

WHO IS JOHN SMITH?

San Diego and California sources for digging up dirt



Public records are designed to protect the public by providing notice of facts or legal interests. They register assets, financial actions, business relationships, political and charitable contributions, court actions and vital statistics. Most public records online only index documents available elsewhere. Commercial vendors generally offer more complete records than free Web sources, but coverage and currency varies by location.

John Smith. . .

- ❖ was born - CA birth records from 1905-1995 www.vitalssearch-ca.com/gen/ca/_vitals/cabirthm.htm
- ❖ is deceased - RootsWeb's Social Security Death Index has over 71 million records ssdi.rootsweb.com/. RootsWeb's SDDI for CA has over 9 million records userdb.rootsweb.com/ca/death/search.cgi.
- ❖ has a phone number and address - Search directories - people.yahoo.com/, www.argali.com/, www.freeality.com/findet.htm www.anywho.com/index.html, www.smartpages.com/,
- ❖ has previous addresses, relatives, associates, SSN - Accurint or Nexis credit header report. Merlin Data merlindata.com/ or Melissa Data www.melissadata.com/ \$4.95 and up.
- ❖ lives in a neighborhood - map of area or get driving directions www.mapquest.com, maps.google.com/.
- ❖ bought, sold or owns real estate - Search San Diego County Assessor for assessed value listings by address or parcel number. Search Grantor/Grantee index by name. www.sdarcc.com/arcc/online_services.aspx
- ❖ drives - CA DMV information is restricted - DPPA.
- ❖ has a pilots license or plane - www.landings.com/, www.faa.gov/licenses_certificates/.
- ❖ owns a gun - state or county licensing
- ❖ votes - San Diego County Registrar of Voters @ (858)565-5800.
- ❖ makes campaign contributions - www.politicalmoneyline.com/, cal-access.ss.ca.gov/, www.fec.gov/, <http://face.netfile.com/public/home?aid=CSD>. Contact city or county election agencies for additional local campaign contributions.
- ❖ holds a business or professional license - CA medical licenses www.medbd.ca.gov/Lookup.htm. CA liquor license board www.abc.ca.gov/datport/LQSMenu.html. CA real estate agents www.dre.ca.gov/licstats.htm and teachers <https://teachercred.ctc.ca.gov/teachers/index.jsp>
- ❖ owns a business - San Diego County Fictitious Business Name www.sdarcc.com/arcc/online_services.aspx CA Secretary of State Corporate and LP/LLC kepler.ss.ca.gov/list.html. National Association of Secretary of States gateway to state Web sites www.nass.org/. Millions of small businesses register with the SBA dsbs.sba.gov/dsbs/dsp_dsbs.cfm. Publicly traded company www.sec.gov/, www.secinfo.com/, www.10kwizard.com/ and <http://freedgar.com/>. Check the business tax department for the city.
- ❖ conducts medical or scientific research - Medline www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov
- ❖ invented something - patents.uspto.gov
- ❖ runs a charity - Guidestar www.guidestar.org/. CA Attorney General Charitable Trust search justice.hdcdojnet.state.ca.us/charitysr/default.asp. Search IRS Publication 78 to see if an organization is registered as a 501(c)(3) apps.irs.gov/app/pub78.
- ❖ runs a Web site - www.netsol.com/cgi-bin/whois/whois or www.whois.net/
- ❖ is in the military - Media may fax form to (314)538-2530 and call with SSN to (314) 538-2050 to confirm whether record exists. www.archives.gov/facilities/mo/st_louis/military_personnel_records/standard_form_180.html. Military unit and buddy finder www.military.com/Military/Locator/New/Splash/?loc=L2 (reg. req.)
- ❖ was involved in a lawsuit, bankruptcy, divorce, probate, criminal or traffic violations -Federal courts at Pacer pacer.psc.uscourts.gov/ (reg. req.), \$.08 a page). San Diego County www.sdcourt.ca.gov/, Los Angeles County www.lasuperiorcourt.org/ and Sacramento County www.saccourt.com/. Bankruptcies involving public companies from 1980 lopucki.law.ucla.edu. Public records sites listed by state www.searchsystems.net
- ❖ is in jail, has a warrant, is a registered sex offender or is on San Diego's most wanted list - San Diego County Sheriff's Department www.sdsheriff.net/home/.
- ❖ is in prison - Federal Bureau of Prisons Inmate Locator includes all Federal inmates from 1982 to present www.bop.gov/iloc2/Locatelnmate.jsp. CA Department of Corrections media inmate check line @ (916) 557-5933. CDC number or full name and DOB required.

Don't forget to check the obvious sources!



Vendors such as Accurint, LexisNexis, AutoTrack and ChoicePoint provide subscribers with access to multiple public records including corporation filings, bankruptcies, liens and lawsuits.