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# LRR Focus: Tips for Researching Your Boss

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## LRR Focus: Tips for Researching Your Boss

### **Abstract**

[Excerpt] Talk to the workers who often know a lot even if they don't know they do. Also, mobilizing employees to research their own employer can be useful organizing tactic for the union to build strength for a fight.

### **Keywords**

labor movement, unions, stewards, research, employer, organizing

## LRR FOCUS: Tips for Researching Your Boss

- Talk to the workers who often know a lot even if they don't know they do. Also, mobilizing employees to research their own employer can be useful organizing tactic for the union to build strength for a fight.
- Be creative—and be diligent. There are many ways to gather information so consult with experienced researchers, keep an open mind to try out some ideas of your own and be ready to slog through piles of records to find that useful nugget.
- Get information from the government. Records generally exist for most business regulations such as OSHA, EEO, and environmental and securities matters. Exercise your rights provided by the Freedom of Information Act. Obscure regulatory filings are a treasure trove of corporate and financial documents.
- There is a multitude of business information sources out there. The press is invaluable—read it daily, look at old clippings, talk to reporters (who are often expert on a company or industry or person and sometimes willing to exchange information). Local public and university libraries, including business school libraries, court records (civil, criminal, tax, probate, and divorce courts), trade associations, commercial business information databases, and business licensing records can all add to the profile.