Anatomy of the Bluebook

• Inside back cover
  *Court Documents & Legal Memoranda*

• Blue pages
  *How-to Guide for basic legal citation*

• Tables
  *Which authority to cite, how to abbreviate properly, etc.*

• INDEX
Legal Citation

Basic Model

Name | Volume/Title | Source | Page/Section (Year)

Journal Article:  

Case:  

Statute:  

Regulation:  
Legal Citation

Symbols

§ = “Section”
§ § = “Sections”
¶ = “Paragraph”

Abbreviations

v. = vs. = “versus” (or “against” if it’s a criminal case)
id. = ibid. = ibidem = “in the same place”
et al. = et alia = “and the others”
Citing Cases

• Elements of a full cite—Bluebook  
  Rule 10, p. 94
  • Spaces—Rule 10
  • Case name abbreviations—Table 6,  
    p. 496
  • Court names abbreviations—Table 7,  
    p. 498
  • Geographical abbreviations—Table 10,  
    p. 502
Case names: *Rule 10.2, p. 96*

Required case name abbreviations, see Rule 10.2.2, and Table 6

Comma following case name, see Rule B10.1.1, and Rule 10

**TSC Indus., Inc. v. Ga. Prod.,**

Case names should be underlined up to, but not including, the comma. See Rule B10.1.1

“Versus” abbreviation, see Rule 10 illustration, and rule B10.1.1

Required geographical abbreviations in case names, see Rule 10.2.2, and Table 10
Reporters: *Rule 10.3, p.102*

**Reporter name and abbreviation:** see Rule 10.3.2, and Table 1

**For spacing of abbreviations:** see Rule 6.1

**Reporter volume designated:** see Rule 10.3.2, and Rule 3.1

426 S.E.2d 438, 449

**Starting page designated:** see Rule 10.3.2, and Rule 3.2

**A pin cite follows the initial page number of the case,** followed by a comma and one space. See Rule B10.1.2
Jurisdiction and year: *Rules 10.4, p. 104, and 10.5, p.106*

**Parenthetical:** The citation should include a parenthetical with the jurisdiction (if not indicated by the reporter name) and then the year, separated by one space (no comma). See Rule B10.1.3, and Rules 10.4 and 10.5.

For court and jurisdiction designation, see Rule 10.4 and Table 1.

For date of case designation, see Rule 10.5.


For court name abbreviations, see Blue Book rule 10.4, and Table 1, and Table 7.

There should be no comma within the court and year parenthetical. See Rule B10.1.3.
Spacing in case citations

Cases: *Rule 10, p. 94*

- **Pin cite**: 426 S.E.2d 438
- **Jurisdiction**: Georgia
- **Date**: 1976
Statutes

Find the mistake(s) for this print citation:

42 USCS § 1861 (2012).
Statutes: *Rule 12, p. 120*

42 U.S.C.S. § 1861 *(Lexis 2012).*
Statutes: Rule 12.5, p. 126

Citing Statutes

• Elements of a full cite
  • *Rule B12.1, p. 18*
  • *Rule 12.1.1* (cite to official version, currently in force.)
  • *Table 1, p. 233* (locate official version.)

• Electronic Versions
  • *Rule 12.5, p. 126*

• Spaces
  • *Rule 12, p. 120*

• Abbreviations
  • *Table 10, p. 502*
Statutes: Rule 12

See Rule 12 and Table 1 for general information on citing federal statutes.

Name is used only rarely when citing to a code. See Rule 12.3.1(a)

Code sections are indicated using the section symbol (§). See Rule B12.1.1


Designate title, chapter or volume of the code, as well as section number. See Rule 12.3.1(a) & (b)

To determine the correct year, see Rule 12.3.2 OR Rule 12.5 and Table 1
For abbreviation of code names, see Table 1

For publisher designation, see Rule 12.3.1(d) and Table 1.


To determine the correct year, see Rule 12.3.2 OR Rule 12.5, and Table 1.
Spacing in statute citations

Secondary Sources

Which one is correct?


Secondary Sources

*These versions are correct.*


Secondary Sources

• Books and other non-periodicals Rule 15
  • *(Rule 15, Books, Reports, and other Nonperiodic Materials, p. 149)*

• Periodicals Rule 16
  • *(Rule 16, Periodical Materials, p. 159)*

• ALR, Am Jur, CJS, etc.
  • Check the Bluebook Index for an entry for that title
Periodicals

Title abbreviations *Table 13, p. 510*

• Consecutively paginated R. 16.4

• Non Consecutively paginated, *Rule 16.5, p. 162*
Books

Rule 15, p. 149

Find the mistake(s):


See index to cite secondary sources, look under ALR, Rule 16.7.6, p. 168

This version is correct.
Now it’s your turn

Create a citation from the following text.
Doug Miller Jr. sued the Association of Consolidated Computer Construction Engineers. The decision was rendered on August 3\textsuperscript{rd}, 2005 by the 2\textsuperscript{nd} district appellate court of Illinois. It was reported on page 366 of vol 98 in the regional reporter that covers that jurisdiction. Assume you are not in Illinois.
Doug Miller Jr. sued the Association of Consolidated Computer Construction Engineers. The decision was rendered on August 3rd, 2005 by the 2nd district appellate court of Illinois. It was reported on page 366 of vol 98 in the regional reporter that covers that jurisdiction. Assume you are not in Illinois.


- Rule 10.4, Court and Jurisdiction, p. 104
- Rule 10.5, Date or Year, p. 106
- T1, United States Jurisdictions, p. 233
- T7, Court Names, p. 498
- T6, Case Names & Institutional Authors, p. 496
Debra Patel and her partner Elliot Mercer sued Autoshops of Miami as their corporation Patel and Mercer Limited, Incorporated. The final opinion was rendered on Feb. 8, 2011 by the 1st federal circuit court and expressly selected for publication on page 53 of vol 87 in the applicable federal reporter.

Please provide the citation to this case.
Debra Patel and her partner Elliot Mercer sued Autoshops of Miami as their corporation Patel and Mercer Limited, Incorporated. The final opinion was rendered on Feb. 8, 2011 by the 1st federal circuit court and expressly selected for publication on page 53 of vol 87 in the applicable federal reporter.

Please provide the citation to this case.

Patel & Mercer Ltd. v. Autoshops of Miami, 87 F.3d 53 (1st Cir. 2011).

• R10.2.1 (h), Business Firm Designations, p. 100
• R10.2.1(f), Geographical terms, p. 99
Sally Smith and her husband Rob Lopez sued their neighbor Eugene Gerard. This case was consolidated with one where Debra Sneed sued Louis Johnson. This consolidated case was finally decided by the West Virginia Supreme Court on July 11, 2006.

The case was reported in the 214th volume of the state’s regional reporter on page 35. Please provide the citation to this case. Assume you are not citing this case to a West Virginia court.
Sally Smith and her husband Rob Lopez sued their neighbor Eugene Gerard. This case was consolidated with one where Debra Sneed sued Louis Johnson. This consolidated case was finally decided by the West Virginia Supreme Court on July 11, 2006.

The case was reported in the 214th volume of the state’s regional reporter on page 35. Please provide the citation to this case. Assume you are not citing this case to a West Virginia court.


• R10.2.1.(a), General Rules for Case Names, p. 96
• Table 10.1, U.S. States, Cities, and Territories, p. 502
Frank Snyder-Malloy sued Crisis Nursery of the City of Chicago in the first district appellate court of Illinois. This was reported in Vol 66, page 30 of the state’s regional reporter and vol. 43 of the State’s Appellate Reporter p.11. The case was decided on April 5, 2000.
Assume Citing in Illinois:

Frank Snyder-Malloy sued Crisis Nursery of the City of Chicago in the first district appellate court of Illinois. This was reported in Vol 66, page 30 of the state’s regional reporter and vol. 43 of the State’s Appellate Reporter p.11. The case was decided on April 5, 2000

*Snyder-Malloy. v. Crisis Nursery of Chicago, 43 Ill. App. 3d. 11, 66 N.E.2d 30 (2000).*

• *Table 1, United States Jurisdictions, p. 233*
• *Rule 10.2.1 (f), Geographical Terms, p. 99*
Joseph Sanchez-Porter sued the Commonwealth of Virginia. The case reached the Virginia Supreme Court and was decided on May, 8 2004. The case was reported on page 443 of vol. 43 of the state’s regional reporter. It was also reported on page 89, volume 32 of the state’s Supreme Court Reporter. In Virginia, how would you cite this case?
Joseph Sanchez-Porter sued the Commonwealth of Virginia. The case reached the Virginia Supreme Court and was decided on May, 8 2004. The case was reported on page 443 of vol. 43 of the state’s regional reporter. It was also reported on page 89, volume 32 of the state’s Supreme Court Reporter. In Virginia, how would you cite this case?


• Table 1, United States Jurisdictions, p. 233
• Rule 10.2.1 (f), Geographical Terms, p. 99
Find the mistake(s):


Franklin v. United States, 992 F.2d 1492 (10th Cir. 1993).


- B2, Typeface for Court Documents, p. 6
- Rule 2.2(i), Typeface for Conventional Materials, p. 69
- Rule 6.1, Abbreviations, p. 87
If citing in Illinois:


- Rule 6.2, Numerals and Symbols, p. 88
- Table 1, United States Jurisdictions, p. 233
- Rule 10.4, Court and Jurisdiction, p. 104
Outside Maryland


- *Rule 10.4, Court and Jurisdiction, p. 104*
- *Table 1, United States Jurisdictions, p. 233*
Stone v. Lewis, 35 Pac. 3d. 7 (Nevada 1999).


Table 10.1, Basic Citation Forms, p. 95


• Rule 10.2.2, Additional Rules for Cases Names in Citation, p. 101
• Rule 6.2, Numerals and Symbols, p. 88
Flynn’s Discount Department Store v. Fox Pharmaceuticals, 23 S.W. 2d 73 (Tenn. S.Ct. 2014).

Flynn’s Disc. Dep’t. Store v. Fox Pharm., 23 S.W.2d 73 (Tenn. 2014).

- Table 6, Case Names and Institutional Authors in Citations
- Rule 10.4 (b), State Courts, p. 105
What are the jurisdiction and court level of these cases?

• 15 F.3d. 233 (1st Cir. 1998).
  • Federal 1st Circuit appellate decision

  • Michigan Court of Appeals

• 100 F. Supp. 2d 1073 (C.D. Cal. 1999).
  • Federal court California Central District

• 558 P.2d 122 (Kan. 1976).
  • Kansas Supreme Court

  • Michigan Court of Appeals (this is the state reporter citation for 454 NW2d 137)
  • U.S. Supreme Court

• Birnbaum v. Alliance of Am. Insurers, 994 S.W.2d 766 (Tex. App. 1999).
  • Texas Appellate Court

  • Washington Supreme Court

  • Colorado Court of Appeals
Resources

• Law Library Reference Desk
  law-refdesk@illinois.edu

• Bluebook LibGuide
  http://law-illinois.libguides.com/law-bluebook

• Cornell Legal Information Institute
  https://www.law.cornell.edu/citation/

• Georgetown

• LEXIS Interactive Citation Workstation