

Legal Citation Interpretation and Access

Library Research Guide

The legal citation, which is always written in a standard form, tells you precisely where the law/Case is located.

Constitution

- *The Constitution of the United States of America*

Citation:

U.S. Const. Art. I, §8, cl. 5. (“The Constitution of the United States”, Article 1, Section 8, clause 5)

U.S. Const. amend. XIV, §2. (Amendment XIV to the Constitution of the United States, Section2)

Access:

Print: *The Constitution of the United States of America* (JK31.D8)

Internet: <http://www.access.gpo.gov/congress/senate/constitution/>

Database: Westlaw Campus (Annotated Version)

- *Constitution of Alabama*

Citation:

Ala. Const. of 1875, art. IX, §2 (“Constitution of Alabama 1875”, Article 9, Section 2)

Access:

Print: *Constitution of Alabama 1901*(KFA401 1901.A4 1966)

Internet: <http://www.legislature.state.al.us/misc/history/constitutions/constitutions.html>

Database: Westlaw Campus

Statutes

- *United States Code*

Citation: 42 U.S.C. § 1983 (Title 42, United States Code, Section 1983)

Access:

Print: *United States Code* (REF KF62.A1 1958)

Internet: <http://www4.law.cornell.edu/uscode/>

Database: Westlaw Campus (Annotated Version)

- *Statutes at Large*

Citation:

Pub. L. No. 91-190, 83 Stat. 852 (Public Law, 91st Congress, Number 190, Volume 83, Statutes at Large, Page 852)

Access:

Print: *Statutes at Large* (REF KF50.U5)

Internet: <http://thomas.loc.gov> (From 93rd Congress to date)

Database: Westlaw Campus

- *Code of Alabama*

Citation: Ala. Code 1975 §16-3-35 (Code of Alabama 1975, Title 16, Chapter3, section35)

Access

Print: *Code of Alabama* (REF KFA30 1975.A2)

Internet: <http://www.legislature.state.al.us/CodeofAlabama/1975/coatoc.htm>

Database: Westlaw Campus

Legislative Materials

- Bills

Citation: H.R. 1264, 100th Cong. (1987) (House of congress---Representative, the number of the bill---1264, 100th Congress, the year---1987)

Access:

Microfiche: House and Senate Bills (KF16.U5x)

Internet: <http://thomas.loc.gov/> (101 Congress to date)

Database: Westlaw Campus (2001 to date)

- Hearings

Citation: 5 Hearings Before the House Comm. On Ways and Means on Comprehensive Tax Reform, 99th Cong. 25 (1985) (Volume or part number---5, House of Congress---House, Name of the Committee---Ways and Means, Subject matter title---Comprehensive Tax Reform, the number of the congress---99th Cong., local page reference---25, the year--1985)

Access:

Print: Check library catalog

Internet: <http://www.lib.ncsu.edu/stacks/househrsg/> (99th Congress to date)

- The Alabama House of Representatives

<http://www.legislature.state.al.us/house/house.html>

Cases

Citation: Knighten V. Commissioner, 702 F.2d 59 (Name of the case---Knighten V. Commisioner, published source---Volume 702 Federal Reporter 2nd Series Page 59)

Access:

Print: Federal Reporter (F.) (REF KF105.F42), United States Reports (U.S.) (REF KF 101.U52)

Internet: <http://www.findlaw.com/casecode/courts>

Database: Westlaw Campus

(See more information on how to find a case at:

<http://www.jsu.edu/depart/library/graphic/caspath.htm>)