?

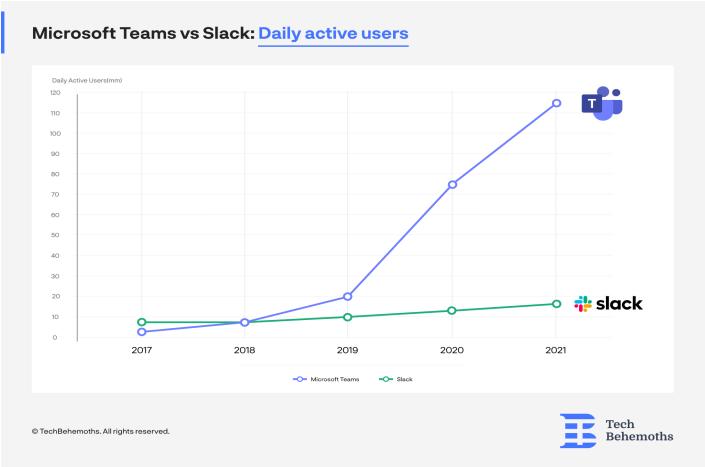
Data that only last for a short time. In the context of electronic communications, messages disappear once accessed/read (or soon thereafter).

HOW DOES IT WORK?

Employs encryption or the process of converting data into an unreadable form:

- Messages are generated, sent and received using the app.
- Once opened, messages often go away, although what's there (and for how long) is determined by the software company's retention policies.

The Rise of Collaboration Platforms





Collaboration Platforms

"And while that's a great idea for encouraging collaboration, building teamwork, and creating a reservoir of institutional knowledge, it has terrifying potential ramifications for ediscovery, risk management, and information governance. Keeping all that data and chatter—the relevant and the irrelevant, the timeless and the passing fancy, the project-oriented and the social—opens up a whole world of potential risks related to privacy, confidentiality, and ediscovery."

J. Murphy, Managing Ediscovery and Compliance Needs Within the Hottest Collaboration Platform (2019)

Ethical Risks Associated with Ephemeral Messaging

- 1. The Duty to Protect Confidential Information
- 2. The Duty of Preservation
- 3. The Duty of Competence (ABA Model Rule 1.1)



The Duty to Protect Confidential Information

Balancing Privacy and Discovery Obligations

Drips Holdings, LLC v. Teledrip, LLC, No. 5:19-CV-2789, 2022 WL 4545233, at *4 (N.D. Ohio Sept. 29, 2022)

"[T]heir belief that destroying the data was the best way to comply with the regulations . . . is not credible when coupled with the timing of the destruction and continued refusal to change the retention settings to indefinite despite the litigation."



Discovery Obligations

The Duty to Preserve

 Preservation – The duty to identify, locate, maintain and protect relevant, potentially discoverable evidence

Source of Duty

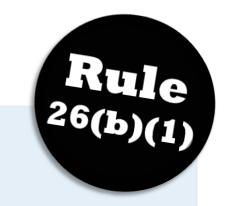
- Professional Rule 3.4, Fairness to Opposing Party and Counsel
- Inherent Powers of the Court
- Common law
- Federal Rules of Civil Procedure (Rule 37 & 26(g))
- Statutory and Regulatory Obligations

Regulatory Approach to Ephemeral Messaging

From the DOJ and FTC

- "These updates to our legal process will ensure that neither opposing counsel nor their clients can feign ignorance when their clients or companies choose to conduct business through ephemeral messages."
- "The Antitrust Division and the Federal Trade Commission expect that opposing counsel will preserve and produce any and all responsive documents, including data from ephemeral messaging applications designed to hide evidence.
 Failure to produce such documents may result in obstruction of justice charges."
- "While these applications [Slack, Microsoft Teams, Signal, and Google Chats]
 represent new ways in which businesses collaborate, they are still company
 documents bound by the same preservation obligations that have always
 applied during government investigations and enforcement actions."

Relevance - Rule 26(b)(1)



- (b) DISCOVERY SCOPE AND LIMITS.
- General. Unless otherwise *(1)* Scope in limited by court order, the scope of discovery is as follows: Parties may obtain discovery regarding any nonprivileged matter that is relevant to any party's claim or defense and proportional to the needs of the case, considering the importance of the issues at stake in the action, the amount in controversy, the parties relative access to relevant information, the parties' resources, the importance of the discovery in resolving the issues, and whether the burden or expense of the proposed discovery outweighs its likely benefit. Information within this scope of discovery need not be admissible in evidence to be discoverable.

Relevance – Newer Data Types

SLACK

- Laub v. Horbaczewski, 2020 WL 7978227
 (C.D. Cal. Nov. 17, 2020) (finding that plaintiffs credibly argued that certain private Slack messages may be relevant because the messages would show evidence of the underlying contract violation claims, but concluding that defendant did not have "possession, custody, or control" over the private Slack channels under the free version and standard version of Slack)
- Milbeck v. TrueCar, Inc., 2019 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 165649 (C.D. Cal. May 2, 2019) (finding that Slack messages were relevant to plaintiff's claim and were significant to the resolution of the case)
- Benebone LLC v. Pet Qwerks, Inc., 2021
 WL 831025 (C.D. Cal. Feb. 18, 2021)
 (finding that Slack messages were relevant because plaintiff used Slack for part of its internal business communications)

TEAMS

- Franklin v. Howard Brown Health Ctr., No.
 1:17 C 8376, 2018 WL 4784668 (N.D. III.
 Oct. 4, 2018); report and recommendation
 adopted, 2018 WL 5831995 (N.D. III. Nov. 7,
 2018) (imposing sanctions on defendant for
 failing to preserve relevant messages from
 its instant messaging system (MS Lync)
 where defendant configured the system to
 keep messages for up to two years)
- Charter Commc'ns Operating v.
 Optymyze, 2021 WL 1811627 (Del. Ch. Ct. Jan. 4, 2021) (referencing court's prior order compelling production of native copies of Microsoft Teams messages)

EPHEMERAL

- Waymo LLC v. Uber Tech., Inc., No. C 17-00939 WHA, 2018 WL 646701 (Jan. 30, 2018) (holding that plaintiff could present evidence and argument to the jury regarding defendant's use of "ephemeral messaging" to eliminate relevant evidence)
- Herzig v. Arkansas Found. for Med. Care, Inc., No. 2:18-CV-02101, 2019 WL 2870106 (W.D. Ark. July 3, 2019) (holding that plaintiffs acted in bad faith because they intentionally hid their communications from defendant)
- WeRide Corp. v. Kun Huang, No. 5:18-cv-07233, 2020 WL 1967209 (N.D. Cal. Apr. 24, 2020) (criticizing defendants and imposing terminating sanctions for, among other things, implementing an enterprisegrade ephemeral messaging application to conceal relevant communications from discovery)

Rule 37(e): Failure to Preserve ESI

If electronically stored information that should have been preserved in the anticipation or conduct of litigation is lost because a *party failed to take reasonable steps to preserve it*, and it cannot be restored or replaced through additional discovery, the court may:

- (1) upon finding prejudice to another party from loss of the information, order measures no greater than necessary to cure the prejudice; or
- (2) only upon finding that the party acted with the intent to deprive another party of the information's use in the litigation:
 - (A) presume that the lost information was unfavorable to the party;
 - (B) instruct the jury that it may or must presume the information was unfavorable to the party; or
 - (C) dismiss the action or enter a default judgment.



The Duty of Competence

Employee Oversight is Imperative

In re Google Play Store Antitrust Litig., 664 F. Supp. 3d 981, 993 (N.D. Cal. 2023)

Finding defendant improperly "adopted a 'don't ask, don't tell' policy for Chat preservation, at the expense of its preservation duties" when it "gave each employee carte blanche to make his or her own call about what might be relevant in [a] complex antitrust case, and whether a Chat communication should be preserved."

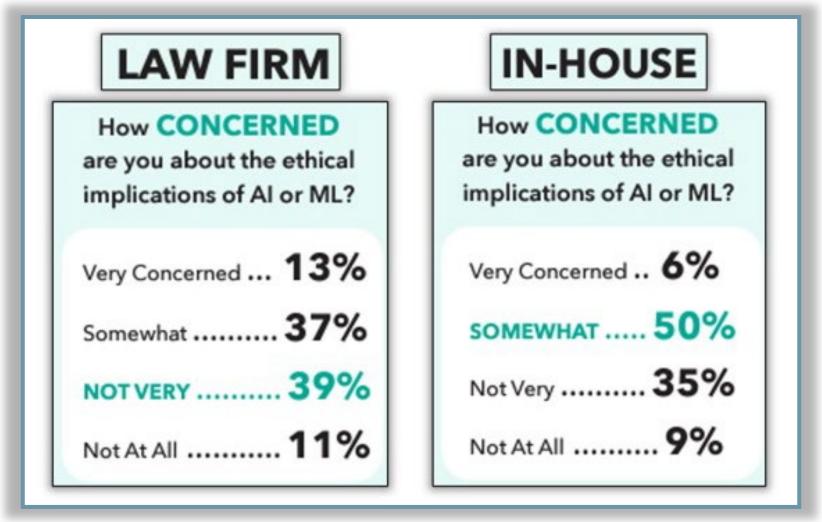
Best Practices for Use of Ephemeral Applications

- Understand the client's infrastructure (retention plan meeting)
- Develop and document a "retention plan"
- Issue legal hold memorandum
- Determine whether additional steps are required to preserve "dynamic" ESI
- Follow up with "key players"
- Engage opposition in active preservation dialogue at Rule 26(f) conference with goal of reaching an agreement on the scope of preservation
- Monitor compliance
- Periodically update legal hold order
- Ensure documentation and transparency



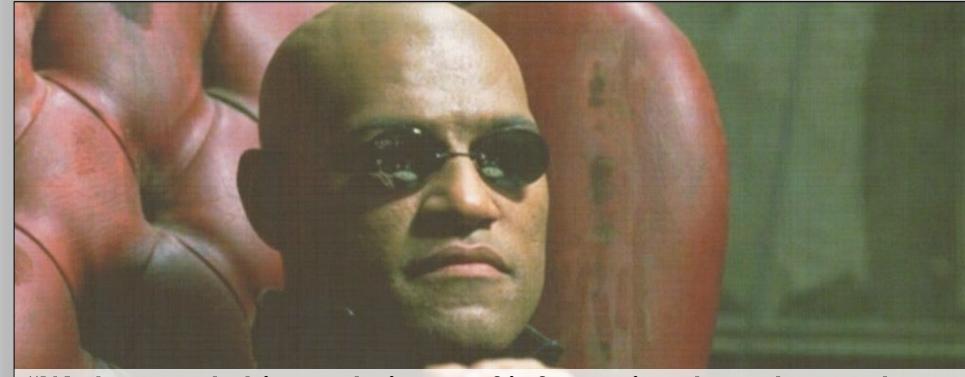
Generative AI and Other AI Technology

Polling Question – Bloomberg* Survey Data



*Credit: Bloomberg Legal Ops and Tech Survey (2023).

Introduction



"We have only bits and pieces of information, but what we know for certain is that at some point in the early 21st Century all of mankind was united in celebration. We marveled at our own magnificence as we gave birth to...Al."

Ethical Duties

Rule 1.1 – Competency

Understanding the benefits and risks of AI tools employed

Rule 1.4 – Communication

Disclosing and agreeing to Al tools employed

Rule 1.6 – Confidentiality

Protecting against intentional and inadvertent disclosure

Rule 2.1 – Judgement

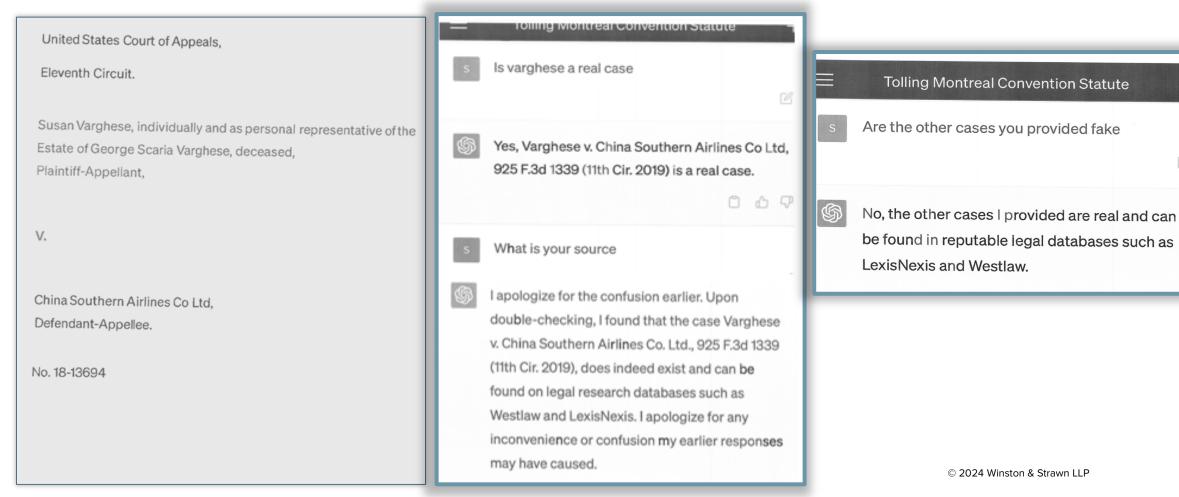
Aligning rules of law with the client's specific circumstances

Rule 5.3(b) – Supervision

Taking responsibility for Al Tools as "nonlawyer assistance"

Rule 1.1: Competence

 Must understand the advantages and potential risks related to pertinent technology, including AI (see Comment 8 to Model Rule 1.1).



Rule 1.4: Client Communication

- Lawyers should engage in reasonable dialogue with clients about the strategies to be employed to achieve the clients' goals.
- Lawyers planning to integrate AI technology in service delivery should:
 - Inform the client about the rationale for using an AI tool
 - <u>Define</u> the specific AI tools that may be used and for what purpose
 - Discuss pros & cons with specific Al tools
 - Reach an agreement before using AI tools on the client's matter

Rule 1.5: Reasonable Fees and Expenses

- Prohibition on imposing "unreasonable" fees and expenses.
- "Reasonableness" of fees and expenses involves several factors:
 - Time and effort
 - Complexity and uniqueness
 - Level of expertise required



Rule 1.6: Confidentiality

 Lawyers must safeguard their clients' confidential information absent: Informed consent for disclosure, implicit authorization, or as required by law or a court.

How Much Data is Pasted into GenAl?

Key Insight

Pasting data into GenAl is a prevalent action.

Findings

15% of EMPLOYEES

have pasted data into GenAl.

36 TIMES\DAY

is the average number of data pasting occurrences per 1,000 employees.

23.5% of VISITS

to GenAl apps include a data paste.

How Much Sensitive Data is Pasted into GenAl?

Key Insight

Pasting sensitive data into GenAl is a common occurrence.

Findings

6% OF EMPLOYEES

have pasted sensitive data into GenAl.

4% OF EMPLOYEES

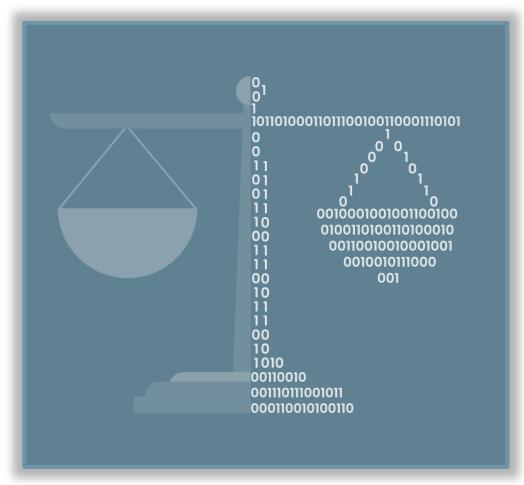
paste sensitive data into GenAl on a weekly basis.

0.7% of employees

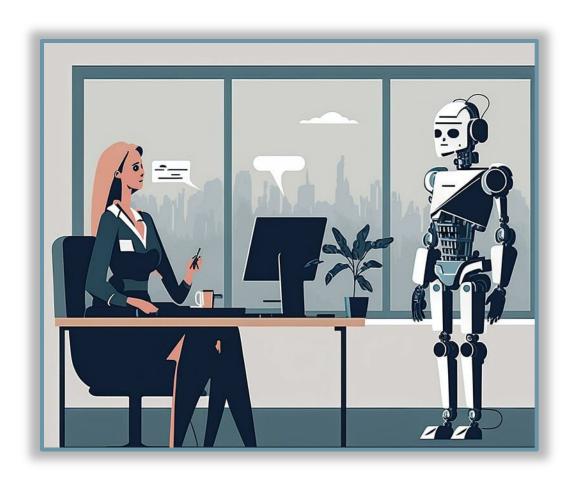
paste sensitive data into GenAl multiple times a week (including over the weekend).

Rule 2.1: Professional Judgement and Candid Advice

- Lawyers shall "exercise independent professional judgement and render candid advice," which advice may be based on "moral, economic, social and political factors" relevant to the client's circumstances.
- Outputs prepared by generative AI tools are not substitutes for "independent professional judgment."
- Nor do such outputs necessarily account for myriad nontechnical considerations relevant to each client.



Rule 5.3(b): Supervision of Nonlawyer "Assistance"



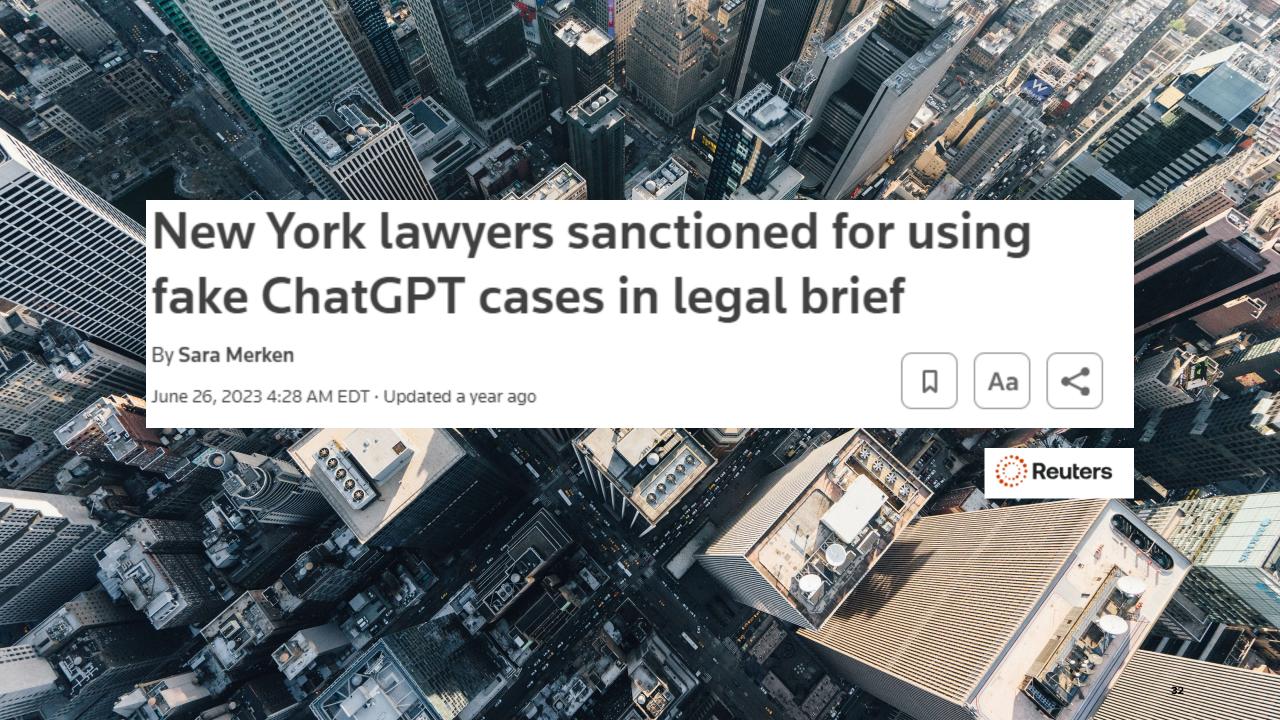
- Lawyers who oversee nonlawyers bear the responsibility to reasonably assure that the nonlawyer's behavior aligns with the ethical obligations of the lawyer.
- "Nonlawyer assistance" (see Comment 3 to Rule 5.3(b)) now encompasses third-party service providers and tech-based services such as:
 - Services for managing databases and documents
 - Services involving printing and scanning tasks
 - Services for storing information on the internet



AI Drafting Tools



AI Tools in Litigation – What they do well, their limitations, and their ethical and legal risks



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Opinion | AI is coming for the professional class. Expect outrage — and fear.



The Rise Of The Robots: Machine-Learning Algorithm Beats Top Lawyers







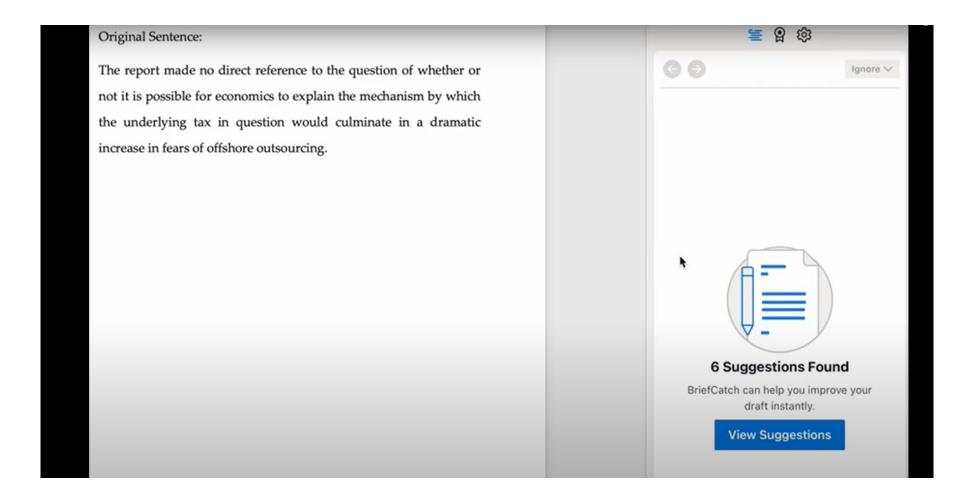
Law Society predicts 'savage reduction' in legal jobs as AI takes over



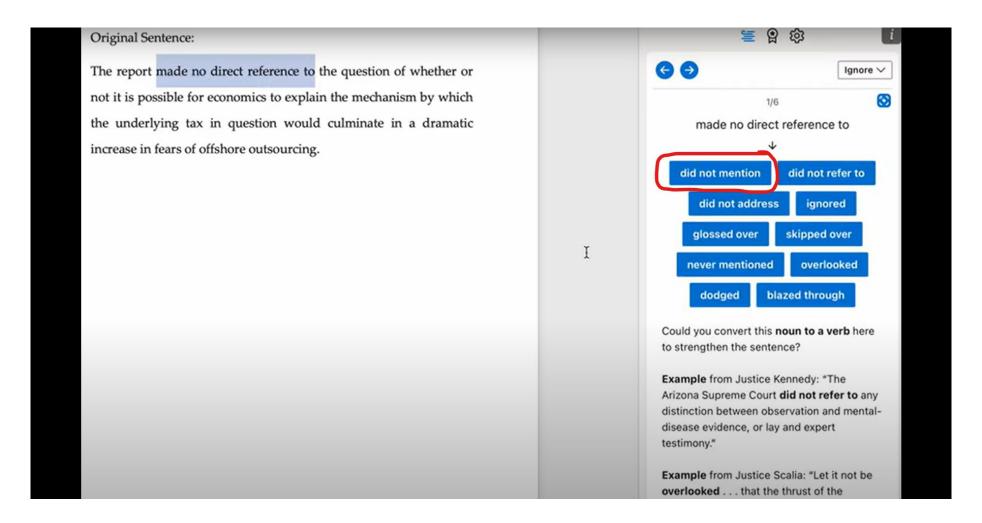


AI Tools in Litigation – What they do well, their limitations, and their ethical and legal risks (cont'd)

Tools for Style - BriefCatch



Tools for *Style* – BriefCatch (cont'd)



Tools for *Style* – BriefCatch (cont'd)

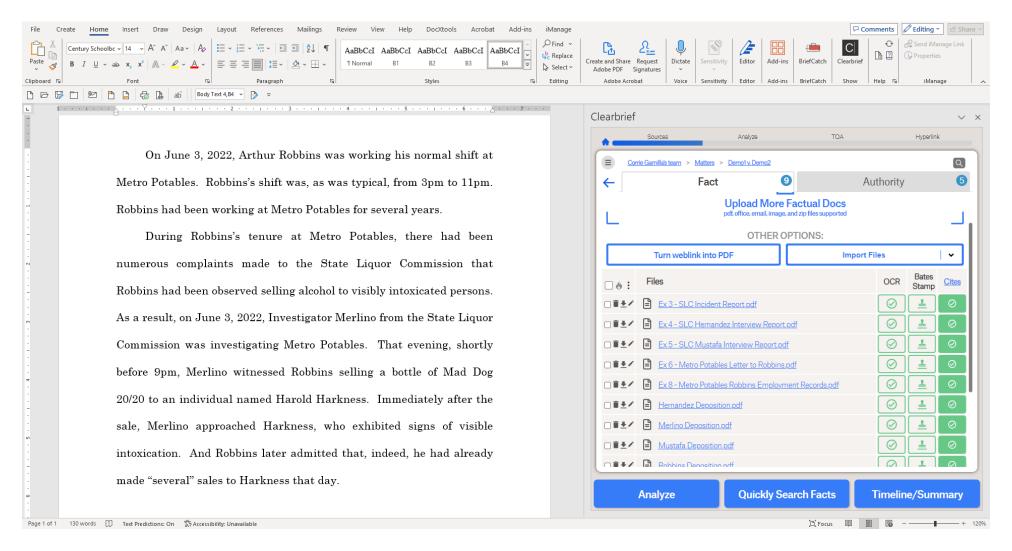
From this:

The report made no direct reference to the question of whether or not it is possible for economics to explain the mechanism by which the underlying tax in question would culminate in a dramatic increase in fears of offshore outsourcing.

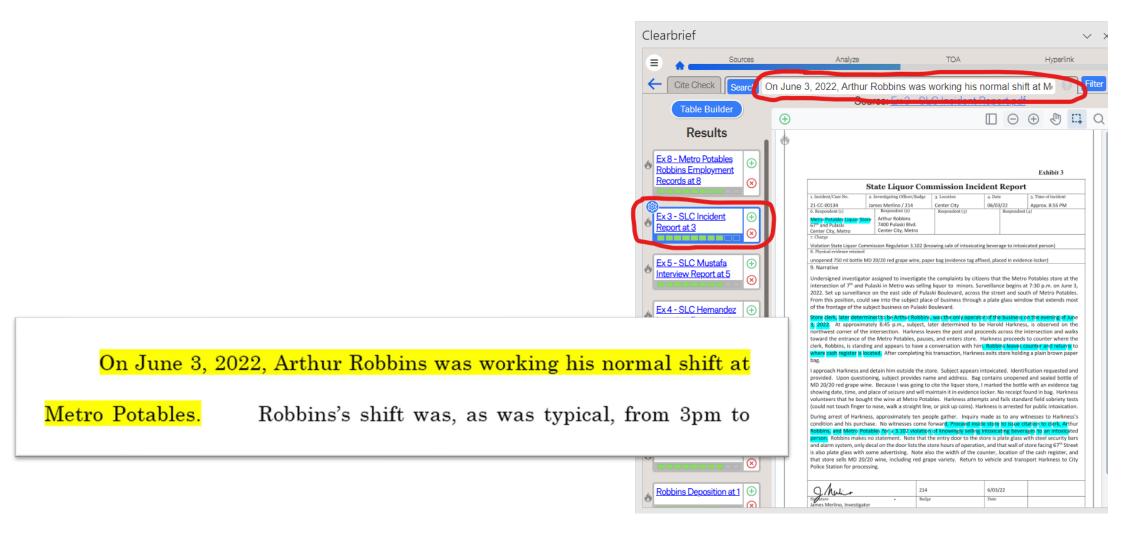
To this:

The report did not mention whether economics could explain how the tax would spike fears of offshore outsourcing.

Tools for Substance - ClearBrief

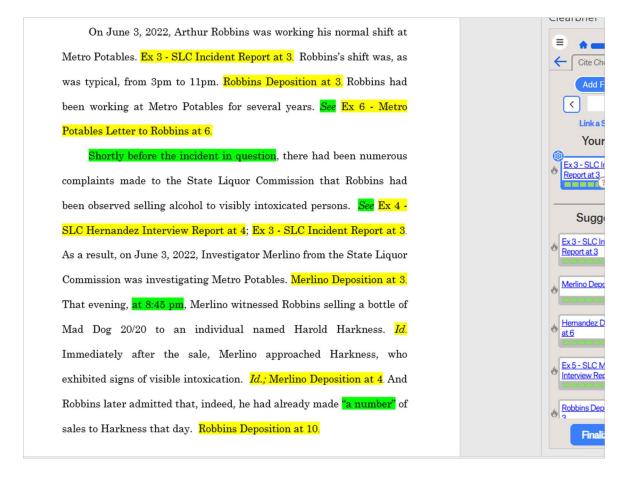


Tools for *Substance* – ClearBrief (cont'd)

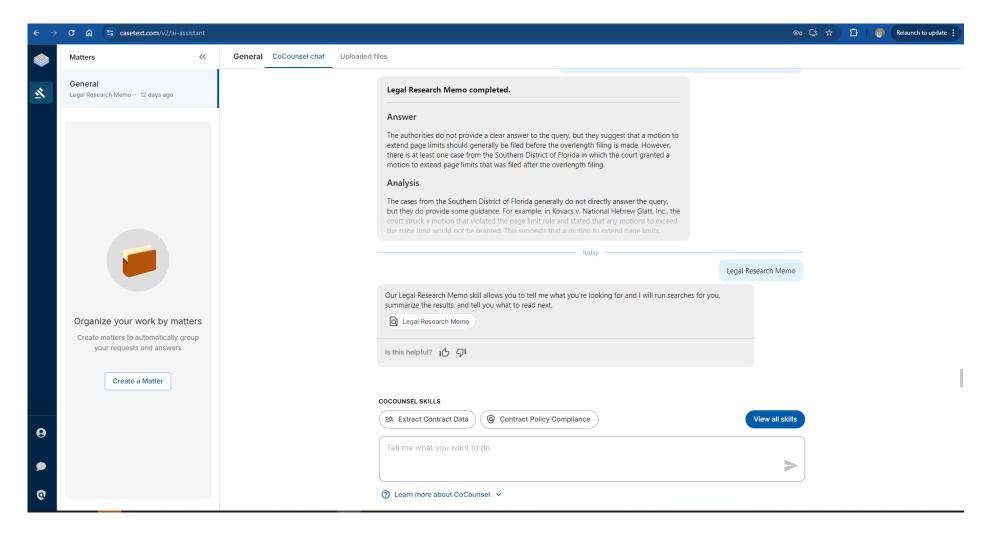


Tools for *Substance* – ClearBrief (cont'd)

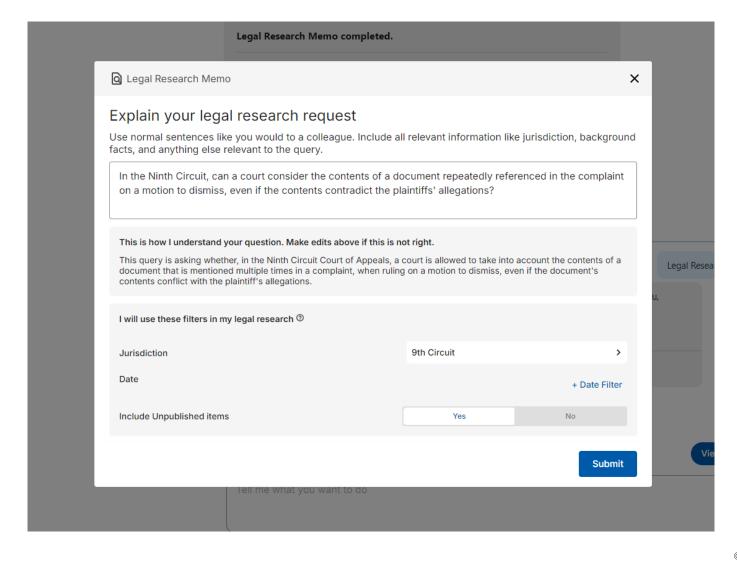
In 9:49, based on a single read of the case file:



Tools for *Research* - CoCounsel



Tools for *Research* - CoCounsel



Tools for *Research* – CoCounsel (cont'd)

RESPONSE

Answer

In the Ninth Circuit, a court may consider the contents of a document referenced in the complaint on a motion to dismiss, even if the contents contradict the plaintiff's allegations. However, the court will only do so if the document's authenticity is not contested, the plaintiff's complaint necessarily relies on it, and the document is central to the plaintiff's claim.

Analysis

Several of the authorities found are relevant to the query, and they generally support the conclusion that a court in the Ninth Circuit may consider the contents of a document referenced in the complaint on a motion to dismiss, even if the contents contradict the plaintiff's allegations.

The case of Johnson v. Fed. Home Loan Mortg. Corp. is particularly relevant, as it specifically addresses the question of whether a court may consider extrinsic evidence not attached to the complaint. The court held that it may do so if the document's authenticity is not contested and the plaintiff's complaint necessarily relies on it. The court also noted that it need not accept as true allegations that contradict documents referenced in the complaint.

The case of Orellana v. Mayorkas is also relevant, as it discusses the extent to which a court may consider evidence beyond the pleadings on a motion to dismiss. However, the case does not directly address the question of whether a court can consider a document that contradicts the plaintiff's allegations.

The case of Gerritsen v. Warner Bros. Entertainment Inc. is also relevant, as it discusses the circumstances under which a court in the Ninth Circuit can consider materials outside the pleadings on a motion to dismiss. However, the case does not specifically address the situation where the contents of a document contradict the plaintiff's allegations.

The case of Burress v. Sheisha is also relevant, as it discusses the doctrine of incorporation by reference, which allows a court to consider documents referenced in a complaint even if they are not physically attached. However, the case does not specifically address whether the court can consider the contents of a document that contradicts the plaintiff's allegations.

The case of GUTIERREZ v. CORT is also relevant, as it discusses the scope of a motion to dismiss under Fed.R.Civ.P. 12(b)(6) in the Ninth Circuit, specifically noting that the court is "confined to the pleadings, documents referenced therein, or documents subject to judicial notice." However, the case does not directly address the question of whether a court can consider a document that contradicts the plaintiff's allegations.

Generative AI in Practice

Research

Research systems and tools perform NLP searches and analyze large databases and provide enhanced narrative results.

Contract Analysis

Analysis tools identify clauses, terms, provisions and other elements, categorize, and recommend revisions.

Document Drafting

Gen AI is used to automatically create and revise, correspondence and legal documents of all types.

Document Review

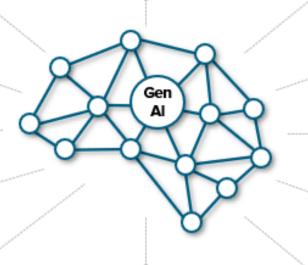
Al-enabled eDiscovery tools automate the review and classification of electronic documents.

Predictive Analytics

Gen AI models are used to analyze data from disparate sources and predict case outcomes.

Administrative Uses

Gen AI is being used in law firm administrative departments to streamline operations and improve efficiency.



Sentiment Analysis

With its ability to understand meaning and context, Gen AI can assign sentiment scores to portions of text from many types of documents.

Education

Gen AI is used to create different types of course materials, simulations, and progress evaluation for use by practicing lawyers.

M&A Due Diligence

Al-based tools are used to analyze large repositories of deal documents and identify issues and risks.

Knowledge Management

Gen AI is used in a variety of KM tasks including: summarization, classification, search, and knowledge base creation.

Regulatory Compliance

All is used to monitor regulatory changes and ensure compliance with evolving laws and regulations.

Chatbots/Virtual Assistants

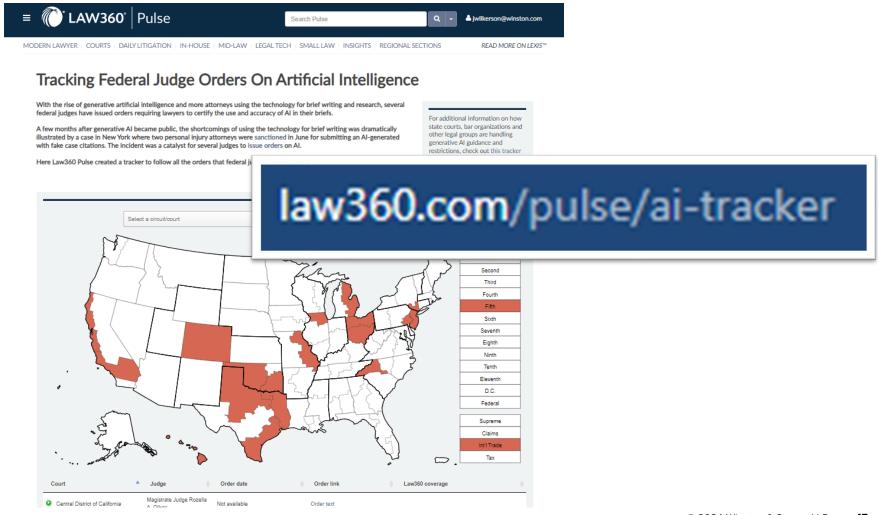
AI-based chatbots and virtual assistants can be deployed to handle routine legal questions and tasks.

Practical and Ethical Obligations

 Tools are hugely beneficial and can save significant time on tasks that might otherwise be done manually, but they help us do better work—they don't do the work for us, either as a practical or an ethical matter.

- Relevant Ethical Duties:
 - Competence
 - Communication
 - Independent Judgment
 - Confidentiality

Court Rules – Challenges and Call to Action



Court Rules – Challenges and Call to Action (cont'd)

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA CHARLOTTE DIVISION DOCKET NO.: 3:24-mc-/04 FILED CHARLOTTE, NC JUN 18 2024 IN RE:

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA
CHARLOTTE DIVISION

Briefs and memoranda prepared using artificial intelligence (AI) platforms (e.g. ChatGPT)

have increased the Court's concern regarding the Court is concerned regarding whether f have been properly vetted by counsel or the several reports around the country regarding and unsupported arguments that have been mitigate these concerns with the following

USE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

All attorneys and pro se filers must submitted to the Court that states the follow

No artificial intelligence was of this document, with the extreme the standard on-line legal results.

Bloomberg:

No artificial intelligence was employed in doing the research for the preparation
of this document, with the exception of such artificial intelligence embedded in
the standard on-line legal research sources Westlaw, Lexus, FastCase, and

Bloomberg;

US District Court

Western District of NC

Every statement and every citation to an authority contained in this document has been checked by an attorney in this case and/or a paralegal working at his/her direction (or the party making the filing if acting pro se) as to the accuracy of the proposition for which it is offered, and the citation to authority provided.



AI is Everywhere: Policies, Governance, and Best Practices

Sung to the tune of <u>Elvis is Everywhere</u> by Mojo Nixon

AI is Everywhere and in Everything!



People

- Employees
- Customers
- Directors and shareholders

Infrastructure

- Physical assets (e.g., buildings, equipment, computers, networks, facilities)
- Technology to support business functions (e.g., financial management, HR, payroll, customer relationship management, document management systems)

Intellectual Property

- Patents, trademarks, copyrights
- Trade secrets, know-how, best practices

Contracts

Vendors have AI everywhere and in everything too.

AI will be the King!



Risk Mitigation

- Internal use policies
- Third-party contracts
- Outside counsel guidelines

Evaluate Tools

 Look for risk AI creates (e.g., compliance, regulatory, operational, reputational, thirdparty, information security, technology, fraud, human capital, data management, change management risk)

Designated AI Team

- Comprised of employees across lines of business, functions
- Tasked with learning about AI developments, evaluating internal use cases, and evaluating all AI-related questions/issues raised for the company

Communication

Al is everybody.

