

Changes Coming to Casemaker

Member benefit update from OSBA CEO Mary Amos Augsburger

Change brings opportunity. We don't often like to hear it, but it is true.

Change is coming to Casemaker — one of our longtime member benefits. And while we'll be working overtime the next couple of months to guide users through it, we are excited about the opportunity we have to help streamline and boost your legal research capabilities.

Casemaker - Fastcase Merger

Providing Ohio lawyers access to affordable legal research is just one of the ways the OSBA fulfills its critical mission to promote justice and advance the legal profession. In fact, more than 30 years ago at a time when the internet was still in its infancy, the OSBA partnered with a Cincinnati attorney, and later, fellow state bar associations to create and build out a comprehensive, online legal research database that would become Casemaker.

Though the OSBA sold the company in 2008, we have continued to offer access to Casemaker as a complimentary benefit of OSBA membership. Over the years, the tool and company have grown and evolved and recently, Casemaker announced that it was merging with one of its competitor platforms, Fastcase.

We recently learned that as part of this merger, Casemaker and Fastcase now intend to consolidate platforms in order to invest their full attention, customer service, innovation and security resources into Fastcase. In doing so, they plan to sunset Casemaker for Ohio users this September.

What This Means for OSBA Members

Between now and September, OSBA members will have **access to both platforms**. It is our hope that during this transition, you will take an opportunity to familiarize yourself with Fastcase and to

provide us your feedback. You can access Fastcase and Casemaker by logging in through your Ohiobar.org account and using the Casemaker quick link on your member dashboard.

To assist with the transition, Fastcase is offering **free training webinars**, many of which have been approved for Ohio CLE credit and extended hours for its customer service helpline at (866) 773-2782 or support@fastcase.com, which offers access to a law librarian to help with more in-depth research questions.

Ohio Jury Instructions. Never fear, they will still be available to you at no charge, however, for the time being, please continue to access them through Casemaker. More to come on that.

Give Fastcase a Try and Tell Us What You Think

There are a number of advantages to using Fastcase, including more robust databases and searches and an interface that has been described by attorney users as a more intuitive and streamlined. As you begin to explore and familiarize yourself with its features, we'd love to hear what you think!

We've posted a <u>short, online survey</u> where you can easily share your feedback and if you are willing, to tell us a little more about your online legal research needs and preferences as we continue to innovate and provide you with the tools and resources you need to be efficient and successful in your practice.

Always Looking Ahead

There is no doubt — this a big change for the OSBA and especially for our longtime members, many of whom were involved with the Casemaker project at its inception. As we look to closing this proud chapter in our Association's rich history, we always have our eye on the future. In fact, we'll have some more exciting and enhanced practice resources coming your way later this summer. Please stay tuned and as always, thank you for your membership and support.

In fellowship,

Mary Amos Augsburger, CEO

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