

# LEGAL CITATIONS

“The basic purpose of a legal citation is to allow the reader to locate a cited source accurately and efficiently.”<sup>1</sup> Legal Citations direct you to the volume, book, and page you need to find a case, law, or discussion relating to a legal issue.

A legal citation for a case may appear as:

Myers v. Fleetwood Farms, 271 P2d 263

This citation contains five parts: two party names, a volume number, the title, a series number, and the page number.

<u>Myers</u>	v.	<u>Fleetwood Farms</u>	, <u>271</u>	<u>P2d</u>	<u>263</u>
		Second Party			Page
First Party	Versus		Volume	Title and Series	

The case is located in volume 271 of the Pacific Reporter 2<sup>nd</sup> on page 263. Cases often provide more than one citation.

Legal Citations for laws are similar, but contain fewer parts. A citation for a Nevada Law will appear in this format:

<u>NRS 484.327</u>
Subsection
Chapter
Nevada Revised Statutes

<sup>1</sup> *The Bluebook : a Uniform System of Citation.*-- 15th Ed.-- Cambridge, Mass : Harvard Law Review Association, c1996 at 4

The Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) fills over 40 volumes. Chapters are marked on the spine so that you can go directly to the book you need.

## Laws

NRS	Nevada Revised Statutes
Cal Code, CC	California State Code
ARS	Arizona Revised Statutes
USC	United States Code
USCA	United States Code Annotated

## Court Rules

NRCP	Nevada Rules of Civil Procedure
NR Crim P	Nevada Rules of Criminal Procedure
NRAP	Nevada Rules of Appellate procedure
DCR	District Court Rules
EDCR	Eighth District Court Rules
JCRCP	Justice Court Rules of Civil Procedure
SCR	Supreme Court Rules
FRCP	Federal Rules of Civil Procedure
FR Crim P	Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure
FRAP	Federal Rules of Appellate Procedure
Local Rules	Local Rules for the Federal District
9 <sup>th</sup> Cir	Ninth Circuit Court Rules

## Cases

A	Atlantic Reporter
Az	Arizona Reporter
Cal Rptr, Cal	California Reporter First Series
Cal2d	California Reporter Second Series
CA, Cal App	California Appellate Reporter
F	Federal Reporter
FSupp.	Federal Supplement Reporter
NE	Northeastern Reporter
Nev.	Nevada reporter
NW	Northwestern Reporter
NYS	New York Supplement
P	Pacific Reporter
S	Southern Reporter

SE	Southeastern Reporter
SW	Southwestern Reporter
Led	Lawyer’s Edition
US	United State Reports
SCT	Supreme Court Reporter

## Legal Encyclopedias

AmJur	American Jurisprudence
CJS	Corpus Juris Secundum
CalJur	California Jurisprudence

Additional abbreviations may be found in the *Bieber’s Dictionary of Legal Abbreviations* at the reference desk.

Legal Citations can vary between publications and may provide less information or include additional information, such as years, or subsections (§). If you find an unfamiliar citation or have difficulty locating information, please check with staff at the Reference Desk. We are happy to assist you in decoding the citation in order to locate your information.

If you wish to include a legal citation in your legal documents, publishers often provide the citation on the title page. *The Bluebook: a Uniform System of Citation* is a very good source of information for creating legal citations to support your arguments.

**“In all types of legal writing, whether by scholars or by practitioners, it is customary to cite an authority or authorities to show support for a legal or factual proposition or argument. An author may cite to authority that identifies the source of a quotation or authority referred to in the text; authority that directly states or clearly supports his or her legal or factual proposition...”<sup>2</sup>**

<sup>2</sup> *The Bluebook : a Uniform System of Citation.*-- 15th Ed.-- Cambridge, Mass : Harvard Law Review Association, c1996 at 4