**A REVIEW OF THE SECONDARY SOURCES OF LAW IN NIGERIA.**

**COURSE CODE: LAW 102**

**BY**

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The secondary sources of law are the indirect ways we get our law. Save for law reports, secondary sources of law are very persuasive in the court of law. Law reports are only authoritative due to the fact that they serve as the vehicle through which judicial precedent is carried examples of secondary sources of law include;

1. Law reports
2. Textbooks
3. Journals and legal digests
4. Casebooks
5. Legal dictionaries
6. Newspapers

Law reports; this is a compilation of judgement of other courts over broad areas like company law, administrative law etc. Law reports are published either weekly or monthly i.e. periodically.

Legal textbooks; textbooks are notes that shade more insight on a particular topic. They are usually published to give more knowledge about a particular subject. Legal textbooks carry information pertaining to law and law subjects.

Legal journals; these are written by journalists that have their own perspective view about something that connects with law and others. They pen this down and publish I and this can serve as a secondary source of law.

Casebooks; casebooks are a compilation of court proceedings and their judgement it contains some or most of the cases that are taken to court either weekly or monthly.

The distinction between primary and secondary sources of law is very useful in determining authorities to follow in the law courts. If a case is brought before a court and one litigator uses a primary source of law as his authority while the other makes use of secondary source of law the scale of justice will tilt towards the person who presents primary sources of law irrespective of the number of secondary sources presented. Secondary sources of law are only presented when there are no primary sources of law to fall back on.