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LEGAL RESEARCH GUIDE



LOCATING A CASE BY CITATION

If you have a citation to a case, you can simply:

- pull the book off of the shelf if you are using print;
- use the *Get a Document* command on *Lexis*; or
- use the *Find* command on *Westlaw*.

A citation contains the following information:

- **names of the parties** involved with the lawsuit;
- the **volume of the reporter** in which the decision is located;
- the **name of the reporter** in which the decision is located;
- the **page number of the reporter** on which the case can be found;
- the **court that issued the decision**; and
- the **year** in which the decision was issued.

Example:

Faragher v. City of Boca Raton	111	F.3d	1530	11th Circuit	1997
Names of Parties	Volume #	Reporter	Page #	Court	Year

Locating Cases in Print¹

Reporter	Abbreviation	Location & Aisle
American Law Reports	<i>A.L.R.</i>	2 nd Floor, Aisle 210 3 rd Floor, Aisle 3-104 ²
American Law Reports, Second Series	<i>A.L.R.2d</i>	2 nd Floor, Aisle 210 3 rd Floor, Aisle 3-105*
American Law Reports, Third Series	<i>A.L.R.3d</i>	2 nd Floor, Aisle 210 3 rd Floor, Aisle 3-105*
American Law Reports, Fourth Series	<i>A.L.R.4th</i>	2 nd Floor, Aisle 210 3 rd Floor, Aisle 3-105*
American Law Reports, Fifth Series	<i>A.L.R.5th</i>	2 nd Floor, Aisle 210
American Law Reports, Federal Series	<i>A.L.R.Fed.</i>	2 nd Floor, Aisle 210-211
Atlantic Reporter	<i>A.</i>	3 rd Floor; Aisle 3-069
Atlantic Reporter, 2 nd Series	<i>A.2d</i>	3 rd Floor, Aisles 3-069-071
Bankruptcy Reporter	<i>B.R.</i>	2 nd Floor, Aisle 209
California Reporter	<i>Cal. Rptr.</i>	2 nd Floor, Aisle 214
California Reporter, 2 nd Series	<i>Cal. Rptr.2d</i>	2 nd Floor, Aisle 214
Federal Claims Reporter	<i>Fed. Cl.</i>	2 nd Floor, Aisle 209
Federal Reporter	<i>F.</i>	2 nd Floor, Aisle 205 3 rd Floor, Aisle 3-096

¹The abbreviation listed for the print formats is also the abbreviation to be used for the citation format when using the *Get a Document* command on Lexis or the *Find* command on Westlaw.

²Duplicate copy located on the third floor of the Law Library & Technology Center. Other duplicate copies located on the third floor will be identified with a single asterik, *.

Federal Reporter Second Series	<i>F.2d</i>	2 nd Floor, Aisles 205-206 3 rd Floor, Aisles 3-096-098
Federal Reporter Third Series	<i>F.3d</i>	2 nd Floor, Aisles 206-207 3 rd Floor, Aisles 3-098-099 ³
Federal Rules Decision	<i>F.R.D.</i>	2 nd Floor, Aisle 208
Federal Supplement	<i>F. Supp.</i>	2 nd Floor, Aisles 207-208 3 rd Floor, Aisle 3-099-3-101
Federal Supplement, 2 nd Series	<i>F. Supp. 2d</i>	2 nd Floor, Aisle 207-208 3 rd Floor, Aisle 3-101**
Florida Cases/ Southern Reporter	<i>So. , So. 2d</i>	2 nd Floor, Aisle R10
Lawyer's Edition, Supreme Court Reports	<i>L.Ed.</i>	2 nd Floor, Aisle 204 3 rd Floor, Aisle 3-094**
Lawyer's Edition, Supreme Court Reports, 2 nd Edition	<i>L.Ed. 2d</i>	2 nd Floor, Aisles 204-205 3 rd Floor, Aisle 3-094**
Military Justice Reporter	<i>M.J.</i>	2 nd Floor, Aisle 209
New York Supplement	<i>N.Y.S.</i>	2 nd Floor, Aisles 228
New York Supplement, 2 nd Series	<i>N.Y.S. 2d</i>	2 nd Floor, Aisles 228-230
North Eastern Reporter	<i>N.E.</i>	3 rd Floor, Aisle 3-072
North Eastern Reporter, 2 nd Series	<i>N.E. 2d</i>	3 rd Floor, Aisles 3-072-074
North Western Reporter	<i>N.W.</i>	3 rd Floor, Aisles 3-074-075
North Western Reporter, 2 nd Series	<i>N.W. 2d</i>	3 rd Floor, Aisles 3-075-076
Pacific Reporter	<i>P.</i>	3 rd Floor, Aisle 3-077
Pacific Reporter, 2 nd Series	<i>P. 2d</i>	3 rd Floor, Aisles 3-377-380
Pacific Reporter, 3 rd Series	<i>P.3d</i>	3 rd Floor, Aisle 3-080

³The duplicate copy of this series, shelved on the third floor, is no longer updated. Duplicate copies that are no longer updated will be identified by double asterisks.

South Eastern Reporter	<i>S.E.</i>	3 rd Floor, Aisle 3-081
South Eastern Reporter, 2 nd Series	<i>S.E. 2d</i>	3 rd Floor, Aisles 3-081-083
South Western Reporter	<i>S.W.</i>	3 rd Floor, Aisles 3-083
South Western Reporter, 2 nd Series	<i>S.W. 2d</i>	3 rd Floor, Aisles 3-083-086
South Western Reporter, 3 rd Series	<i>S.W. 3d</i>	3 rd Floor, Aisle 3-086
Southern Reporter	<i>So.</i>	2 nd Floor, Aisles R15, R16 3 rd Floor, Aisle 3-086-087
Southern Reporter, 2 nd Series	<i>So. 2d</i>	2 nd Floor, Aisle 201 3 rd Floor, Aisles 087-089
Supreme Court Reporter	<i>S.Ct.</i>	2 nd Floor, Aisle 204 3 rd Floor, Aisle 3-094**
United States Patents Quarterly KF 3105 .A26 U54	U.S.P.Q.	2 nd Floor, Aisle 278
United States Patents Quarterly 2 nd Series KF 3105 .A26 U54	U.S.P.Q. 2d	2 nd Floor, Aisle 278
United States Reports	<i>U.S.</i>	2 nd Floor, Aisle 204

Don't know what reporter an abbreviation stands for? Check out:

Prince, Mary Miles, BEIBER'S DICTIONARY OF LEGAL ABBREVIATIONS (5th ed.; Buffalo, NY: Hein 2001.)

Reference KF 246 .B46 2001

or

Prince, Mary Miles, PRINCE'S BEIBER DICTIONARY OF LEGAL CITATIONS (6th ed.; Hein 2001)

Reference KF 246 .P73 2001

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