Citation Style: Legal Citation
(The Bluebook: A Uniform System of Citation, 18th ed.)

PRIMARY SOURCE CITATION EXAMPLES

Cases (Bluebook B5)


A case without subsequent history:


Code and Statutes (Bluebook B6)

United States Code:

United States Code Annotated:

Acts:

Indiana Code:

Indiana Code Annotated:

Note: when referring to the entire case decision and not to a specific point of the case, it is not necessary to use a pincite (See p. 3). Also note that U.S. and state supreme courts do not require that the court be listed in parentheses before the date unless in the case of states it is not clear from the source in which state the case was tried.
SECONDARY SOURCE CITATION EXAMPLES

Encyclopedias, Dictionaries, and Restatements (Bluebook B6.1.3 and B8)


Restatement Torts 2d: Restatement (Second) of Torts § 90 (1965).

Legal and Non-Legal Periodicals (Bluebook B6.1.3, B9)


Magazine Article: Sheridan Prasso, Retail’s Next Billion-Dollar Man, Fortune, September 27, 2010, at 108.


Note: an ALR report, is called an annotation, the word “annotation” is added to the citation.
Citation Sentences, Citation Clauses, and Footnotes (Bluebook B2)

Sources may be cited in the body of a law paper using a citation sentence, citation clause, or a footnote. Elements of citations for some source types, such as the parties in a case citation, must be italicized or underlined.

A citation sentence is used when the source being cited refers to the entire preceding sentence (See Bluebook B2).

For example:

The case of the *City of Decatur v. Eady* is an earlier case which illustrates the application of the first three sections of the ELA. *City of Decatur v. Eady*, 186 Ind. 205 (1917).

A citation clause is used when the citation refers to only part of the preceding sentence and is set apart from the text with commas.

For example:

Unlike the Fourth Amendment, which proscribes "unreasonable" government seizures, *Graham v. Connor*, 490 U.S. 386, 394 (1989), the Eighth Amendment only protects against government exertions of force…

Introductory Signals (Bluebook B4)

Signals, when required, are capitalized if they begin citation sentences, but not citation clauses.

**No signal** is necessary if the source cited directly states the idea being cited, is the source of a direct quote, or if the source is identified in the body of the paragraph prior to the citation.

**See**—a source citation should be preceded by "see" (in italics or underlined) if the source clearly supports the preceding idea but does not directly state the idea. For example: "The statutory standard for recusal of federal judges is broad, see 28 U.S.C. § 455(a) (2000)…"

**E.g.,**—a source citation should be preceded by *e.g.* if it is one of multiple authorities or jurisdictions to directly state the cited proposition. Use *see, e.g.*, if the source citation is one of multiple authorities that clearly supports but does not directly state the cited proposition.

**Other signals** include but are not limited to *Accord, Cf., See also,* and *Contra*. See Bluebook R1.2 for more details on signals.
**Pinpoint Citations/Pincites (Bluebook B5.1.2)**

A pinpoint citation points to the specific page, comment, or note being cited and usually appears just before the publication year in parentheses. Use a pincite when citing a specific idea or quote from a source. Examples of citations with pincites follow (pincite underlined for illustration purposes here but is not underlined in normal use):


Restatement (Second) of Torts § 90 cmt. a (1965).

**Short Form Citations (Bluebook B5.2, B6.2, B9.2)**

Once a source has been cited in the paper, subsequent references to the same source may appear in a shortened form provided that the reader can clearly identify the source based on the context of the short form. For example:


becomes:

**Cent. Ind. Rail Co. at 489.**


becomes either:

**Collins at 1383.**

or

**Collins, Semiotics, at 1383.**

If citing subsequent parts of a source within a paragraph where only one source is being cited, the term *id.* can be used as a short form of the source. *Id.* refers back to the immediately preceding source citation. For example:

Collins at 1383.

becomes:

**Id. at 1383.**