

Discover how Vivian Williams P.C.,
a top-rated New York small law firm,
adopted Lexis® for Microsoft Office®

Overview

Location: New York, NY

Industry: Legal services

Customer Profile: Vivian Williams, P.C. is a New York law firm founded in 2004. The firm's practice areas include Real Estate, Bankruptcy, Foreclosure, Criminal Defense, Civil Litigation and Immigration.

Business Situation: As the Principal of a boutique litigation firm, Mr. Vivian Williams was frustrated by the challenge of working in multiple windows while composing briefs and pleadings. He found the constant interruption of workflow to be highly inefficient and discussed his frustration with a representative from LexisNexis.

Solution: Mr. Williams' LexisNexis® representative demonstrated Lexis® for Microsoft Office®, an exclusive offering from LexisNexis that leverages the seamless integration of LexisNexis legal research content and the open Web with Microsoft® Office® applications attorneys use every day. The professionals at the Williams firm immediately realized the possibilities of this new offering and decided to include Lexis for Microsoft Office in its new legal research contract.

Results:

- **Timesavings**—By using Lexis for Microsoft Office, the Williams firm is able to eliminate the time-consuming inefficiencies of toggling between multiple windows and reduce the time required to prepare a typical brief by approximately 65%.
- **Quality of Work**—Williams estimates that the strength of his work product has been improved by 50% in quality since adopting Lexis for Microsoft Office.
- **Reduced Stress**—The Williams firm has discovered that Lexis for Microsoft Office makes the firm more productive, efficient and organized, thereby reducing the stress level in the office.

Product Summary: Research Solutions

- Lexis for Microsoft Office
-

A small firm looking for big solutions

Vivian Williams, P.C. is a general service New York law firm founded in 2004. The firm's Principal is Mr. Vivian M. Williams, a New York state and federal attorney with experience in trial and appellate advocacy in state and federal courts. Williams has master of laws degrees in intellectual property and media law, as well as comparative international law. His areas of legal expertise include case management and billing practice, research and technology, real estate, immigration, bankruptcy and criminal law.

The firm's practice areas include Real Estate, Bankruptcy, Foreclosure, Criminal Defense, Civil Litigation and Immigration. With respect to litigation, the Williams firm offers legal services in the New York State courts and Federal District Courts. The federal practice includes federal civil litigation; federal criminal defense; bankruptcy; and federal appeals, including appeals taken before the United States Supreme Court.

In addition to his legal career, Williams has more than 10 years of experience as a journalist, interviewing many world leaders, celebrities and entertainers. He is also a playwright who has written more than a dozen plays that have been staged in the Caribbean and New York.

“As soon as I saw the demo, I realized immediately the tremendous possibilities this new offering would afford us to improve our workflow efficiencies.”

—Vivian M. Williams, Esq.
Principal, Vivian M. Williams & Associates

Situation

As the Principal of a boutique litigation firm, Williams is always seeking to maximize efficiencies and find ways to do more work with fewer staff resources.

“One of the nagging workflow challenges that I found very frustrating was the need to toggle back and forth between multiple open windows on my desktop while composing briefs, pleadings, motions and other litigation documents,” said Williams. “I’d start drafting a brief in one window, switch over to another window to track down some legal research, click into another one in order to pull up and email, and so on.”

Williams found the constant interruption of workflow to be very time-consuming and highly inefficient. He was convinced there had to be a better way and discussed his frustration with a representative from LexisNexis.

Solution

Mr. Williams’ LexisNexis® representative demonstrated Lexis® *for* Microsoft Office®, an exclusive offering from LexisNexis that leverages the seamless integration of LexisNexis legal research content and the open Web with Microsoft® Office® applications attorneys use every day.

“As soon as I saw the demo, I realized immediately the tremendous possibilities this new offering would afford us to improve our workflow efficiencies,” said Williams.

Lexis *for* Microsoft Office is a drafting and review tool that significantly cuts down on the time it takes for lawyers and other legal professionals to draft or respond to legal documents, such as briefs, pleadings or motions. It achieves this by running right within the Microsoft Word documents or Microsoft Outlook® emails in which most legal writing takes place. For example, while reviewing a Word document or an Outlook email message, users can seamlessly access content and resources from LexisNexis, the open Web, or their law firm or corporate files.

“Honestly, it was a ‘no brainer’ for me,” recalls Williams. “Lexis *for* Microsoft Office was the realization of the solution I was seeking. I knew this was the software that I needed and just hadn’t yet conceptualized.”

The professionals at the Williams firm recognized the tremendous value of this new offering and decided to include Lexis *for* Microsoft Office in its new legal research contract.

“By using Lexis for Microsoft Office, we’ve been able to reduce the time required to prepare a typical brief in our office by approximately 65 percent. We no longer need to toggle among open windows and chase down research in another application while in the middle of drafting a brief.”

—Vivian M. Williams, Esq.
Principal, Vivian M. Williams & Associates

Results

Williams identified three specific benefits that his firm has realized:

1. Timesavings of 65%

“By using Lexis for Microsoft Office, we’ve been able to reduce the time required to prepare a typical brief in our office by approximately 65 percent,” said Williams. He attributes this amazing result to the way that Lexis for Microsoft Office streamlines the workflow and reduces interruptions while a professional is working on a document. “We no longer need to toggle among open windows and chase down research in another application while in the middle of drafting a brief.”

2. Quality of Work Improved by 50%

Williams estimates that the strength of his work product has been improved by 50 percent in quality since adopting Lexis for Microsoft Office. “This has been a welcome surprise to me,” observed Williams. “The reason for this improvement in quality is simple: the software allows me to think more clearly and communicate my thoughts more effectively because it’s organized in a way that maps right along with my workflow.”

3. Reduced Stress

“Litigators typically live high-stress lives and we have a lot of pressure on us every day,” said Williams. “We’ve discovered that Lexis for Microsoft Office helps to reduce this stress and anxiety because it stimulates us to do better work and—in the process—makes us more productive, efficient and organized.” The Williams firm reports a tangible reduction in office stress levels since adopting Lexis for Microsoft Office.

“Litigators often work in a world of chaos and we need simple tools that bring order to this world,” said Williams. “Lexis for Microsoft Office does that for our firm because it enables us to work in a systematic way without the distraction of interruption and helps us bring all of those pieces into clear view.”

Conclusion

“Since we acquired it last year, Lexis for Microsoft Office has proven to be a terrific tool for our firm because it works seamlessly in the same workflow that a litigator works in every day,” said Williams. “It brings together all of the elements of my work product into one integrated window on my computer.”



Vivian M. Williams, Esq.

Vivian M. Williams is a New York attorney with 10 years litigating experience at the New York Bar. He also has substantial federal experience in Federal District Courts and Court of Appeals.

Vivian Williams is a 2003 graduate of Benjamin Cardozo School of Law where he obtained a Master of Laws degree. He also obtained a law degree and an undergraduate degree in Communication from the University of Guyana, where he lived before migrating to New York.

Real Estate Litigation, Bankruptcy, Civil Litigation, and Criminal Defense are some key areas that Vivian Williams practices with a degree of success. He has won back properties that were already sold at foreclosure auctions in major real estate litigation against some of the nation's top banks.

Vivian Williams brings to the practice of law the eyes, ears and instinct of a journalist having worked as an investigative journalist for more than 10 years before becoming an attorney. He places great emphasis on research and investigation in litigating cases. His attention to details and the range of research investigation tools he employs in his practice have resulted in great success for his clients.

Apart from his admission to the New York Bar, Vivian M. Williams, is also admitted to the United States District Courts for the Eastern and Southern District of New York, the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit and the United States Supreme Court. He has a number of reported decisions.

Over the years Vivian M. Williams has developed a reputation for aggressively representing his clients and for creative payment options that make access to high-quality legal representation more accessible.

The opinions expressed within this case study represent customer opinions. LexisNexis believes this case study experience generally represents the experience found with other similar customer situations. However, each customer will have its own subjective goals and requirements and will subscribe to different combinations of LexisNexis services to suit those specific goals and requirements. This case study may not be deemed to create any warranty or representation that any other customer's experience will be the same as the experience identified herein. LexisNexis uses the customer's trademarks herein with the customer's permission.

About LexisNexis

LexisNexis® Legal & Professional (www.lexisnexis.com) is a leading global provider of content and technology solutions that enable professionals in legal, corporate, tax, government, academic and non-profit organizations to make informed decisions and achieve better business outcomes. As a digital pioneer, the company was the first to bring legal and business information online with its Lexis® and Nexis® services. Today, LexisNexis Legal & Professional harnesses leading-edge technology and world-class content, to help professionals work in faster, easier and more effective ways. Through close collaboration with its customers, the company ensures organizations can leverage its solutions to reduce risk, improve productivity, increase profitability and grow their business. Part of Reed Elsevier, LexisNexis Legal & Professional serves customers in more than 100 countries with 10,000 employees worldwide.

