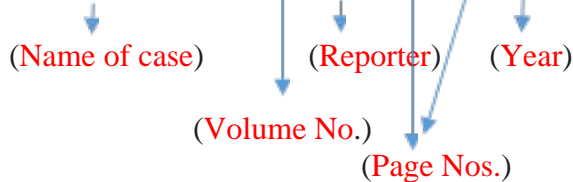


Bluebook Quick Guide for Government Students

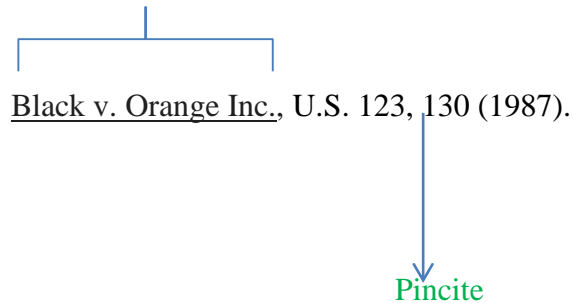
Cases:

A. Citation of a United States Supreme Court decision:

Black v. Orange Inc., 221 U.S. 123, 130 (1987).



Names of parties to the case



B. Citation of a U.S. Court of Appeals decision

United States v. Benson, 453 F.2d 204, 209-213 (4th Cir. 2001)
(resting review of the dispositive issue of Habeas Corpus), *rev'd* 590 U.S. 765 (2004).

United States v. Benson, 453 F.2d 204, 209-213 (4th Cir. 2001)

Note: Use Times New Roman 12 pt. font for all cases

C. Short form of a case name (i.e. United States v. Benson):

Benson, 453 F. 2d at 205.

Note: Shortened case name should be italicized. Also, you do not shorten governmental party's name.

D. Citation of a state court decision:

Virginia: Virginia Supreme Court – VA; Virginia Court of Appeals – Va. Ct. App.

Note: You can cite to S.E. or S.E.2d if applicable.

For citation to other states' courts decisions, look in *The BlueBook: A Uniform System of Citation* (20th Ed.)

Paauw v. Goliath, 234 Va. 386, 355-367 (1997).

Other Basic Citation Forms:

i. Unpublished interim order: O'Connel v. Islander Pool, No. 89-341 (D. Mass. 1993) (order granting preliminary injunction).

ii. Unpublished decision: O'Connel v. Islander Pool, No. 89-341, slip op. at 11 (D. Mass. Jan. 22, 2011)

iii. Decision available in electronic database:

a. LexisNexis:

Paola v. Brasilla, No. 89-345, 2009 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 211489, at *9-14 (D. Mass. Feb. 27, 2015).

(Name of the case) (Docket No.) (Westlaw (Lexis) Citation) (Court) (Date of opinion)

b. WestLaw:

Paola v. Brasilla, No. 05:14, 2015 WL 5730424 (W.D. VA. Sep. 30, 2015)

(Name of the case) (Docket No.) (Westlaw Citation) (Court) (Date of opinion)

Petition for Certiorari granted: Barber v. Dandanie, 703 F. 2d 102 (1st Cir. 2008), *cert. granted*, 65 U.S.L.W. 12345 (U.S. June 12, 2010) (No. 91-142).

Differences between the use of a case name in a sentence and in a citation: The only difference is the italicization of the case name (Rule 2) and the extent to which the case name is abbreviated: See examples:

In *Paauw v. Goliath*, 234 Va. 386, 355-367 (1997), Justice Russell highlighted the essence of judicial notice.

Paauw further holds that the court will take a judicial notice that there are 265 days in a leap calendar year.

E. For business firm designations: Ignore or omit words like “Inc.,” “Ltd,” “LLC,” “N.A.,” “F.S.B.,” and similar terms if the name of the business also contains words like “Co.,” “Corp.,” “Ins.,” “Ass’n,” “Bros.,” or “R.R.” For example:

- i. O'Connell Co. v. Islander Pool, Inc.
- ii. Not: O'Connell Co., Inc. v. Islander Pool, Inc.

F. Geographical terms: Do not include terms like "State of," "Commonwealth of," or "People of." Instead, when citing decisions of that state, you can only use terms like "State," "Commonwealth," "People."

For example, Mathews v. Virginia, 520 U.S. 149 (2000).

Not: Mathews v. Commonwealth of Virginia, 520

Exception: You can include terms like "State of" when referring to national or larger geographical areas, i.e. Federal Republic of Nigeria v. Juventus.

Note also: Omit "of America" after "United States", example: United States v. Clifford Chance

G. Given Names or Initials: Omit given names or initials of individuals. For example:

- i. Bench v. Mansfield

- ii. Not: Peter Bench v. Elsie Mansfield.

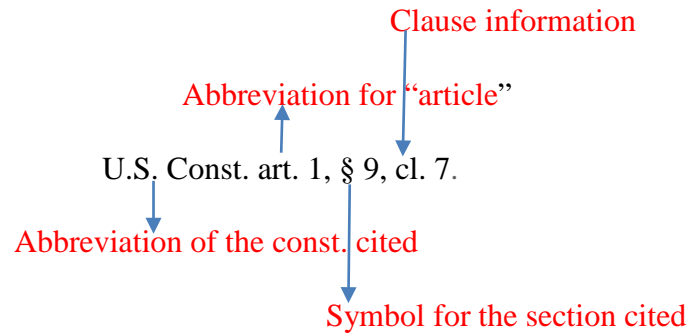
Exception: Include such given names or initials if they are names of business firms. For example:

Paul Vincent, Inc. v. Virginia

H. Pinpoint Citation (otherwise called pincite): Pincites are placed after the number on which the case begins on a reporter, and is separated from the starting page of the case, by a comma and a space. The essence of pincite is to point the reader to a specific page(s) in a case.

Paul Vincent, Inc. v. Georgia, 324 U.S. 95, 97.

Constitutions (Rule 11):



U.S. Const. amend. XVII, § 5.

Abbreviation for amendment

Va. Const. art. 2, § 43.

Statutes (Rule 12, B6):

2 U.S.C. § 6 (2013)
32. U.S.C.A. § 314 (West 2006)

VA Code § 46.2-716
VA Code § 121 (West 2015)

Procedural Rules:
Fed. R. Civ. P. 17(b)(4).

Rules of Evidence:
Fed. R. Evid. 321.

Books (Rule 15):

General rules governing books:

Elements:

- i. Name of author(s); editor(s); or translator(s);
- ii. Title;
- iii. Page, section, or paragraph (if citing only a portion of a work);
- iv. Edition information;
- v. Publisher; and
- vi. Date

Example: Anthony C. Brown, Sr., *Concept of A Child in Being under Wills and Estate Law 185* (2010)

Note: Always include any designation of the author, such as Jr., Sr., III, etc., but do not include titles such as “Dr.” or “Prof.”

Two authors: List the names as they appear on the book, separated by an ampersand.

Example: Anthony C. Brown Jr. & Peters Peterside III, *Concept of A Child In Being under Wills and Estate Law 185* (2000).

Multiple authors: You can either use the names of the first 2 authors, followed by “ET AL”, or you can list all the names.

Example:

- i. Anthony C. Brown, Jr., Peters Peterside III & Tessa Paul, *Concept of A Life In Being under Wills and Estate Law 185* (2000);

Or

- ii. Anthony C. Brown, Jr., Et Al., *Concept of A Life In Being Under Wills and Estate Law 185* (2000).

Editor or Translator: Provide the full name of the editor or translator as required under Rule 15.1, followed by “ed,” or “trans.” Where both applies, use a comma to separate the title of an editor or translator from other information relating to the cited work.

- i. *Concept of A Life In Being Under Wills and Estate Law 185* (Anthony C. Brown, Jr., ed., 2000).
- ii. *Anthony C. Brown, Jr., Et Al., Concept of A Life In Being Under Wills and Estate Law 185* (Stephanie Pavel, trans. Calvary Press, 4d ed. 2006) (2000).

Note: The original work was published by Anthony C. Brown and other authors in the year 2000. It was translated by Stephanie Pavel. The book is presently in its 4th edition, which was published in 2006.

Editions published by a different author: For a work that has been published by a person other than the original author,

- i. Indicate the editor/translator if any;
- ii. The publisher
- iii. The edition cited if not the first;

- iv. Date of publication of the diction cited; and
- v. Abbreviate the name of the publisher according to Rule 15:1(d).

Periodical Materials (Rule 16):

- A. Articles published in law journals:
 - i. To cite the entire article:
Anthony C. Brown, *My Bible, Your Quoran*, 21 LIB. L. J. 420 (2014).
 - ii. To cite certain pages of an article:
Anthony C. Brown, *My Bible, Your Quran*, 21 LIB. L.J. 420, 435-50 (2014)
(describing the pluralistic structure of his democratic society)
- B. Newspaper article (Rule 16.6):
Menaret Bowen, *Where Do You Come From?*, Wall Street Journal, Oct. 17, 2013,
at B12.
- C. Signed Student-written law review:
Peter M. Bowen, Note, *Criminalization of Marijuana: Where Do You Come From?*, 49 U. RICH. L. REV. 117, 128 (2013).

DISCLAIMER:

- i. This author accepts responsibility for all typographical errors.
- ii. This document is by no means a comprehensive guide to Bluebook citation. Please refer to Bluebook for a complete, detailed guide to Bluebook citations. Citation: Harvard & Columbia Law Reviews, *The Bluebook: A Uniform Citation* (20th ed., 2015).