

Appendix 2: Citation Formats

Dick doesn't follow the *Bluebook*, the *Maroon Book*, the *Chicago Manual of Style*, or any other style book, and doesn't want you to get hung up worrying about citation form. (He *hates* the *Bluebook* with a passion.) A few simple rules, however, should be kept in mind:

No parallel citations in cases; statutory provisions do not need years, unless the point is to identify an old law.

Case names

- Avoid abbreviations, with a few exceptions: Ry., RR., Comm'n, Co., Corp., Inc., &, Ass'n, Ins.; sometimes Dist., Mfg., Int'l. Only the most *obvious* abbreviations should be used.
- Omit *Inc.* or *Co.* when it immediately follows *Co.*, *Ry.*, or *RR.*
- *In re Casename*, not *In the Matter of Casename*

The important thing is not to use any nonobvious abbreviation, as otherwise the reader may not know the actual name or other word that is being abbreviated.

State courts

- Highest court: abbreviation for the state (Ill., Cal., N.Y.)
- Intermediate appellate court is Ill. App., Cal. App., etc. New York is an exception: "N.Y. App. Div."
- Regional reporter is preferred, but if the citation is to the official state reporter, do not repeat the state name within parentheses.

Supra cites of cases repeat the full title; *supra* cites of authored materials repeat the author. Use an N-dash (–) for page and date ranges.

Don't just copy blindly a citation from a reporter; reformat it (e.g., by putting a space between court and year, as

West does not do: “7th Cir. 2000” not “7th Cir.2000”, and by putting in non-breaking spaces where appropriate.).

The usual citation order is reverse chronological order, and, for federal cases, Supreme Court, Seventh Circuit, other circuits, districts; for state cases, governing-law state, then federal cases. Sometimes it makes sense to put a seminal case first. Dick is not a stickler about order. Remember, you are not working on a law review. Substance rather than form is paramount in Dick’s chambers (though make sure not to be sloppy!).

The following page contains a cheat sheet of examples. You may note occasional inconsistencies—why name the authors in Nimmer but not McCarthy?—but don’t let that bother you. Do not treat these as gospel. When in doubt, check old opinions or ask Dick.

Green v. Bock Laundry Machine Co., 490 U.S. 504, 527 (1989)
(Scalia, J., concurring, or just concurring opinion without a
judge's name)

Green v. Bock Laundry Machine Co, *supra*, 490 U.S. at 527
[short citation format for cases]

Outlet Embroidery Co. v. Derwent Mills, 172 N.E. 462, 463
(N.Y. 1930) (Cardozo, C.J.)

Fisher v. Professional Compounding Centers of America, Inc.,
311 F. Supp. 2d 1008, 1015 (D. Nev. 2004)

Meyerson v. Harrah's East Chicago Casino, No. 01–1993, 2002
WL 1483222, at *1 (7th Cir. July 11, 2002) [recently published;
no F.3d pagination yet]

Relational Design & Technology, Inc. v. Brock, No. 91–2452–
EEO, 1993 WL 191323, at *6–7 (D. Kan. May 25, 1993)
[district court case not published in a reporter]

J&T Hydro Co., 66 F.E.R.C. ¶ 62,138 (1994) [however, agency
in a case name rather than a reporter has no periods]

42 U.S.C. §§ 1396a(a)(1), (8), (10)(B)(i), (19), (23)

720 ILCS 5/12–15

Ind. Code § 35–48–4–1(a)

Fed. R. Evid. 408

Fed. R. Civ. P. 10(c)

Fed. R. App. P. 28(a)(9)(B)

24 C.F.R. § 3500.14(c)

57 Fed. Reg. 49600, 49605 (Nov. 2, 1992)

U.S.S.G. § 2G1.1(b)(1) Application Note 2

Restatement (Second) of Torts § 772(a) (1977) [previous
opinions reveal uncertainty about the proper date]

2 Fowler V. Harper, Fleming James, Jr. & Oscar S. Gray, *The Law of Torts*, § 7.8, pp. 423–24 (2d ed. 1986)

W. Page Keeton et al., *Prosser & Keeton on the Law of Torts* § 56, p. 376 (5th ed. 1984)

5 Charles A. Wright & Arthur R. Miller, *Federal Practice and Procedure* § 1327, pp. 762–63 (2d ed. 1990) [there are sometimes additional authors—which may make the author “Charles A. Wright et al.” (use et al. when there are more than three authors)—it varies by volume]

Richard J. Pierce Jr., *Administrative Law Treatise* § 3.5, pp. 6–7 (4th ed. Supp. 2003)

7 *Collier on Bankruptcy* ¶ 1109.01[1], p. 1109–4 (15th ed. 2002)

2 *McCarthy on Trademarks* § 17:22, p. 17–44 (2002)

4 Melville B. Nimmer & David Nimmer, *Nimmer on Copyright* § 13.03[C], pp. 13–75 to 13–77 (2002)

Matthew C. Stephenson, “Information Acquisition and Institutional Design,” 124 *Harv. L. Rev.* 1422, 1434–35 (2011)

Stephenson, *supra*, at 1435–36 [short citation format for periodicals]

David Strauss, *The Living Constitution* 99 (2010) [long citation format for books]

“Making Cocaine Freebase With Ammonia Methods,” www.drugs-forum.com/forum/showthread.php?t=30174&page=2 (visited May 21, 2010)

Douglas Hold, “State to Investigate Safety at Zion Park; Asbestos Fears Fuel Madigan Action” *Chicago Tribune*, July 3, 2003, p. 1

Other pointers:

- Abbreviations such as EEOC, FCC, and UCC have no periods.
- Always spell out United States.

- Do not note cert. denied.
- Do not use brackets to indicate when a capital letter has been lower-cased within a quotation.
- Do not use pincites in short opinions or opinions that stand for a single point.
- Insert a space between the “n.” and the note number, and if you need to cite both the note and the text on the page, use an “and” instead of an ampersand.
- You can use *Id.* to refer to the last source in a prior stringcite.
- Dick uses two section symbols when he’s citing at least two subsections, even if both subsections are within the same section.
- Dick uses et seq.
- Dick places state court cases in reverse chronological order and not alphabetically by state. Within a state, state supreme court citations are placed before intermediate appellate court citations.
- Dick does not insert “the” in the interior of a case name citation, even if the West reporter has it.
- Dick does not include “of [geographical name]” in a case name citation, even if the West reporter has it.
- Dick uses the word “section” in lieu of the section symbol whenever referring to a section in-the text of his opinion (even if it is not the beginning of a sentence), unless he is full-citing the code in-text. For example, “Section 1124

is...” and “The language in section 1124 is...,” but “The relevant language is in 11 U.S.C. § 1124...”

- In online citations, delete `http` when it appears right before `www.`