



Stanford Law Review

THE REDBOOK

Volume 78 Edition

Summer 2025

Edited by

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Introduction

The Redbook is the guide that *Stanford Law Review (SLR)* uses to clarify and expand on the conventions in *The Bluebook*. *The Redbook* is not comprehensive; it merely supplements—and sometimes overrules—*The Bluebook*. These rules allow *SLR* to maintain the same style conventions across everything it publishes, including both print and online pieces.

No set of rules can cover every situation that might arise. From time to time, the MEs may provide additional *SLR*-wide guidance on issues of style, grammar, and citations, including by issuing an updated version of *The Redbook* if warranted. Please be sure you are referring to the latest version of this document at all times.

SLR uses the same style conventions across everything it publishes, including both print and online.

Managing Editors of Volume 78

ASKING FOR EDITING HELP

You should ask for Bluebooking assistance *early* if you are struggling with a difficult citation. Novel situations arise every year. Discussing potentially ambiguous situations with the MEs sooner rather than later helps avoid unnecessary work and ensure style consistency across the entire volume of *SLR*. Before contacting us, we ask that you complete the following steps:

1. Consult the **Tips & Tricks** section at the end of this document.
2. Contact at least one other member of your editing team.
3. Contact your Senior Editor.
4. If none of the above work, complete the [Bluebooking Hotline Form](#) (~24 hour response).

HIERARCHY OF RULES

The following represents the hierarchy of sources for stylistic and editing rules that *SLR* follows:

1. *The Redbook (RB)*
2. *The Bluebook* (22nd ed. 2025) (*BB*), <http://www.legalbluebook.com>
3. *The Chicago Manual of Style* (18th ed. 2024) (*CMOS*), <http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org>
4. *Merriam-Webster*, <http://www.m-w.com>
5. *SLR* precedent, <https://www.stanfordlawreview.org/print/>

These sources *must* be used in conjunction with one another. Each source on the list takes precedence over the sources below it.

Instances where *The Redbook* directly or impliedly contradicts *The Bluebook* or *The Chicago Manual of Style* are marked in red font throughout. We also use red to draw your attention to common errors.

COMMENTS AND ANNOTATIONS

The use of comments during your membership differs from when you took the Candidate Exercise. Use these sparingly and *only*:

1. To flag particularly ambiguous citecheck or citation issue *that is not more appropriate to ask your Senior Editor immediately via email or the master spreadsheet;*
2. To seek clarification from an author;
3. To flag a formatting issue to the MEs (e.g., bugged spacing or a table issue); or
4. When a source needs to be rechecked (e.g., you pulled the wrong book and your deadline has passed).

Where you do need to leave a comment in the document, do not use Microsoft Word's comment function. “Comments” for SLR purposes are instead placeholder text you will type in brackets near the relevant area highlight the entire comment, brackets included.

Your comments **must** include a recommended course of action.

Correct: The sky is blue. *Doe v. Smith*, 123 U.S. 1, 8 (1926). [SE: The source says that “the sky is a cool color,” but not necessarily blue. I recommend adding a *see* or *cf.* signal, erring on *cf.*]

Note: Unlike the CE, this SE Comment is much more appropriate for the master spreadsheet.

It is important to place all comments directly next to the relevant text without any spaces between the comment and the text.

Incorrect: The sky is blue. *Doe v. Smith*, 123 U.S. 1, -8 (1926)#[SE: ...] (# means space. Do not do this.)

If you notice inconsistencies throughout the piece (for example, inconsistent capitalization or hyphenation, missing definitions of unfamiliar acronyms, or misuse of *supra* or [hereinafter] short forms), alert your SE as soon as possible (both by email and by a comment in the master spreadsheet).

Note: Anything you introduce into the document—including a comment directed at an SE or ME—is likely to find its way back to the author, even if by mistake. Therefore, all comments should be tactful. In case of doubt, leave your comment solely in the citecheck spreadsheet.

FURTHER DETAILS

Please direct each comment to the appropriate person using annotation symbols to introduce the text:

AA (Author Attention)

Use [AA:] comments to request that the author (1) provide an additional citation; (2) provide or confirm a pincite; or (3) rewrite an incomprehensible passage. *Please phrase your comments tactfully* and provide suggestions for improvement. *Comments about the substantive correctness of a citation should go in the citecheck spreadsheet*; the SE will turn them into inline [AA:] comments if she decides it is necessary for the author to address the issue. *Appropriate Examples*:

[AA: You used the term “overproceduralization.” Can you confirm that this is a term of art?]

[AA: We suggest moving this footnote to note 9 and changing this footnote to a *supra* to 9. Please let us know what you think.]

[AA: Let us know if you disagree with these changes. We felt that there was some repetition of “once” and “as.”]

SE (Senior Editor)

Use [SE:] notations to alert your Senior Editor to minor problems that are better resolved by *SLR* staff than by the author and are more easily described inline than in the citecheck spreadsheet. Be sure to (1) describe the nature of the problem; (2) suggest a solution; and, if it’s an editing concern, (3) direct the SE’s attention to any portion of *The Bluebook*, *The Redbook*, or *CMOS* that may be relevant in resolving the issue.

Do not use [SE:] comments to raise substantive citechecking problems; those comments should be left in the citecheck spreadsheet. If you think future editors would benefit from seeing the problem and its resolution, use the citecheck spreadsheet. If the problem is serious or pervasive, please email your SE right away in addition to leaving an [SE:] comment or citecheck spreadsheet note. *Appropriate Example*:

[SE: Double-checking that the author agreed to capitalize the “P” in President throughout the piece.]

Special Note: This example would affect everyone’s splits, and therefore the SE should either send out an email to each MEM to individually address the issue or correct the issue themselves.

RCC (Re-Citecheck)

Use [RCC] notations to flag sources that could not be fully citechecked by your deadline for any reason. The most common reason is an ILL book that has yet to arrive. Before adding an [RCC] comment, make a good-faith effort to find the source. Do not reach out to the author directly by email unless

instructed to do so by your SE or an ME. [RCC] notations should be used very rarely, and once an [RCC] is added, you remain responsible for following up until the source is properly located and citechecked.

ME Comments

Use [ME:] notations to alert the Managing Editors about technical changes that need to be made to the formatting of the piece (e.g., font size, block quotes, margin issues, or other Word peculiarities). *Do not adjust the formatting of the piece on your own, and never add or delete a footnote.* However, you should edit the document directly to make any necessary changes to the typeface in a citation. See *BB 2; RB 2*.

Do not leave an [ME:] comment asking the Managing Editors to introduce *Italics* or *SMALL CAPS*.
Appropriate Example:

[ME: This footnote call number has the wrong margin.]

EDITING PROSE

When editing an author’s prose, the first priority is to ensure that the writing is free of grammatical, spelling, and typographical errors. The second priority is to ensure that the article communicates its ideas as clearly as possible—without needlessly altering the author’s style. If you see a clear way to tighten or clarify a sentence, suggest the change in an [AA:] comment. This may include suggestions like breaking up overly long sentences or specifying the antecedents of ambiguous pronouns. If an idea is unclear and you are unsure how to clarify, note your confusion and ask the author to clarify.

If you are at all on the fence as to whether a rewrite is necessary, explain your thinking in the citecheck spreadsheet, and your SE will add an [AA:] comment if they agree. But be careful not to remove the author’s personal style. *A full read of the piece can help you understand the author’s voice.*

MEMBER EDITOR AND SENIOR EDITOR HANDBOOKS

The Redbook is the highest authority for all *SLR* pieces. But *SLR*’s Member Editor and Senior Editor Handbooks provide detailed information about the different stages of the editing process, the flow of edits and information, where to find tricky sources, how to interact with other editors and **library staff**. *SLR* editors should refer to these handbooks early and often.

Rules

1: STRUCTURE AND USE OF CITATIONS

1.1 : Quoting and Citing Parentheticals

SLR always requires a (quoting ...) parenthetical when quoted material itself quotes another source. If the author has forgotten to include a quoting parenthetical, you are responsible for adding one yourself and conducting all the sourcepulling, citechecking, and bluebooking required.

“This is a sentence from X that ‘quotes from another source Y.’” X (quoting Y).

SLR never requires a (citing ...) parenthetical. But authors may elect to do so. Do not delete them.

For quoting and citing parentheticals, you are responsible for citechecking the quoted or cited source just as if the author had cited it directly.

1.2 : Identifying References (Drop Citations)

When a citation is used solely to identify a particular authority—rather than to support a factual or legal proposition—the footnote call number should appear immediately after the source (and after any punctuation mark except for a dash or colon, *see BB 1.1(a)*), in the text.

Justice Brandeis never knew about *Brown v. Board of Education*¹ or *Between the World and Me*,² both were written after he died.

1. 347 U.S. 483 (1954).
2. TA-NEHISI COATES, BETWEEN THE WORLD AND ME (2015).

Note: When a source is introduced in a sentence but also supports its proposition, this rule does not apply. Include only a single footnote with the call number where it would otherwise appear. However, this rule interacts with *RB 1.4* if the source supports only part of a sentence. In these situations, leave an [SE:] Comment and a note in the master spreadsheet suggesting a rewrite.

1.3 : Cases Named in Text

If a footnote supports text that names the case cited, the case name need not be repeated in the footnote, so long as the case name used in the text would be sufficient for the type of citation (long- or short-form) required in the corresponding footnote. *See BB 10.9; see also RB 10.9.*

Thus, if a case is named in the text but has not been cited within the preceding five footnotes, the case must either be spelled out (1) in full in the text and omitted from the footnote or (2) in short in the text and in full in the footnote.

Brown v. Board of Education cited psychological studies as part of its rationale.¹ This aspect of *Brown* has come under criticism from scholars.² *Brown* struck down racial segregation in public schools.³ The Court also relied on psychological studies in its decision in *Roper*, which struck down capital punishment for persons convicted of crimes committed when they were under eighteen years of age.⁴

1. 347 U.S. 483, 494–95 (1954).
2. See, e.g., John Valery White, *Brown v. Board of Education and the Origins of the Activist Insecurity in Civil Rights Law*, 28 OHIO U. L. REV. 303, 305 (2002).
3. 347 U.S. at 495.
4. *Roper v. Simmons*, 543 U.S. 551, 569–71 (2005).

1.4 : Footnote Call Number Placement

With the exception of identifying references, *see RB 1.2*, footnote call numbers should generally be placed at the end of a sentence or clause. The call number follows any punctuation mark except the dash and the colon, both of which it precedes. *BB 1.1(a)*. Generally, this includes a closing parenthesis. But note that some authors choose to place call numbers after each item in a list or after no punctuation at all. If the author does so excessively, please email your SE.

“*Marbury*,” Laura said, “is simply amazing.”¹ (She retracted this in a later statement.)² The semiconductor changed everything;³ it is vital to modern computing.

Some believe that President Warren G. Harding’s sudden death was caused by poisoning⁴—his doctors, though, insisted that the cause was heart failure.⁵

When a parenthetical phrase occurs in a sentence, the call number should be placed before the closing parenthesis if the source only supports the text inside the parenthetical.

Speiser overturned a state requirement that veterans declare an oath to the government to be eligible for a tax exemption (initiating the line of cases known as “unconstitutional conditions”¹).

1. [Citation to a source that supports the parenthetical proposition that *Speiser* initiated the “unconstitutional conditions” doctrine but *does not support* the outside description of *Speiser*’s holding.]

Please Note: Although we *do* ask that you be on the lookout for propositions that need a citation added, *do not add, delete, or move footnote call numbers yourself*. Otherwise, footnote numbering will not be consistent for everyone working on your article, and other technical chaos will ensue. If you need to move a call number a short distance (that is, not past another call number), just move the surrounding text instead. Denote any suggested footnote-related changes in [SE:] comments.

Please Note: Authors often make the mistake of believing that a source supports an entire sentence when it in fact supports only part of a sentence, *especially when using string citations* (multiple sources in a citation). Leave an [SE:] comment suggesting how to move the call number or split sources.

1.5 : Multiple Sources Following *Compare* and *Contrast*

Following a *Compare* or *Contrast* signal, if more than two sources appear on either side of *with*, insert “and” only before the final source on each side.

Compare Jardines, 569 U.S. at 7 (“Words.”), *and Olmstead*, 277 U.S. at 458 (“Wrong words.”), *with Riley*, 134 S. Ct. at 2484 (“Cellular words.”), *Caballes*, 543 U.S. at 412 (“Dog words.”), *Kyllo*, 533 U.S. at 29 (“Hot words.”), *and Katz*, 389 U.S. at 350 (“Old words.”).

1.6 : Multiple Sources Following a Signal as a Verb

When multiple sources are attached to a textual signal, insert semicolons to separate each source, add an “and” before the final source, and finish with a period. A common verbal signal is “see” instead of “see.”

Note: This rule applies even if only two sources are listed. If switching to a new signal, begin a new citation sentence.

For a discussion of fun places to eat, see Example 1; Example 2; *and* Example 3. *See also* Example 4 (a particularly fun place to eat); Example 5 (same). For a discussion of the best theaters, see, for example, Example 6; *and* Example 7.

1.7 : When a Source Quotes or Cites Multiple Sources

When a source quotes multiple sources, follow BB 1.5(b)’s “first quoting,” “then quoting” rule. Include “and” before the final source even if there are only two.

COLLIN FREDERICKS, EVERYTHING’S BETTER IN TEXAS 47-48 (2024) (first quoting Source 1; and then quoting Source 2).

When a source cites multiple sources and the author has chosen to include a citing parenthetical (*see RB 1.1*), list the authorities in the order in which they were cited, separated by semicolons, with an “and” before the final source even if there are only two.

See Bella M. Ryb, *From SCOTUS Clinic to SLR: How to Do It All, Effortlessly*, 76 STAN. L. REV. 1022, 1075 (2024) (citing Source 1; and Source 2).

1.8 : Preferred Sources and Quoting or Citing Parentheticals

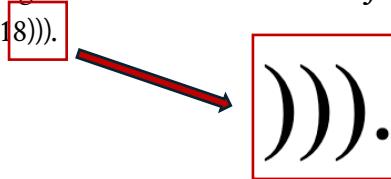
For some works that have multiple versions, translations, or editions, *SLR* has preferred sources. *See, e.g.*, *RB* 15.5. If the piece you are editing cites or quotes a source that in turn cites or quotes a *case*, you must modify that case citation to conform to *SLR* rules and *BB* Table T1. For example, if a law review article cites a case in the *Supreme Court Reporter* that is now available in *United States Reports*, provide the *United States Reports* citation per *BB* Table T1.1. This will also require you to adjust pincite locations accordingly.

However, when the piece you are editing cites or quotes a source that in turn cites a version or edition of a *secondary source* different from the one *SLR* prefers (such as a version of *The Federalist* other than *SLR*'s preferred 1961 edition, *see RB* 15.5), you must retain the information from the version actually cited, regardless of whether that deviates from *SLR*'s preferences.

1.9 : Nested Parentheticals

When an explanatory parenthetical has text that itself requires a parenthetical, the parentheticals should be nested. *See BB* 10.6.4. This rule applies to all types of sources, not only to cases.

Devin M. Flynn, *Why the Candidate Exercise Needs More Schitt's Creek*, 78 STAN. L. REV. 721, 736 (2024) (“Th[ose] crows have eyes,’ and they’re looking for Honor Code violations.” (alteration in original) (quoting THE LELAND STANFORD JUNIOR UNIVERSITY MUSICAL ON ICE (Meg Harrington dir., 2018))).



Special Note: Failure to adhere to this rule is one of the most common mistakes in *SLR*. If you have less than three closing parentheses, you likely overlooked something.

1.10 : Length of Explanatory Parentheticals

Explanatory parentheticals featuring present participial phrases such as “(arguing that . . .),” *see BB* 1.5(a)(i), may never be longer than a single sentence of a reasonable length. If the author wants to include more information, they must work it into the text (in the body of the piece or a footnote).

Correct: Horace P. Payne III, *Tales of a Library Warden: Perspective from the Second Floor*, 76 STAN. L. REV. 45, 47 (2024) (chronicling the trials and tribulations of life as the library watchdog). Payne’s central argument is based on personal experience overseeing the library’s nighttime operations. *See id.*

Also correct: Horace P. Payne III, *Tales of a Library Warden: Perspective from the Second Floor*, 76 STAN. L. REV. 45, 47 (2024) (chronicling the trials and tribulations of life as the library watchdog based on personal experience overseeing the library's nighttime operations).

Incorrect: Horace P. Payne III, *Tales of a Library Warden: Perspective from the Second Floor*, 76 STAN. L. REV. 45, 47 (2024) (chronicling the trials and tribulations of life as the library watchdog. Payne's central argument is based on personal experience overseeing the library's nighttime operations.).

1.11 : Grammar of Explanatory Parentheticals

SLR requires the use of articles (that is, “a” and “an” and “the”) in explanatory parentheticals.

Correct: Zwickler v. Koota, 389 U.S. 241, 251-52 (1967) (discussing the “principles” of the Fourteenth Amendment).

Incorrect: Zwickler v. Koota, 389 U.S. 241, 251-52 (1967) (discussing “principles” of Fourteenth Amendment).

1.12 : Explanatory Parentheticals with *See Generally* and *Cf. Citations*

SLR requires an explanatory parenthetical with *see generally* and *cf. citations*. Leave a polite [AA:] comment next to each missing parenthetical.

1.13 : Parentheticals Indicating Alterations to Emphasis and Capitalization

SLR uses (emphasis omitted) when the cited source uses formatting to emphasize a word or phrase and the author wants to omit that emphasis. If the cited source contains multiple separate emphases and the author omits all of them, simply use (emphasis omitted), not (emphases omitted).

Original text: One arises from a *desertion* of duty, and the other *dessert* fails to rise.

Citation: Garrett M. Wen, *Musings on Torts and Tortes*, 75 STAN. L. REV. 104, 128-29 (2023) (“One arises from a *desertion* of duty, and the other *dessert* fails to rise.” (emphasis omitted)).

SLR allows (capitalization altered) in lieu of brackets to indicate altered capitalization in a direct quotation when doing so would significantly improve readability. Drop an [SE:] comment if you think (capitalization altered) might be appropriate but the author has not yet suggested it.

Original text: No Additional Process Is Due.

Correct: Brief of Stanford University at 24, Leland Stanford Junior Univ. v. Stanford L. Rev., 904 F.3d 126 (9th Cir. 2020) (No. 18-837), 2020 LEXIS App. 953154, at *15 (arguing that “no additional process is due” (capitalization altered)).

Also correct: Brief of Stanford University at 24, Leland Stanford Junior Univ. v. Stanford L. Rev., 904 F.3d 126 (9th Cir. 2020) (No. 18-837), 2020 LEXIS App. 953154, at *15 (arguing that “[n]o [a]dditional [p]rocess [i]s [d]ue” [SE: Consider (capitalization altered.)]).

Do not indicate changes to the typography or layout of quoted material that do not serve to remove emphasis. *See RB 5.4; cf. CMOS 13.8.* *SLR* does *not* use (formatting altered), (italics omitted), or (bolding omitted). If the typographical change does remove substantive emphasis, use (emphasis omitted).

Original text: Look, we can't all release two new albums during quarantine. If we could, we would all be the greatest songwriters of our generation.

Correct: MADISON A. BURSON, WE'LL NEVER FIND ANOTHER LIKE TAYLOR: THE GREATEST SONGWRITER OF OUR GENERATION 41 (2024) (observing that “we can't all release two new albums during quarantine”).

1.14 : Added Alterations and Retained Emphasis

SLR never uses (alteration added) or (emphasis in original) parentheticals. No indication is necessary to show that an alteration to quoted text is added or that emphasis in quoted text is present in the original.

1.15 : Explanatory Parentheticals and *In*

Contrary to *BB 1.5(b)*, *BB 1.6(a)(i)*, and the Rand example in footnote 5 of *BB 15.10.1*, *SLR* convention is to place explanatory parentheticals after the collection information (rather than before *in*) for works in a collection. Explanatory parentheticals should still precede *reprinted in*, *see RB 15.6*, and similar phrases, as well as subsequent history, *see RB 1.16*.

Correct: Velma Dinkley, *Jinkies: That Looks like a Clue!*, *in* RUH ROH, RAGGY 95, 122 (Fred Jones ed., 1976) (explaining that monsters are just people wearing masks).

Incorrect: Velma Dinkley, *Jinkies: That Looks like a Clue!* (explaining that monsters are just people wearing masks), *in* RUH ROH, RAGGY 95, 122 (Fred Jones ed., 1976).

1.16 : Ordering of Parentheticals

Except where a source-specific *Bluebook* rule directs otherwise, place parentheticals in the following order, which supplements *BB 1.5(b)*:

(date) (degree-granting institution) (ProQuest), ECF No. [hereinafter short name (except internet sources cited under *BB 18.2.2*)] (en banc) (5-4 decision) (Surname, J., concurring) (plurality opinion) (per curiam) (alteration in original) (emphasis added) (emphasis omitted) (capitalization altered) (footnote omitted) (citation omitted) (quoting another source) (citing

another source) (on file with _), https://perma.cc/___ (last updated date) (archived date) [hereinafter short name (for internet sources cited under *BB* 18.2.2)] (to locate, follow these instructions) (explanatory parenthetical), prior or subsequent history.

2: TYPEFACES

2.1: Underlined Type

SLR does not use underlined type. Use italics instead—including in quotations. *See RB 5.4.*

2.2 : Bolded Type

SLR only uses bolded type for Part-level headings (including introductions, conclusions, and appendices), table and figure headings, and row and column headings within tables.

Do not use bold for emphasis; use italics instead. If quoted material uses bold for emphasis, convert it to italics without indicating the alteration, *see RB 5.4*, or omit the emphasis per *RB 1.13*.

2.3 : Italics and Punctuation

Refer to *The Bluebook* and *CMOS* with regard to italics and punctuation.

CMOS Note: The initial “the” in a periodical title is lowercased and not italicized (for example, “I read the *New York Times*,” not “I read *The New York Times*”). *See CMOS 8.170.* For books in a similar context, “the” is capitalized and italicized if included (for example, “I adore *The Firm*,” not “I adore the *Firm*”). *See CMOS 8.169.*

3: SUBDIVISIONS

3.1 : Naming Internal References

*SLR's pieces are divided into "Parts" and "Subparts." Be sure that the author uses *only* those terms when referring to portions of their own piece. Never use "Section" to describe any portion of a piece in *SLR*.*

Note the distinction between "Part" and "Subpart." "Part" is used whenever the reference starts at the highest level of the hierarchy: for example, Part II or Part II.A.1 (which means "Part II, Subpart A, Subpart 1"). Use the word "Subpart" only if the piece is referring to the subpart without naming the Part in which it can be found: for example, "in Subpart B, we discuss" or "in the next Subpart."

3.2 : Capitalizing Internal References

*Any reference a piece makes to itself, its Parts, or its author(s) should be capitalized (and should never be described as "It"). Thus, "Part," "Subpart," "Introduction," and "Conclusion" should always be capitalized—for example, "In the next Part, I discuss *Lozman v. City of Riviera Beach*." "Article," "Essay," "Note," "Comment," and "Book Review" should also be capitalized when the author is referring to the piece being edited—for example, "In this Essay, I lay out why bees are fish"—but not to another piece.*

SLR capitalizes "Author" if the author refers to themself as the author of the piece being edited, but not as the author of any their previous works. This rule does not apply to an (on file with author) parenthetical. See, e.g., BB 17.2.1.

3.3 : Footnotes Identified by Symbols

If a citation refers to a specific footnote in the original source and that footnote is identified by a symbol, (for example, *), use that symbol to refer to the footnote. There should be no space between "n." and the symbol.

JOHN GALT, HOW TO END THE WORLD 185 n.* (2010); *see* Clara Rauchegger, *The Interplay Between the Charter and National Constitutions After Åkerberg Fransson and Melloni*, in THE EU CHARTER OF FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS AS A BINDING INSTRUMENT 93, 99 & n.‡ (Sybe de Vries, Ulf Bernitz & Stephen Weatherill eds., 2015).

3.4 : Internal Cross-References

SLR uses the terms "supra" and "infra" for internal cross-references, see BB 3.5, when cited in footnotes. If such terms are used in the text or in textual sentences in footnotes (including in textual string cites), they should be replaced with "above" and "below." Supra and infra should always precede the pincite. "Above" and "below" should follow it.

As explained above, the Court's arbitration jurisprudence has become increasingly hostile to state law measures.¹⁷¹ But as discussed in Part III.B.2 below, early cases gave space for state regulation.¹⁷²

171. *See supra* notes 50-51 and accompanying text.

172. It took decades for the Court to breathe life into the FAA. For academic commentary on this transition, see notes 30-32 above. *See also infra* Part IV.B.2 (detailing lower courts' efforts to comply).

Textual cross-references are most common below the line in sentences that take the form of "For more academic discussion on x, see *Source*, note y above, at z." **Recall the requirement of an "and" before the last source in a textual string cite, including cross-references. RB 1.6.**

Note: Please do not add dynamic cross-references to Parts or Subparts; however, if the author has done so, you may leave them in place.

A cross-reference to other footnotes can take several forms; see BB 3.5 for examples. To summarize:

Form of Cross-Reference	When to Use
<i>See supra</i> note[s] x[-y] and accompanying text.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Citing substantive footnote[s] and corresponding body text.
<i>See supra</i> text accompanying note[s] x[-y].	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Referring mainly to body text, and the footnote[s] are used simply to identify the location; or referring to body text, and the footnote[s] contain only citations and not additional substantive text.
<i>See supra</i> note[s] x[-y].	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Citing a substantive discussion wholly contained within footnote[s].
<i>See Surname, supra</i> note x, at y.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Citing a specific individual source that was first cited in note x. Use this form even if the cross-referenced footnote contains only a single citation and no other text.
<i>See sources cited supra</i> note[s] x[-y].	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> When referring to multiple citations in the cross-referenced footnote(s) but not to substantive text.
Note: Follow this format for cross-references in textual sentences as well, replacing <i>supra/infra</i> with above/below and located <i>after</i> the pincite.	

3.5 : Inserting Cross-References

SLR uses automatic cross-references for all *supra* and *infra* citations during the editing process to ensure accuracy while we add or rearrange footnotes. When an author cites a source using a *supra* form, *see BB 4.2(a)*, or refers to another footnote within the article (for example, “*see infra* note 44 and accompanying text”), the footnote number should be provided using an automatic cross-reference rather than plain text.

Special Note: You must add dynamic cross-references yourself in your split. This rule applies to both “*see supra/infra* notes x-y” and “*see notes x-y above/below*” and their likeness. See the keyboard shortcuts table at the end of this document.

If the document already contains a cross-reference, make sure it is updated and still points to the correct footnote (to update dynamic cross-references, also see the keyboard shortcuts table at the end of this document). If a cross-reference cannot be properly linked to the footnote to which it refers, leave an [RCC].

3.6 : Pincites

(a) *SLR* requires pincites in citations.

(b) There are two exceptions: (1) when the footnote is merely an identifying footnote under *RB 1.2* or (2) when it is used in a *See generally* citation and you leave a comment in the citecheck spreadsheet indicating why a pincite would not be helpful or necessary in that instance.

3.7 : Et seq.

SLR does not use *et seq.* Instead, specify the full range of sections or subdivisions to which the author is referring. If you have any doubts, leave an [AA:] note asking the author to specify the applicable sections.

4: SHORT CITATION FORMS

4.1 : Using *Id.*

Where appropriate, *SLR* requires the use of *id.* unless it would be potentially ambiguous. *Id.* is appropriate in exactly three cases: (1) as the first citation in a footnote, if and only if the preceding footnote cites only to that same, single source (not including quoting or citing parentheticals); (2) as the first or only citation in a citation clause or sentence later in a footnote, if and only if the previous citation (or stringcite) cites only that same, single source (again, not including parentheticals); and (3) within a stringcite, when citing the immediately preceding source in that same stringcite.

- 495. John Harvard, *It Only Takes a Few Books*, 103 HARV. L. REV. 354, 357 (1991); Leland Stanford, *More Railroads*, 55 STAN. L. REV. 25, 38 (2002); *see also id.* at 42 (allowed by case 3). Some authors blame a lack of infrastructural investment for today's problems. *See* Stanford, *supra*, at 45 (not *id.*-eligible because the preceding *citation sentence* contains multiple sources). *But see id.* at 48 (allowed by case 2).
- 496. *Cf.*, e.g., Stanford, *supra* note 495, at 45 (not *id.*-eligible because the preceding *footnote* contains multiple sources).
- 497. *See id.* at 50 (allowed by case 1); *see also* Harvard, *supra* note 495, at 357.

4.2 : *Id.* with “at” for Pincites

Id. should only be followed by “at” if “at” is immediately followed by a page number (including roman numerals). *See BB 3.2(a), 4.1.* If *id.* is followed by text or symbols of any kind, do not use “at.”

- Id.* at 1235; *id.* at xxii.
- Id.* ch. 7; *id.* § 6.15; *id.* ¶¶ 141-44.
- Id.* amend. XVIII, § 1.

4.3 : *Id.* and Footnotes

Do not omit the page number when using *id.* to refer to a footnote on a previously cited page.

- 279. Sklansky, *supra* note 243, at 853.
- 280. *See id.* at 853 n.14.

4.4 : Hereinafter

All hereinafters must be used again later in the piece.

If you think a “hereinafter” may be warranted, do not add it yourself. Instead, leave an [SE:] comment.

First, hereinafter may be used to differentiate between two sources by the same author that are both *introduced* in the same footnote—even if those sources are differentiated by formatting. They may also be used to differentiate between different works by the same author introduced in multiple footnotes with approval from your SE and an ME.

Note that merely *citing* (as opposed to *introducing*) multiple sources by the same author in a single footnote does not call for the use of hereinafter.

1. See Taylor Swift, *Monsters Turning into Trees*, 43 U.CHI.L.REV. 352, 357-59, 370 & n.56 (2014) [hereinafter Swift, *Monsters*] (“We were in screaming color.”); see also TAYLOR SWIFT, KING OF THIEVES 45, 47 (2010) [hereinafter SWIFT, THIEVES] (citing SPIDER-MAN 2 (Sam Raimi dir., 2004)); TAYLOR SWIFT, *You’re Losing Me, on MIDNIGHTS* (THE LATE NIGHT EDITION) (Republic Records 2023).
2. TAYLOR SWIFT, LOVER (Republic Records 2019).
3. Compare SWIFT, THIEVES, *supra* note 1, at 49 (“Karma’s a relaxing thought ”), and SWIFT, *supra* note 2, with Swift, *Monsters*, *supra* note 1, at 359 n.49 (reviewing statutes of limitations to determine whether tortfeasors are “in the clear yet”). But see ARIANA GRANDE, STARBUCKS CONFUSION 27 (2020) (reflecting on the difficulty of ordering a venti latte).
4. GRANDE, *supra* note 3, at 35; see also SWIFT, *supra* note 2.

Second, hereinafter is appropriate when a source is cited again later and its “short” form would otherwise be particularly unwieldy (that is, exceeding roughly one line in length).

1. Notice of Filing of Supplemental Exhibit to Debtors’ Motion for Entry of (I) An Order (A) Approving Bidding Procedures & Bid Protections in Connection with the Sales of Certain of the Debtors’ Assets, (B) Approving the Form & Manner of Notice, (C) Scheduling Auctions & a Sale Hearing, (D) Approving Procedures for the Assumption & Assignment of Contracts, & (E) Granting Related Relief & (II) An Order (A) Approving the Sale of Assets Pursuant to the Bidding Procedures, (B) Authorizing the Sale of Assets Free & Clear of Liens, Claims, Encumbrances, & Interests, (C) Authorizing the Assumption & Assignment of Contracts, & (D) Granting Related Relief at 7, *In re Patriot Coal Corp.*, No. 15-32450 (Bankr. E.D. Va. June 23, 2015), ECF No. 385 [hereinafter Patriot Notice]; see also 1 U.S.C. § 1 (defining certain words).
2. See Patriot Notice, *supra* note 1, at 15.

5: QUOTATIONS

5.1 : Placement of Punctuation Marks

Periods and commas are enclosed within quotation marks. Semicolons, colons, question marks, and exclamation points are not, unless they are part of the quoted material. *See BB 5.1(b)(iv); CMOS 6.9-10.*

Correct: “Give me liberty, or give me death!”

Incorrect: “I’m indifferent to liberty”.

However, if the author quotes a source that uses a different convention, do not alter, insert a [sic], or otherwise correct with brackets. **You must leave an [SE:] note if you alter under this caveat.**

Kumari v. Patel, (1995) 9 SCJ 35, 39 n.4 (India) (“The judgement may not be ‘wise’, but it may not be overturned.”).

5.2 : Block Quotes

Do not change the formatting yourself, but note when it appears to be incorrect with an [ME:] comment.

If a quotation consists of *fifty or more* words, it should be “block quoted”—that is, indented on the right and left without quotation marks. This applies to quotations in the footnote text as well as in the main text, but not to quotations in explanatory parentheticals. *See BB 5.1(a)(ii).* For the purposes of this rule, ellipses in quotations *do not* count as words—so use caution with Word’s word-count function.

Ensure that the block quotation reflects the paragraph structure of the original source. *See BB 5.1(a)(iii).* If it does not, leave an [ME:] comment.

Note: Consistent with the *Bluebook*, quotes in parentheticals do not count for purposes of this rule.

5.3 : Omissions from Quotations

SLR follows *BB 5.3* when omitting one or more words from quoted material. The following points address some common errors involving the use of ellipses:

When incorporating quoted material into a textual sentence, never use ellipses at the end of the quotation, even if the author does not end the quoted material at the end of the original sentence.

Original source: We find that the Final Rule is arbitrary and capricious and unsupported by fact.

Correct: The Court found the agency's reasoning to be "arbitrary and capricious."

Incorrect: The Court found the agency's reasoning to be "arbitrary and capricious...."

When using quoted material as a sentence, there is no circumstance in which the quotation should end with a 4-dot ellipsis without a trailing space.

Original source: We reverse and remand for further proceedings.

Always incorrect: "We reverse and remand for further proceedings...."

Correct: "We reverse and remand for further proceedings."

Original source: We reverse and remand for further proceedings to the lower court.

Always incorrect: "We reverse and remand for further proceedings...."

Correct: "We reverse and remand for further proceedings...."

Whether used in a sentence or as a sentence, a quotation should never begin with an ellipsis.

Incorrect: The court found the agency's reasoning to be "... arbitrary and capricious."

Incorrect: "... the Final Rule is arbitrary and capricious...."

Correct: "[T]he Final Rule is arbitrary and capricious...."

5.4 : Alterations to Quotations

As a clarification to *BB* 5.2, do not alter the style of quoted material to conform to *Redbook*, *Bluebook*, or *CMOS* style rules. However, if the original source makes a clear error (such as a spelling or substantial grammatical error, but not merely a deviation from style rules), use “[sic]” to indicate that the error is simply a faithful reproduction of the original source.

“*Calvin and Hobbes* were [sic] a great comic strip.”

Basic formatting may be changed inside quoted material without notation. *See RB* 1.13. Use the following table as a guide for what items you should and should not change within a quotation:

Alter Without Comment	Alter with Comment	Do Not Alter
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ellipses (<i>see BB</i> 5.3) Smart for straight quotes En for em dashes or hyphens Italics for underlining (<i>see RB</i> 2.1) Italics for bolding when used for emphasis (<i>see RB</i> 2.2) Formatting and layout not used for emphasis (<i>see RB</i> 1.13) Spacing issues (such as spaces around dashes, <i>see RB</i> 24.6, the one-space rule, <i>see RB</i> 24.7, and nonbreaking spaces, <i>see RB</i> 24.8) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Changes in emphasis (<i>see RB</i> 1.13; <i>BB</i> 5.2(d)) Changes in capitalization to improve readability (<i>see RB</i> 1.13) Initial capitalization (use brackets; <i>see BB</i> 5.2(a)) Misspellings or serious errors (use [sic]) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Serial comma Hyphenation Numerals vs. words Other capitalization issues Alternate, but still correct, spellings (<i>see RB</i> 24.1)

5.5 Textual Citations Within Quotations

In general, citations within quotations should be omitted unless particularly relevant.

Original source: The Court specified “with all deliberate speed,” *Brown II*, 75 S. Ct. at 757, but that phrase is not a model of clarity.

Article: As one commentator noted, “The Court specified ‘with all deliberate speed,’ but that phrase is not a model of clarity.”³⁷³

³⁷³. Collin Fredricks & Catherina Y. Xu, *One Thousand and One Galley Nights*, 76 STAN. L. REV. 1789, 1895 (2023) (citation omitted) (quoting Brown v. Bd. of Educ. (*Brown II*), 349 U.S. 294, 301 (1955)).

If the quoted citation is particularly relevant and must be retained, it should appear as it does in the quoted source—including, unfortunately, any Bluebooking errors.

6: ABBREVIATIONS

6.1: Abbreviating Professional Degrees

Contrary to *CMOS* 10.21, *SLR* does not omit periods in educational degrees. Use “J.D.” instead of “JD” and “Ph.D.” over “PhD” (and so on). Note that we would never include an author’s degree—periods or not—in a citation. *See BB* 15.1.

6.2 Other Widely Recognized Initials

(a) Below is an expanded list of “widely recognized initials” for the purposes of BB 6.1(b), 10.2.1(c). This list is also incorporated into BB Table T6.

- AARP (formerly American Association of Retired Persons)
- ACLU (American Civil Liberties Union)
- AFL-CIO (American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations)
- CBP (Customs and Border Patrol)
- CBS (formerly Columbia Broadcasting System)
- CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)
- CEO (Chief Executive Officer)
- CFO (Chief Financial Officer)
- CFPB (Consumer Financial Protection Bureau)
- CIA (Central Intelligence Agency)
- DEA (Drug Enforcement Administration)
- EEOC (Equal Employment Opportunity Commission)
- EPA (Environmental Protection Agency)
- FAA (Federal Aviation Administration)
- FBI (Federal Bureau of Investigation)
- FCC (Federal Communications Commission)
- FDA (Food and Drug Administration)
- FDIC (Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation)
- FEC (Federal Election Commission)
- FERC (Federal Energy Regulatory Commission)
- FLRA (Federal Labor Relations Authority)
- FTC (Federal Trade Commission)
- INS (Immigration and Naturalization Service)
- IRS (Internal Revenue Service)
- NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People)
- NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration)
- NIH (National Institutes of Health)
- NLRB (National Labor Relations Board)
- NRA (National Rifle Association)
- NSA (National Security Agency)
- SEC (Securities and Exchange Commission)

SLR does not abbreviate the names of executive agencies that start with “Department of” (for example, Department of Justice would not be abbreviated to DOJ).

In a case citation, we do not omit other parts of the party name as it appears in the reporter just because we abbreviate the name of an executive agency. This often occurs with U.S. EEOC.

Correct: U.S. EPA v. Robert Crown L. Lib., 911 F.3d 1021, 1028 (9th Cir. 2020).

Incorrect: U.S. Env’t Prot. Agency v. Robert Crown L. Lib., 911 F.3d 1021, 1028 (9th Cir. 2020).

Incorrect: EPA v. Robert Crown L. Lib., 911 F.3d 1021, 1028 (9th Cir. 2020).

(b) Frequent Litigator Exception: If your article frequently cites cases with the same party, you *may* propose an abbreviation that does not appear on the list above. Review the **Tips & Tricks** at the end of this document to let your SE know whether this breaks from *SLR* precedent. For example, Volume 77 declined to abbreviate the National Resource Defense Council to NRDC. Any abbreviations introduced through this exception must be approved by an ME.

6.3 Introducing Acronyms and Initialisms

When introducing a new acronym or initialism (including those listed above in *RB* 6.2), spell it out in the text only the first time it is used in the text.

If it is used in the text before it is used in the footnotes, spell it out only in the text. **But Note:** if it is used in a footnote before it is used in the text, spell it out both the first time it is used in the text *and* the first time it is used in the footnotes.

The abbreviation should be placed in parentheses and not surrounded by quotation marks.

Correct: The Joint Economic Committee (JEC) performs an important function.

Incorrect: The Joint Economic Committee (“JEC”) performs an important function.

Do not introduce an abbreviation unless the author actually uses it at some point later in the piece.

6.4 : Acronyms vs. Initialisms

Initialisms—abbreviations pronounced as individual letters—should be preceded by “the.” For example, you’d write “the FBI” or “the CTA.” Conversely, acronyms—abbreviations pronounced as words—are not preceded by “the.” For example, you’d just write “FERC” or “BART.”

If you have any doubt as to whether an abbreviation is an initialism or an acronym, leave a comment for your SE.

6.5 : Numbers in Text

In textual sentences (both in the main text and in footnotes), numbers from zero to ninety-nine should generally be spelled out; larger numbers should appear in numeral form. *See BB* 6.2(a). There are a number of exceptions to the general rule listed at *BB* 6.2(a). *SLR* has several additional exceptions:

- (a) When using numerals would aid the reader (particularly in comparisons; “31 out of 66”).
- (b) When referring to the number of a table or other figure.
- (c) When referring to large, round dollar amounts (“\$12 million budget for law review”).
- (d) When referring to chapters or written work (*see CMOS 9.26*).
- (e) When referring to the popular name of a bill, referendum, proposition, etc.
- (f) When referring to percentages.

6.6 : Adjectival Forms of Geographical Abbreviations from BB Table T10

The abbreviations in *BB* Table T10 (and their application to other parts of *The Bluebook*—for example, case citations (*BB* 10.2.2), institutional authors (*BB* 15.1(c)-(d)), and periodicals (*BB* 16.4-5)) also apply to adjectival forms of geographical locations. Thus, for example, “European” should be abbreviated “Eur.” If *BB* Table T10 does not abbreviate the geographical location (for example, Iowa), then the adjectival form should not be abbreviated either.

6.7 : Abbreviating Hyphenated Words from BB Tables T6, T10, and T13

When dealing with hyphenated words, abbreviate any element of the word as if it were an individual word. However, do *not* do this for compound words.

Correct: Skinner v. Mid-Am. Pipeline Co., 490 U.S. 212 (1989).

Incorrect: Skinner v. Mid-America Pipeline Co., 490 U.S. 212 (1989).

Correct: Gregory Dolin, *Yes, the PTAB Is Unconstitutional*, 17 CHI.-KENT J. INTELL. PROP. 457 (2018).

Incorrect: Gregory Dolin, *Yes, the PTAB Is Unconstitutional*, 17 CHICAGO-KENT J. INTELL. PROP. 457 (2018).

Correct: John Jonathan Johnson, *Derecho-Driven Power Outrages*, 73 MIDATLANTIC WEATHER 235 (2012).

Incorrect: John Jonathan Johnson, *Derecho-Driven Power Outrages*, 73 MIDATL. WEATHER 235 (2012).

6.8 Abbreviations for Statutes

When designating an abbreviation for a statute whose full popular name includes a year, the abbreviation should follow the year unless doing so would create ambiguity.

Correct: Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).

Incorrect: Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA) of 1974.

7: ITALICIZATION

7.1: Italicizing Foreign Words

SLR follows a simple procedure for determining whether a non-English word or phrase has been “incorporated into common English usage,” BB 7(b): **Look up a word or phrase that does not appear in the examples in BB 7(b) in the online version of Merriam-Webster.** If the word or phrase appears in the *main* dictionary, it has been incorporated into common English usage and need not be italicized. If the word or phrase does not appear in *Merriam-Webster* or appears *only* in its module for legal definitions (as with “*sua sponte*,” for example), italicize it. Leave a comment for your SE if you have any doubts.

8: CAPITALIZATION

8.1 : Parts of the Constitution

SLR capitalizes parts of the U.S. Constitution only if referred to by their proper name.

Correct: The Equal Protection Clause appears in the Fourteenth Amendment.

Also correct: The Fourteenth Amendment contains a clause that guarantees individuals' right to equal protection of the laws.

8.2 : Titles of Cited Material: Capitalization and Italicization

To determine when to capitalize words in the title of a particular work, follow *BB 8(a)* and *CMOS 8.159*. SLR follows *BB 8(a)* when it comes to capitalizing prepositions longer than four letters. For help determining a word's part of speech, consult *Merriam-Webster* or *CMOS* ch. 5. Less authoritatively, feel free to Google “define: [word]” for helpful examples of how that word may be a different part of speech at different times.

Capitalize any word following an em dash in a title (as after a colon).

If a title uses italicization or other formatting incorrectly, do not fix it. Just leave an [SE:] note and leave a comment in the master spreadsheet.

Article title 1: Measuring the effects of *Brown v. Board of Education*—litigation after desegregation

Article title 2: The Impact of Brown v Board of Education

Citation: See Author 1, *Measuring the Effects of Brown v. Board of Education—Litigation After Desegregation*, JOURNAL (Year); Author 2, *The Impact of Brown v*[SE: No period after the “v” in original.] *Board of Education*[SE: Not italicized in original.], JOURNAL (Year).

8.3 : Headings, Subheadings, and Text

SLR article headings and subheadings should be capitalized as titles per *BB 8(a)*.

Sub-subheadings (introduced by an Arabic numeral as opposed to a letter or Roman numeral) are treated as normal text, with only the first word automatically capitalized. Textual capitalization should follow the rules laid out by *BB 8(c)* (primarily helpful for legal terms) and *CMOS* ch. 8.

8.4 Ethnic or National Groups

Names of ethnic or national groups are generally capitalized (for example, “American Indians,” “African Americans,” or “Latinx”). Consistent with the guidance of *CMOS 8.38*, racial and ethnic identifications based on color should be capitalized or lowercased according to author preference

(for example, “Black” or “black”; “White” or “white”). Please flag any inconsistency in capitalization or related usage for your SE.

Racial and ethnic identifications based on color usually should not be used as nouns. If you are concerned with how an author is using these terms, please discuss the matter with your SE but refrain from leaving a comment in the piece, as it may inadvertently find its way back to the author.

9: TITLES OF JUDGES, OFFICIALS, AND TERMS OF COURT

9.1: Textual References to Professors

SLR omits the honorific “Professor” in text, but not when required in a citation, *see, e.g.*, *BB* 17.2.3, or in thank-you footnotes of student notes.

9.2 : Textual References to Judges as Authors of Judicial Materials

SLR policy is to use “Judge” or “Justice” (or “Chief Judge,” “Chief Justice,” and so on) every time a judge’s name appears in text. The only exception is when the name is used adjectivally.

Correct: Justice Ginsburg dissented, arguing that Chief Justice Roberts’s opinion misstated the law.

Correct: Of the divided Court’s rationales, the Brennan rule is the most permissive.

Incorrect: Blackmun’s jurisprudence evolved over time, moving away from Burger’s.

When a judge writes for the court, textual references to the judge as the author of the opinion should make that clear.

Correct: Justice Scalia’s opinion for the Court emphasized that the exclusionary rule is not mandated by the Fourth Amendment. But in dissent, Justice Stevens criticized the Court’s reasoning.

Incorrect: Justice Scalia emphasized that the exclusionary rule is not mandated by the Fourth Amendment. But in dissent, Justice Stevens criticized Justice Scalia’s reasoning.

9.3 : Judges as Authors in General

Unlike textual references (*see RB* 9.2), when a book or article is authored by a sitting judge, no honorific is used in the citation.

Correct: Lynn Adelman, *The Roberts Court’s Assault on Democracy*, 14 HARV. L. & POL’Y REV. 131 (2019).

Incorrect: Hon. Lynn Adelman, *The Roberts Court’s Assault on Democracy*, 14 HARV. L. & POL’Y REV. 131 (2019).

When referring textually to a judge as an author of a book or article, use the honorific appropriate for the judge (*see RB* 9.2) at the time the piece was written. If the piece was written before the author became a judge, do not use an honorific. If the judge’s honorific subsequently changed (due to retirement, elevation, or demotion, but not due to death while still on the bench), use “then-” as a prefix.

As then-Judge Richard Posner argued in 2012, “[t]he problem with judicial pragmatism is that it requires a taste for facts—and rhetorical skills—that nowadays few judges have.”¹⁸ Elena Kagan has argued that President Clinton expanded presidential control over administrative decisionmaking by exercising “directive authority” over regulatory agencies and by claiming ownership of regulatory successes.¹⁹

18. Richard A. Posner, *Essay, The Rise and Fall of Judicial Self-Restraint*, 100 CALIF. L. REV. 519, 555 (2012).

19. See Elena Kagan, *Presidential Administration*, 114 HARV. L. REV. 2245, 2250 (2001).

10: CASES

10.1 : Citechecking Cases

(a) Subsequent history and negative treatment: Always check for subsequent history (for example, *aff'd*, *cert. denied*, *rev'd*) and negative treatment (for example, *abrogated in part*, *overruled*, *superseded by statute in other part*). Include subsequent history and negative treatment whenever required by BB 10.7 or particularly relevant to the purpose for which the author is citing the source.

In general, this will not include negative treatment by a subordinate or “sibling” court; for example, do not list lower court opinions that “distinguish” or “decline to extend” a Supreme Court opinion, or federal circuit court opinions that critique another circuit’s opinion. If in doubt, however, err on the side of inclusion. If a case’s subsequent history or negative treatment seems extraordinarily complicated, email your SE and the Managing Editor assigned to the piece for further guidance.

Checking whether Westlaw has a flag is insufficient. You must also check the “History” and “Negative Treatment” tabs. If a Westlaw flag identifies negative treatment (for example, it indicates that the case has been abrogated or overruled), read the relevant part of the subsequent case to make sure Westlaw’s flag is correct. Leave a comment in the citecheck spreadsheet explaining your analysis of any negative treatment.

(b) Plurality opinions: Scan the beginning of opinions to determine whether any part of the principal opinion has been endorsed by less than a majority of the court. If so, be sure that any pincite to a portion of the opinion enjoying less than majority support is designated (plurality opinion). (The header in recent volumes of *United States Reports* will change from page to page depending on whether that page is endorsed by a majority of the Court, but headers in older volumes and other reporters may not.) Treat the (plurality opinion) designation as identical to a (Surname, J., concurring) or (Surname, J., dissenting) parenthetical for purposes of both full and short citations. See RB 10.8; BB 10.6.1(a).

(c) Solo portions of majority or plurality opinions: For portions of such an opinion which other members of the court do not join, which are therefore not majority or plurality opinions as to those portions, designate citations to such portions as (opinion of Surname, J.).

(d) En banc opinions: Examine all federal court of appeals and state appellate court opinions for an “en banc” designation. Include the (en banc) parenthetical for federal cases. For state appellate cases, leave an SE note.

10.2 : Terms Clearly Indicating That the Party Is a Business Firm

BB 10.2.1(h) requires that “Inc.,” “Ltd.”, “L.L.C.”, “N.A.”, or “F.S.B.”—and other terms indicating a form of corporate organization like “A.G.” or “PLC”—be omitted if the name also contains a term “clearly indicating that the party is a business firm.”

SLR recognizes an expanded list of terms that “clearly indicate that the party is a business firm”: Ass’n, Assocs., Bros., Co., Corp., Enters., Holdings, Ins., P’ship, R.R., and Ry.

If, however, a party name includes multiple words that “indicate that the party is a business firm” (as opposed to “terms indicating a form of corporate organization”), do not omit either one.

Correct: Erie R.R. Co. v. Tompkins, 304 U.S. 64 (1938).

Incorrect: Erie R.R. v. Tompkins, 304 U.S. 64 (1938).

Correct: Newman v. Piggie Park Enters., 390 U.S. 400 (1968).

Incorrect: Newman v. Piggie Park Enters., Inc., 390 U.S. 400 (1968).

10.3 Widely Recognized Initials in Case Names

BB Table T6 incorporates widely recognized initials listed in *BB* 6.1(b) and *RB* 6.2.

10.4 : Procedural Phrases in Case Names

SLR always includes “*ex rel.*” when the reporter links the named party to another party with a phrase starting with “as” or “on behalf of” or something similar. *See BB* 10.2.1(b). Beware that the case caption at the top of the reporter page often omits “*ex rel.*” even in cases where *SLR* would include it. When in doubt, include the procedural phrase and leave a comment for your SE.

10.5 : Titles of Amicus Curiae Briefs

Even if italicized in the original filing, do not italicize the words “amicus,” “amicus curiae,” or “amici curiae” in the title of an amicus brief. *See RB* 10.6; *BB* 10.8.3.

SLR prefers the use of et al. for the signatories of amicus briefs when there are three or more parties named in the brief’s title. *See RB* 15.1.

10.6 : Parallel Citations for Court Filings

When citing documents under *BB* 10.8.3, include a parallel citation to an electronic database (Westlaw, Lexis, or Bloomberg, in that order of preference) whenever possible. If you cannot locate the document on an electronic database, leave a comment for your SE.

Contrary to BB 10.8.3, pincites to an electronic database should be included only if either (1) the pagination of the format-preserving version differs from the star pagination or (2) the format-preserving version is unavailable.

Correct: Brief for the United States at 18-22, Gutierrez de Martinez v. Lamagno, 515 U.S. 417 (1995) (No. 94-167), 1994 WL 728562.

Correct: Brief for Petitioner at 24, Scott v. Harris, 550 U.S. 372 (2007) (No. 05-1631), 2006 U.S. S. Ct. Briefs LEXIS, at *38-39.

Correct: Reply Brief for the Petitioner, INS v. Cardoza-Fonseca, 480 U.S. 421 (1987) (No. 85-782), 1986 WL 727544, at *1.

Thus, to citecheck a court filing correctly, you must pull and review *both* the original PDF of the filing *and* the electronic database version. If a decision has been rendered on the filing (as in all three examples above), you must also pull the format-preserving version of the decision.

10.7 : Court Filings Before and After a Decision Has Been Rendered

To clarify BB 10.8.3, there are two types of citations to briefs, court filings, and transcripts: (1) those for which a decision is available and (2) those for which a decision has not yet been (or will never be) rendered. If a decision is unavailable, leave a comment for your SE explaining why.

Correct: Brief of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States of America as Amicus Curiae in Support of Petitioner at 12 n.4, Wyeth v. Levine, 555 U.S. 555 (2009) (No. 06-1249), 2008 WL 2322235.

Correct: Brief Amicus Curiae of Constitutional Accountability Center in Support of Respondents at 10, Mt. Holly v. Mt. Holly Gardens Citizens in Action, Inc., No. 11-1507 (U.S. Oct. 28, 2013), 2013 U.S. S. Ct. Briefs LEXIS 4367, at *16[SE: This case was voluntarily dismissed before oral argument and never resulted in an opinion.]

10.8 Weight of Authority

When citing an opinion described as “concurring” or “dissenting” or the like, be sure to include not only the author but also the complete description of the opinion as described in the reporter.

1. Lewis v. Casey, 518 U.S. 343, 400 (1996) (Souter, J., concurring in part, dissenting in part, and concurring in the judgment).
2. Air Line Pilots Ass’n Int’l v. E. Air Lines, Inc., 863 F.2d 891, 925 (D.C. Cir. 1988) (Ginsburg, J., concurring in the denial of rehearing en banc).
3. Feldman v. Allegheny Airlines, Inc., 524 F.2d 384, 391-92 (2d Cir. 1975) (Friendly, J., concurring dubitante).
4. Reynolds v. Florida, 139 S. Ct. 27, 32 (2018) (Sotomayor, J., dissenting from denial of certiorari).

Never omit weight-of-authority parentheticals from short-form citations other than *id.* For *id.*, see BB 10.9(b)(i).

5. *Yates v. United States*, 135 S. Ct. 1074, 1083 (2015) (plurality opinion).
6. *Trinity Lutheran Church of Columbia, Inc. v. Comer*, 137 S. Ct. 2012, 2024 n.3 (2017) (plurality opinion).
7. *Yates*, 135 S. Ct. at 1084 (plurality opinion).
8. *Id.* at 1085.
9. *See id.* at 1090 (Alito, J., concurring in the judgment).
10. *Id.* at 1091.
11. *Id.* at 1085 (plurality opinion).
12. *See Trinity Lutheran*, 137 S. Ct. at 2024 n.3 (plurality opinion).
13. *See id.* at 2022-24 (majority opinion).

10.9 : The Five-Footnote Rule for Short Citations

For purposes of BB 10.9(a), citations (or valid short-form citations) to cases in quoting parentheticals, citing parentheticals, subsequent history, and briefs or other court filings (*see BB 10.8.3*) should be counted in determining whether the case appears in one of the preceding five footnotes and can thus be cited again in short form.

Id. references also count for purposes of the five-footnote rule.

10.10 : When a Reporter Has Not Yet Been Published

Do not cite to “Preliminary Prints” of *United States Reports*; use only the finalized versions, which as of February 2025 go up through Vol. 582. Ignore all higher volumes of *United States Reports* and cite to the next-most-preferred reporter instead (which will usually be S. Ct.). Unfortunately, Preliminary Prints are visually indistinguishable from published volumes, so it is best to be generally aware of the latest “valid” volume number. The MEs will announce when a new official volume is released.

In all other situations, when a case that is to be published in a print reporter has not yet been so published, cite an electronic database, preferably Westlaw. *See BB 10.8.1*. Additionally, make sure to check that the reporter has not been published since the last round of editing. If the publication is forthcoming, leave an [RCC] next to the citation.

*See [RCC]*Sveen v. Melin, No. 16-1432, 2018 WL 2767640, at *12-15 (U.S. June 11, 2018) (Gorsuch, J., dissenting).

The L. Ed. and U.S.L.W. reporters (for Supreme Court cases) should be used only for cases that were actually omitted from the U.S. and S. Ct. reporters. Despite the fact that the Supreme Court itself cites slip opinions for recent cases, SLR would almost never do so since it prefers the electronic database version to the slip opinion. *See RB 10.11*.

10.11 Preferred Sources for Unreported Cases

To clarify BB 10.8.1, SLR has established the following order of preference for cases that are not to be published in reporters:

Electronic databases. Westlaw, Lexis, and Bloomberg, in that order. *See BB 10.8.1(a).*

Slip opinions. If available online. *See BB 10.8.1(b).*

SLR does not cite services. *See BB 19.* When pulling cases, be careful about whether you are pulling from a reporter or a service. Westlaw and Lexis carry some services and do not always clearly distinguish them from reporters. For a partial list of services, see BB Table T15.

10.12 : Docket Numbers in Federal Cases

When citing a federal docket number, write the actual docket number as it appears in the source and do not reorder the elements (namely the year, case type, and case number) with respect to each other. *To clarify BB 10.8.1(a), SLR always omits any initial digit that precedes a colon and any judge's initials that follow the essential docket information.*

Original: No. 2:12-cr-02323-AB

Correct: No. 12-cr-02323

Original: No. 99-839-cv (JPO) (EMG)

Correct: No. 99-839-cv

10.13 : Docket Numbers for Consolidated Cases

For citations that require docket numbers (for example, unreported cases (*see BB 10.8.1*) or case documents (*see RB 10.6; BB 10.8.3*)), include all docket numbers associated with the decision or case. List docket numbers in alphabetical or numerical order and use an ampersand before the final one. If there are more than three docket numbers, include only the first one and use “et al.”

Brief of Constitutional Law Scholars as Amici Curiae in Support of Petitioners at 8, Murphy v. NCAA, 138 S. Ct. 1461 (2018) (Nos. 16-476 & 16-477), 2017 WL 4004531.

Transcript of Oral Argument at 31-32, Epic Sys. Corp. v. Lewis, 138 S. Ct. 1612 (2018) (Nos. 16-285, 16-300 & 16-307), 2017 WL 4517132, at *32.

Reply Brief for Appellants at 16, League of United Latin Am. Citizens v. Perry, 126 S. Ct. 2594 (2018) (Nos. 05-204 et al.), 2006 WL 457828.

10.14 : Short Forms for Early Reporters

Include an early reporter in a short-form citation, but not when using *id.*, if it would be included in the long form.

Correct: *Marbury*, 5 U.S. (1 Cranch) at 137; *see also id.* at 139.

Incorrect: *Marbury*, 5 U.S. at 137.

Incorrect: *Id.* (1 Cranch) at 139.

10.15 : Public Domain

SLR does not use public domain citation formats. Any BB rule requiring a public domain citation (for example, BB Table T1.3 specifications for Vermont court citations) should not be observed.

10.16 Signals Used as Verbs

When a signal such as “see” is used as a verb of a textual sentence in a footnote, and is therefore not italicized per BB 1.2(e), treat any case citation that follows according to the rule in BB 10.2 for “textual sentences.” The fact that the verb happens to be “see” (or another signal) does not override the fact that the case citation becomes part of the sentence syntactically. Therefore, *do* italicize the case name and *do not* apply the additional abbreviation rules in BB 10.2.2.

Correct: For an example of a well-known opinion, see *Brown v. Board of Education*, 347 U.S. 483 (1954).

Incorrect: For an example of a well-known opinion, see *Brown v. Bd. of Educ.*, 347 U.S. 483 (1954).

To be clear, this rule has no effect on citation clauses that are set off by commas because those clauses are not instances of “signals used as verbs.”

Correct: Some opinions are well known, *see, e.g.*, *Brown v. Bd. of Educ.*, 347 U.S. 483 (1954), while others are not, *see, e.g.*, *Nat'l Ass'n of Mfrs. v. Dep't of Def.*, 138 S. Ct. 617 (2018).

Incorrect: Some opinions are well known, *see, e.g.*, *Brown v. Board of Education*, 347 U.S. 483 (1954), while others are not, *see, e.g.*, *National Ass'n of Manufacturers v. Department of Defense*, 138 S. Ct. 617 (2018).

10.17 : Subsequent History Phrases Involving Remand

If an *entire* subsequent history phrase is “*rev'd and remanded*” or “*vacated and remanded*,” omit “*and remanded*.”

But if the phrase continues, such as “*rev'd and remanded on other grounds*,” leave a note for your SE.

10.18 : Document Numbers in Federal Cases

For court documents in federal district court, bankruptcy court, or court of appeals cases, but *not* Supreme Court cases, append the ECF (Electronic Case File) number of the document to the

citation if available, as allowed by *BB* 10.8.3. This number is assigned by PACER (the federal courts' document system) or a state equivalent, and you can find the sequential serial number in the leftmost column of the docket listing on Bloomberg. It also often appears as a "Document #" in the blue header of court documents downloaded from Bloomberg.

When including both a parallel citation to an electronic database (per *RB* 10.6) and an ECF number, the parallel citation should precede the ECF number. Please note that an ECF number is distinct from a *docket number*, which identifies an entire proceeding and appears after "No." in a citation.

Brief Amicus Curiae of Public Health Scholars & the American Public Health Ass'n at 4, Texas v. United States, 340 F. Supp. 3d 579 (N.D. Tex. 2018) (No. 18-cv-00167), 2018 WL 8262625, ECF No. 166.

11: CONSTITUTIONS

11.1: Official Version of the U.S. Constitution

SLR's official source for the U.S. Constitution is the National Archives version:

- Constitution: <https://www.archives.gov/founding-docs/constitution-transcript>
- Bill of Rights: <https://www.archives.gov/founding-docs/bill-of-rights-transcript>
- Subsequent Amendments: <https://www.archives.gov/founding-docs/amendments-11-27>

Note that the National Archives version uses hard returns to separate clauses within sections. *See, e.g.*, U.S. CONST. art. I, § 8, cl. 10 (giving Congress the power “[t]o define and punish Piracies . . . committed on the high Seas”). If there are no hard returns, there are no separate clauses for citation purposes. *See, e.g., id.* art. III, § 1.

12: STATUTES

12.1 : Dates for the United States Code

Cite the latest edition of the United States Code unless the context specifically demands otherwise (for example, in a historical discussion). If you are unsure which edition to cite, ask your SE. To clarify *BB* 12.3.2, *SLR* never includes a date in a citation to the latest edition of the Code. However, a citation to a historical version of the Code should contain the year in parentheses.

Correct: 46 U.S.C. § 30302.

Correct: 18 U.S.C. § 1343 (1982).

Incorrect: 5 U.S.C. § 706 (2023).

To find the latest edition of the Code or a historical edition from 1994 or later, use govinfo. Browse the Code at <https://www.govinfo.gov/app/collection/uscode> or search the Code by citation elements at <https://www.govinfo.gov/#citation>. To find a historical edition of the Code from before 1994, use HeinOnline.

12.2 : State Statutes

For state statutes, use the preferred version of the code noted in *BB* Table T1.3. For codes compiled by West or Lexis, use the database's current information for each particular law. Only include the name of the database if indicated by the entry in *BB* Table T1.3.

ALA. CODE § 25-4-76 (2022).

CAL. HARB. & NAV. CODE § 134 (West 2022).

OHIO REV. CODE ANN. §§ 4585.01-.14 (LexisNexis 2022).

12.3 : Short Forms for Statutes

To clarify *BB* 12.10(b), the short form for statutes can be used (subject to the five-footnote rule, *see BB* 10.9(a)) for citations to any section within the same title of the code, but the long form must be repeated for citations to different titles.

77. 42 U.S.C. § 1983.

78. *See id.* § 1981; 52 U.S.C. § 10301(a); DEL. CODE ANN. tit. 23, §§ 1101-1113 (2022); *see also id.* § 1708.

79. *See* 42 U.S.C. § 1983; DEL. CODE ANN. tit. 9, § 2302 (2022).

However, *SLR* does not use a short form version (other than *id.*) that omits the title number or statute name.

Correct: 42 U.S.C. § 1983; National Environmental Policy Act § 102; *id.* § 103.

Incorrect: § 1983; § 102; § 103.

12.4 : Identical Digits for Statutes

To clarify *BB* 3.3(b), *SLR* convention is to retain identical digits when citing multiple sections within statutes. If you believe that omitting identical digits would improve readability without creating confusion, leave a comment for your SE. This rule does not apply to citations to multiple subsections.

Correct: 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331-1332.

Also correct: 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d)(1)-(3).

Incorrect: 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331-32.

Correct: 42 U.S.C. §§ 300g-1 to -5, -7[SE: I think we're okay omitting identical digits here even though 300g-1, 300g-2, etc. are their own sections. See the examples in *BB* 3.3(b).].

12.5 : Citing the Internal Revenue Code

When citing Title 26 of the United States Code in a piece that involves substantial tax-related content, use “I.R.C.” as permitted by *BB* 12.9.1. Otherwise, continue to cite this as “26 U.S.C.” like the rest of the Code.

12.6 : Abbreviating Uniform Statutes

To clarify *BB* 12.9.4, all uniform statutes can be abbreviated according to *BB* Table T6; it does not matter whether they appear in *Uniform Laws Annotated* (U.L.A.).

Correct: UNIF. PROB. CODE § 2-108 (1983).

Incorrect: UNIFORM PROBATE CODE § 2-108 (1983).

12.7 : Abbreviating Local Statutes or Ordinances

Cite local ordinances—even those available only on websites—according to *BB* 12.9.2. Abbreviate the political subdivision and state name per *BB* Table T10 and the code name per *BB* Table T6. Do not provide the URL.

See, e.g., S.F., CAL., PUB. WORKS CODE § 2307.6(a) (2018).

12.8 : Codification Information for Session Laws

Special Note: You must attach (a) screenshot(s) to the Sourcepull, R1, or R2 files of the codification information using the links below for *every* session law in your split. Add an extra page to the PDF.

SLR always includes codification information when citing statutes as session laws. See BB 12.4(f). Session laws refer to specific laws the author has elected to cite instead of a statute, e.g., the Civil Rights Act. These are common and the single greatest pain point in *SLR* editing. *To find codification information, use the Office of the Law Revision Counsel (OLRC) tables* [here](#), [here](#), and [here](#) (*this link being the most useful*).

Example: Civil Rights Act of 1964, Pub. L. No. 88-352, tit. VII, 78 Stat. 241, 253-66 (codified as amended at 42 U.S.C. §§ 2000e, 2000e-1 to -17). **Redbook Note:** This comes from OLRC Table III and can be viewed [here](#).

88th Cong. ↑		78 Stat. ↑		July 2, 1964 ↑
88-351		88-352 (pdf)		88-353
Act Section	Stat. Pg.	United States Code		
		Title	Section	Status
1	241	42	2000a nt	
101	241	52	10101	
201	243	42	2000a	
202	244	42	2000a-1	
203	244	42	2000a-2	
204	244	42	2000a-3	
205	244	42	2000a-4	
206	245	42	2000a-5	
207	245	42	2000a-6	
301	246	42	2000b	
302	246	42	2000b-1	
303	246	42	2000b-2	
304	246	42	2000b-3	
401	246	42	2000c	
402	247	42	2000c-1	Elim.
403	247	42	2000c-2	
404	247	42	2000c-3	
405	247	42	2000c-4	
406	248	42	2000c-5	
407	248	42	2000c-6	
408	249	42	2000c-7	
409	249	42	2000c-8	
410	249	42	2000c-9	
501	249	42	1975a	Elim.

If only certain sections of the session law are cited, give the codification information for those sections. If the entire session law is cited, give the codification information for the entire act.

More detailed instructions for finding codification information are included at the [end of this document](#). Please consult the MEs with questions on how to use or navigate these tables. A session law is “codified as amended” if any codified provision was subsequently updated or revised. Otherwise, it is simply “codified.”

Fair Labor Standards Amendments of 1974, Pub. L. No. 93-259, § 28(a)(2), 88 Stat. 55, 74 (codified as amended at 29 U.S.C. § 630(b)).

Regulatory Flexibility Act, Pub. L. No. 96-354, 94 Stat. 1164 (1980) (codified as amended at 5 U.S.C. §§ 601-612).

IoT Cybersecurity Improvement Act of 2020, Pub. L. No. 116-207, § 4, 134 Stat. 1001, 1002-03 (codified at 15 U.S.C. § 278g-3b).

When a statute is codified in nonconsecutive ranges, use the following conventions (with the *United States Code* as an example). If the codification can be expressed in three or fewer ranges of sections, all within a single title, include all sections.

If there are more than three ranges, cite the statute as being “codified [as amended] in scattered sections of _U.S.C..” *Cf. BB 12.2.2(a).*

If the statute is codified in two different titles, include all sections in which it is codified unless doing so would require more than three nonconsecutive ranges of sections, in which case you should cite it as being “codified [as amended] in scattered sections of _ and _U.S.C.”

If the codification spans at least three titles of the Code, cite it as being “codified [as amended] in scattered sections of the U.S. Code.”

Civil Rights Act of 1964, Pub. L. No. 88-352, tit. VII, 78 Stat. 241, 253-66 (codified as amended at 42 U.S.C. §§ 2000e, 2000e-1 to -17).

Class Action Fairness Act of 2005, Pub. L. No. 109-2, 119 Stat. 4 (codified as amended in scattered sections of 28 U.S.C.).

Social Security Amendments of 1965, Pub. L. No. 89-97, 79 Stat. 286 (codified as amended in scattered sections of 26 and 42 U.S.C.).

Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, Pub. L. No. 111-148, 124 Stat. 119 (2010) (codified as amended in scattered sections of the U.S. Code).

The same conventions apply for citations to state session laws or to material codified in the *Code of Federal Regulations*.

Act of May 25, 2011, No. 23, 2011 Wis. Sess. Laws 104 (codified as amended in scattered sections of the Wisconsin Statutes).

Short-Term, Limited-Duration Insurance, 83 Fed. Reg. 7437, 7438, 7445-47 (proposed Feb. 21, 2018) (to be codified in scattered sections of 26 and 45 C.F.R.).

14: ADMINISTRATIVE AND EXECUTIVE MATERIALS

14.1 : Federal Register Dates

Contrary to the implication of *BB* 14.2(a), use the date that appears at the top of the page of the Federal Register rather than the date on which a rule was promulgated or a notice announced.

14.2 : FTC Filings

SLR has created a citation format for FTC materials other than opinions, based on *BB* 14.3.2, *BB* 10.8.3, and *BB* Table T1.2. For an unpublished filing:

[Full document name (e.g., “Complaint, Request for Relief, and Order”)][¶ pincite], [party name (per *BB* 14.3.1(a))], FTC File No. [number] ([date (of decision if one has been issued; otherwise of filing)]), [URL].

Example: Complaint ¶ 6, Intuit Inc., FTC File No. 192-3119 (Mar. 30, 2022), <https://perma.cc/DW42-89R4> (“In truth, TurboTax is only free for some users.”).

For a filing published in the FTC official reporter along with the FTC order, there’s no need to indicate that something is a complaint. Just follow *BB* 14.3.2.

14.3 : SEC Filings

Pincites for SEC filings follow the parenthetical identifying the form type and are set off by a comma. Cite section, paragraph, or item numbers where available. Use “at” only for page numbers.

Alphabet Inc., Annual Report (Form 10-K), item 8, at 70 (Feb. 2, 2017).

Expanding on *BB* Table T1.2, *SLR* has created the following citation format for exhibits included in SEC filings:

[Company name (abbreviated according to *BB* Tables T6 & T10)], [full document name as indicated on the exhibit or table of exhibits] (Exhibit [number] to [form type]), [pincite] ([full date of filing]).

Examples:

Bear Stearns Cos., Agreement and Plan of Merger, Dated March 16, 2008, by and Between the Bear Stearns Companies Inc. and JPMorgan Chase & Co. (Exhibit 2.1 to Form 8-K), § 1.4(c) (Mar. 20, 2008).

Wal-Mart Stores, Inc., Amended and Restated Bylaws of Wal-Mart Stores, Inc., Effective as of June 5, 2014 (Exhibit 3.2 to Form 10-Q), art. II, § 9 (June 6, 2014).

15: BOOKS, REPORTS, AND OTHER NONPERIODIC MATERIALS

15.1 : Et al.

For sources of all types except amicus briefs, *see RB 10.5*, the first citation should include the full names of *all* authors, editors, and translators instead of being abbreviated with “et al.” *Contra BB 15.1(b), 15.2(a), (b)*. If the list seems unwieldy, leave a comment for your SE.

For a source with three or more authors, subsequent citations that use a *supra* form should include only the first author’s last name, followed by “et al.”

15.2 : Subtitles

SLR always includes subtitles. This applies to all types of sources and deviates from the portion of *BB 15.3* that encourages the omission of subtitles.

A title and subtitle must be separated by punctuation. If the source contains no such punctuation on its title page (that is, if the title and subtitle are distinguished solely by typography), separate them with a colon. *See CMOS 14.89*. Otherwise, separate the title and subtitle with the same punctuation used in the source, whether a colon, dash, question mark, exclamation mark, period, other character, or combination of such marks. *See CMOS 14.96*. If the source already contains a punctuation mark, do not add another.

Source title: No Purpose to Print! Why Online Is All We Need

Correct: Sajjan S. Sri-Kumar, *No Purpose to Print! Why Online Is All We Need*, 75 STAN. L. REV. ONLINE 942, 960-63 (2023).

Source title: You Can Join Law Review and Still Use Spreadsheets?: My Story

Correct: Lexie Shah, *You Can Join Law Review and Still Use Spreadsheets?: My Story*, 75 STAN. L. REV. 419, 420 (2023).

Source title: It’s Not a Nursing Home. It’s a Retirement Community

Correct: Tony Soprano, *It’s Not a Nursing Home. It’s a Retirement Community.*, NEWARK TIMES (Jan. 10, 1999), <https://perma.cc/GCJ4-U7S8>.

If a source has multiple subtitles, include only the first subtitle; or, if the multiple subtitles are of the same degree of importance and no specific punctuation is provided in the source, keep them and separate them with a semicolon. *See CMOS 8.164, 14.90*.

Correct: Norman Whitfield & Barrett Strong, *War: What Is It Good For? Absolutely Nothing*, 1969 MOTOWN L. REV. 25, 27-28.

If a source's principal subtitle is set off with an em dash, any sub-subtitle should be set off with a colon, not a semicolon, if no specific punctuation is provided in the source.

Correct: Horace P. Payne III, Andrew J. Park & Isaac W. Shapiro, *Teetering Triangle—The Tragic Threesome: Where Is Our Fourth Managing Editor?*, 76 STAN. L. REV. 861, 911 (2024) ("If you're reading this, it's you!").

Incorrect: Horace P. Payne III, Andrew J. Park & Isaac W. Shapiro, *Teetering Triangle—The Tragic Threesome; Where Is Our Fourth Managing Editor?*, 76 STAN. L. REV. 861, 911 (2024) ("If you're reading this, it's you!").

If a subtitle is unwieldy, leave a comment for your SE.

15.3 : Reports with Serial Numbers

Extrapolating from *BB* 15.7, always include a report number for a government document or other report that has a serial number.

For legislative, administrative, and executive reports, see *BB* 13.4, 14.2(d). Follow the citation format in *BB* 13.4(d) for Government Accountability Office (GAO) and Congressional Research Service (CRS) reports.

15.4 : Online Treatises

When citing regularly updated treatises, *SLR* prefers to cite to the authoritative electronic database instead of the print edition even where the database version does not preserve the print formatting. When citing an electronic database version of a treatise, include the electronic publisher name in the date parenthetical as you would with a state statute.

35A Am. Jur. 2D *Ferries* § 55 (LexisNexis 2022). 2 C.J.S. *Admiralty* § 20 (West 2022).

3 Paul Goldstein, GOLDSTEIN ON COPYRIGHT § 15.6.1 (Wolters Kluwer 2022).

The works in the first two examples above have a special citation form provided by *BB* 15.8(a), and they cannot be cited using *supra* or hereinafter. If such a source has been cited in any form within the previous five footnotes, *see RB* 10.9, omit the publisher-and-date parenthetical but do not otherwise use a short form.

Please note that there may be circumstances when you need to cite an older version of a treatise. In such situations, you should cite to a print edition. Notify your SE if you are unsure which edition should be cited.

15.5 : Preferred Versions of Common Works and Special Citation Forms

If an author cites any of the following sources, you will need to find same material in one of *SLR*'s preferred sources unless otherwise noted. Take care to find the correct pincite.

But Note: If the author cites a source which itself quotes or cites a different version of any source below, we would use that version in the citing or quoting parenthetical. *See RB 1.8.*

(a) Blackstone's Commentaries: the last authorial edition, the London printing of the 12th edition (1793-95), available in [SearchWorks](#) through LLMC Digital.

(b) The Bible: the New Revised Standard Version, unless there is a compelling reason to cite another translation (such as the King James Version).

(c) Code of Hammurabi: the 1904 translation by Robert Francis Harper.

THE CODE OF HAMMURABI, KING OF BABYLON § [sec no], at [page no] (Robert Francis Harper trans., 2d ed. 1904) (c. 2250 B.C.E.).

(d) The Federalist: the 1961 edition edited by Clinton Rossiter. If you think there is a compelling reason to use a different version, please notify your SE. *By SLR convention (and contrary to BB 15.10.1, ex. 8), a *supra* short-form citation to a *Federalist* essay should be formatted as follows:*

THE FEDERALIST NO. 51 (James Madison), *supra* note 17, at 319.

You may use a *supra* short-form citation to refer to any essay in a particular edition of *The Federalist* if the piece you are editing has previously cited any other essay from the same edition. For instance, the above example would be correct even if footnote 17 gave a long-form citation to *The Federalist No. 23*, written by Alexander Hamilton, rather than *The Federalist No. 51*.

(e) Paradise Lost: the 2021 edition by Gordon Teskey. Use this format:

JOHN MILTON, PARADISE LOST IV.79-110, at 80 (Gordon Teskey ed., W.W. Norton & Co. 2d ed. 2020) (1674).

(f) Papal encyclicals: Use this format:

Pope Paul VI, Encyclical Letter, *Humanae Vitae* ¶ 16 (July 25, 1968).

15.6 : Works in a Collection

SLR's preference is to use "in" for all works published in a collection—regardless of whether the collected material was originally published elsewhere. Cf. BB 15.5.2. When citing the individual work, use the same citation style and typeface as you would for any other source of that kind.

MARQUIS DE CONDORCET, ESSAY ON THE APPLICATION OF MATHEMATICS TO THE THEORY OF DECISION-MAKING (1785), *in* CONDORCET: SELECTED WRITINGS 33, 48-49 (Keith M. Baker ed., 1976).

Memorandum from Robert F. Kennedy, Att'y Gen., to Ross R. Barnett, Governor of Miss. (Sept. 9, 1962), *in* U.S. DEP'T OF JUST., PUB. NO. 9919, CENTURIES OF STRUGGLE: CIVIL AND EQUAL RIGHTS AND THE LONG ARC OF THE MORAL UNIVERSE 12 (2016), <https://perma.cc/82FU-ZXCD>.

Use "reprinted in" only to note a convenient alternative location when citing a standalone work directly per BB 1.6(a)(ii).

P.J. Federico, *Commentary on the New Patent Act*, 35 U.S.C.A. 1 (West 1954), reprinted in 75 J. PAT. & TRADEMARK OFF. SOC'Y 161, 176-77 (1993).

16: PERIODICALS

16.1 : Nonconsecutively Paginated Journals and Magazines

A nonconsecutively paginated journal is a journal in which each *issue* starts on page one. A consecutively paginated journal has each *volume* start on page one, but each *issue* starts where the previous one left off.

For every periodical, you must check whether it is consecutively paginated, and thus falls under BB 16.4, or nonconsecutively paginated, and thus falls under BB 16.5. To check, find the periodical on a library database or the periodical's website, pull up all issues from the same year or volume as the cited source, and see whether each issue starts on page one. The pagination schemes of some journals do change over time, so it is important to check the year or volume in which the cited source appears.

Once you confirm that a periodical is consecutively or nonconsecutively paginated, please note your findings in the Sourcepull spreadsheet so that future editors do not have to replicate the process.

16.2 : Open-Access Journals and Certain Nonconsecutively Paginated Journals

Many open-access scientific journals (PLOS ONE, NATURE COMM'NS, SCI. ADVANCES, and others) publish large volumes of papers, identified with an electronic location identifier instead of a traditional printed page range. In many cases, each of these articles will be individually paginated, so that they each begin on page one. For these articles, place the electronic identifier where the traditional page range would appear, and provide an “at” pincite to the page of the cited material.

Heng-Xing Zou, Alison E. Anastasio & Catherine A. Pfister, *Early Succession on Slag Compared to Urban Soil: A Slower Recovery*, 14 PLOS ONE e0224212, at 2 (2019), <https://perma.cc/C44W-X2Z5>.

If the articles do not have an electronic location identifier, but are instead individually numbered, follow the above instructions but substitute “art.” and the article number for the electronic identifier.

Kelly Cleland, *State of Emergency Contraception in the U.S., 2018*, 3 CONTRACEPTION & REPROD. MED. art. 20, at 2 (2018), <https://perma.cc/W5PQ-TL2Y>.

16.3 : Online Versions of Newspaper or Magazine Articles

If an online version of a newspaper or magazine is available, SLR uses an internet citation under BB 18.2.2 (as amended by RB 18 below), not a citation to the print copy of the newspaper or magazine.

If for some reason it appears that a print copy is preferable, please flag the issue for your SE. To clarify, the effect of this rule is that *BB* 16.6 is rarely used for newspapers and *BB* 16.5 is generally used only for journals, except for older sources that lack an online equivalent.

16.4 : Special Reports in Newspapers

Separately paginated special reports should generally be cited in accordance with *BB* 15 (or, if not substantial enough to qualify for *BB* 15, then as a miscellaneous document, *see RB* 18.7). If a special report contains multiple articles, treat each article like a shorter work within a collection in accordance with *BB* 15.5.1.

Correct: Chip Dale, *Institutions and Counterparty Risk*, in FIN. TIMES, ASSET SERVICING 4, 9 (2010).

Incorrect: Chip Dale, Special Report, *Institutions and Counterparty Risk*, FIN. TIMES Oct. 18, 2010, at 4.

16.5 : Citing Abstracts

SLR does not cite abstracts.

If the author has cited or quoted an abstract, either (1) change the pincite to wherever in the article the appropriate citation would be or (2) ask the author to do so. If the author has quoted a part of the abstract and the same language never appears later in the article, leave an AA note asking them to pick a different quotation. If the author cites the abstract because they are making a point about what the article is generally about, a citation to the introduction or conclusion will usually work as a substitute. If the citation to the introduction or conclusion addresses a point that goes beyond the general thrust of the article, you will need to find a new citation within the body of the article.

16.6 : Checking for Special Designations

Per *BB* 16.7, always check whether a piece appearing in a law review is a note, comment, or other student-written work; book review; or other specially designated work (that is, anything that is not an “article”). Please be sure to include this designation in the citation.

Jamie D. Halper, Note, *Friends, Classmates, Alumni, Lend Me Your Student Notes*, 76 STAN. L. REV. 1, 3 (2024) (noting the Note’s notable contributions to the scholarship discussing noteworthy notations).

Signs that a piece is a student-written work include that (1) the author’s name appears at the end, rather than the beginning, of a piece; (2) there is no author bio footnote on the first page; and/or (3) there is such a footnote, and the author is identified as a student or recent graduate.

If you are unsure whether the piece is an article or another type of piece, check the Table of Contents to see how it is described there and leave a comment for your SE.

This rule also applies to other periodicals. For newspapers (including those available online), check whether the piece is an editorial, opinion, or letter to the editor per *BB* 16.6(a).

Elizabeth W. Tarbell, Letter to the Editor, *No Chico for Me*, S.F. CHRON. (June 5, 2023), <https://perma.cc/SS2H-TMFA> (urging members of *SLR* to refer to Horace Preston Payne III by his full legal name).

17: UNPUBLISHED AND FORTHCOMING SOURCES

17.1: SSRN Publications

SLR cites papers on SSRN only as a last resort. If you encounter an SSRN citation for a forthcoming or unpublished paper, check to see whether it is published elsewhere.

18: INTERNET SOURCES

18.1: URLs

In all citations to internet sources, *SLR* includes an archival link. Contrary to *BB* 18.2.1(d), *SLR* never includes both an original and an archival link. *SLR* uses Perma.cc to archive internet sources.

Please Note: No hyperlink should be active in the piece; i.e., remove hyperlinks that are clickable.

The MEs will convert all URLs to Perma.cc links between Round 2 and Galley Night. During Galley Night, you are responsible for checking the Perma.cc links to ensure that they are working. You do not need to alter them otherwise.

Where a (last visited) parenthetical would otherwise be required in a citation under *BB* 18.2.2(c)—that is, when there is no date provided on the website itself—it should be replaced with an (archived) parenthetical indicating the Perma.cc capture date.

Correct: Isaac W. Shapiro, *A New Era for Bumble Bee Tuna*, APPLIED ICHTHYOLOGY Q. (June 30, 2023, 3:04 AM PDT), <https://perma.cc/NL8B-AFTG> (discussing beekeeping's lessons for the aquaculture industry).

Correct: Conrad Sproul, *A Guide to Having Your Online Submission Published*, PHAT CHANCE BLOG, <https://perma.cc/5BJC-B6XV> (archived July 7, 2020).

If a webpage contains both the time and date of its original publication and the time and date it was updated (as is sometimes the case with news materials), include the latter in an (updated [date]) parenthetical in the same place you would put the date parenthetical otherwise (that is, before the URL). If the webpage is periodically updated and notes the date it was “last updated” or “last modified,” include that date in a (last updated [date]) parenthetical that replaces the archived date parenthetical (that is, after the URL), per *BB* 18.2.2(c).

Correct: Andrew J. Park, *Caffeination at SLS: What to Do When the Free Coffee Machine is Broken*, STAN. PUB. PROT. CMTY. COMM’N (updated Aug. 20, 2023), <https://perma.cc/65KH-59EN>.

Correct: Collin Fredricks & Catherina Y. Xu, *Outlook Notifications Haunt Our Dreams*, EXEC. ED. DIG., <https://perma.cc/AX3N-AXAJ> (last updated Aug. 22, 2023).

18.2 : Avoiding Repetitious Author Names or Page Titles

If there would be repetition between the author name, the page title, and/or the main page title, the general rule is to leave the main page title and any other nonrepetitive information. Two common scenarios:

(a) Institutional author clear from main page title: If the institutional author is the same as the owner of the main page and the owner of the main page is clear from the main page title, omit the name of the institutional author and retain the main page title in small caps. *See BB 18.2.2(a).*

Correct: *Directors, Then and Now*, FBI, <https://perma.cc/C4YL-47JD> (archived July 7, 2017).

Incorrect: FBI, *Directors, Then and Now*, FBI, <https://perma.cc/C4YL-47JD> (archived July 7, 2017).

(b) Citation to main page: If the citation is to the main page itself, there's no need to include an italicized page title; only the abbreviated main page title in small caps need be included. *See BB 18.2.2(b)(i).*

Correct: *See FED. JUD. CTR.*, <https://perma.cc/524A-BHQD> (archived July 7, 2017).

Incorrect: *See Federal Judicial Center*, FED. JUD. CTR., <https://perma.cc/524A-BHQD> (archived July 7, 2017).

Incorrect: *See Homepage*, FED. JUD. CTR., <https://perma.cc/524A-BHQD> (archived July 7, 2017).

18.3 : Omitting Words in Main Page Titles

To clarify *BB 18.2.2(b)(i)*, omit the words “a,” “at,” “in,” “of,” and “the” (but retain the word “on”) in main page titles. Do so regardless of whether the page is a periodical. If the resulting title would be unrecognizable or patently asinine (for example, “Above the Law” becoming “ABOVE L.”), leave a comment for your SE. *See RB 24.11.*

Correct: Off. of the Att'y Gen., *About the Office*, U.S. DEP'T JUST., <https://perma.cc/XA5J-G2V2> (last updated Mar. 12, 2021).

Incorrect: Off. of the Att'y Gen., *About the Office*, U.S. DEP'T **OF** JUST., <https://perma.cc/XA5J-G2V2> (last updated Mar. 12, 2021).

18.4 : Dates and Times

Include all of the date/time information provided by the website, formatted by analogy with the following example: (Feb. 1, 2004, 3:56:24 PM CST).

If the website does not provide all of the information, include whatever information is available. Note that time zones such as PST, PDT, and PT are all valid, and all mean different things; thus, do not “correct” time zones except to remove periods.

Correct: [Author], [Page Name], [WEBSITE NAME] (Jan. 7, 2022, 7:03:07 PM PST), [link].

Incorrect: [Author], [Page Name], [WEBSITE NAME], (Jan. 7, 2022, 7:03 PM **P.S.T.**), [link].

If the webpage provides a time in 24-hour format, translate the time into AM/PM format.

Correct: Christopher Huberty, *They Both Have a Salesforce Tower: Why There Are No Discernible Differences Between Indianapolis and San Francisco*, ARCHITECTURAL DIG. (May 10, 2022, 11:40 PM EDT), <https://perma.cc/VM8A-QC5P>.

Incorrect: Christopher Huberty, *They Both Have a Salesforce Tower: Why There Are No Discernible Differences Between Indianapolis and San Francisco*, ARCHITECTURAL DIG. (May 10, 2022, 23:40 EDT), <https://perma.cc/VM8A-QC5P>.

If the webpage does not provide *any* date/time information, the Managing Editors will include the date the Perma.cc record was created in a parenthetical *after* the URL. *SLR* never uses “last visited” parentheticals. When you encounter a source without any date/time information, please insert an “archived” parenthetical but leave the date blank.

Joshua Petersen, *Please Come to the Symposium*, PLEASE, <https://perma.cc/ZHR5-5RP4> (archived Sept. 28, 2025).

18.5 : Parallel Citations to Internet Sources

SLR encourages citations to internet sources whenever the printed source might be difficult for a reader to access. When including a parallel citation, the URL should be placed according to *RB* 1.16.

18.6 : Location Parentheticals for Websites

If a source is hard to find once you visit the URL in the citation, please insert a “to locate” parenthetical to help direct the reader to the particular information being cited. See *BB* 18.2.2(d).

Archived Public Data Files: FY 2013, U.S. SOC. SEC. ADMIN., <https://perma.cc/Y39C-7P3R> (archived July 7, 2017) (to locate, select “View the live page,” then select the “FY 2013” tab, follow the “ALJ Disposition Data” hyperlink, and select “September 2013”).

18.7 : Miscellaneous Documents in PDF Form

The foregoing sections apply to webpages; online PDFs are treated differently. *The Bluebook* does not provide a format for miscellaneous or informal PDF documents that are not “reports” per *BB* 15, so *SLR* has developed its own format. When a document in PDF form is available only (or primarily) online but is not a website or other document outlined in *BB* 17.2, it is likely a miscellaneous document.

Cite a miscellaneous document as a report, but use roman text in lieu of small caps.

Correct: Bella M. Ryb, Presidential Platitudes 4-11 (2020), <https://perma.cc/Y3AB-RBCK>.

Incorrect: BELLA M. RYB, PRESIDENTIAL PLATITUDES 4-11 (2020), <https://perma.cc/Y3AB-RBCK>.

For an example of a miscellaneous document, see Sup. Ct. of the State of N.Y., Cnty. of N.Y., Parenting Plan (2013), <https://perma.cc/M87K-AUJT>. When considering whether something is a report or miscellaneous document, keep in mind the types of sources that receive small caps (books) and those that receive roman text (working papers). Below are several criteria to help you decide whether something is a report or miscellaneous document. Whichever you choose, leave an SE note explaining your reasoning.

Reports (BB 15)	Miscellaneous Documents (RB 18.7)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Created by, for, or with the help of a government, corporation, organization, or other well-known entity • Often have serial numbers • Usually quite long • Address a primary area of research or research question and involve analysis and/or empirical findings • Formal in appearance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can be created by anyone • Usually have no serial number • May be as short as a single page • Can be entirely contentless or merely be directing the public to information without conducting any new research or analysis • Informal in appearance

18.8 : Dates for Online PDFs

For PDFs (whether qualifying as a report or a miscellaneous document, *see RB 18.7*), include only the year on the document, even if there is more specific date information available. This is different from the rule for citations to webpages, where SLR includes all date and time information given on the page. Cf. RB 18.4. If there is no date available, use an (n.d.) parenthetical instead. Cf. BB 15.4(c). Do not include the archival date, and do not impute a date based on context clues (for example, the academic or fiscal year to which a document refers, which may not in fact be the date when the document was created).

Correct: Stanford L. Sch., Student Expense Budgets: 2018-2019, at 1 (2018), <https://perma.cc/FXJ2-VWEH>.

Incorrect: Stanford L. Sch., Student Expense Budgets: 2018-2019, at 1 (Mar. 9, 2018), <https://perma.cc/FXJ2-VWEH>.

Correct: Stanford L. Sch., Student Expense Budget: 2022-2023, at 1 (n.d.), <https://perma.cc/V7U5-7TRY>.

Incorrect: Stanford L. Sch., Student Expense Budget: 2022-2023, at 1, <https://perma.cc/V7U5-7TRY> (archived Aug. 11, 2022).

The same principles apply to PDFs cited as reports under BB 15.

18.9 : Movies

Contrary to *BB* 18.6, *SLR* includes the director(s) rather than the production company in citations to films. Citations should follow the general format of: [MOVIE TITLE] ([Director's Name] dir., [year]). *See generally* Rafi Reznik, *Essay, The Auteur as Editor*, 73 STAN. L. REV. ONLINE (2020).

Correct: DUNE (Denis Villeneuve dir., 2021).

Incorrect: DUNE (Legendary Pictures 2021).

21: INTERNATIONAL MATERIALS

21.1: Names in Treaty Titles

Where the title of a treaty includes the names of the parties to the treaty, omit that portion from the title, unless doing so would shorten the treaty name to “Treaty” or something similar. Place the names of the parties later in the citation in accordance with *BB* 21.4.2.

Correct: Definitive Treaty of Peace, Gr. Brit.-U.S., art. IV, Sept. 3, 1783, 8 Stat. 80.

Incorrect: Definitive Treaty of Peace Between the United States and His Britannic Majesty, Gr. Brit.-U.S., art. IV, Sept. 3, 1783, 8 Stat. 80.

But: Treaty Between the United States of America and the French Republic, Fr.-U.S., Apr. 30, 1803, 8 Stat. 200.

24: ADDITIONAL STYLISTIC AND GRAMMATICAL RULES

24.1 : Spelling

Always use *Merriam-Webster's* preferred spelling. Do not simply trust your Microsoft Word dictionary, which in many cases does not conform to *Merriam-Webster*. For more obscure words, look to the *Oxford English Dictionary* for guidance—but if the word does not appear in *Merriam-Webster*, leave a comment for your SE.

SLR prefers the U.S. spelling of words over foreign spellings: Use “honor” instead of “honour” and “toward” instead of “towards.” However, these preferences apply only to the author’s own words, not to quoted material, which should be left as originally written without [sic]. See RB 5.4.

24.2 : Plurals

For general guidance on creating plurals, consult *CMOS* 7.5–15. For plurals of acronyms or periods of time, do not add an apostrophe (for example, use “ATVs” rather than “ATV’s” and “the 1980s” rather than “the 1980’s”).

24.3 : Hyphenation

SLR overrides other authorities on two specific hyphenation issues:

- Contrary to *BB* 17.2.4, *SLR* closes “email,” including in citations.
- Contrary to *CMOS*, *SLR* always closes “decisionmaking,” “policymaking,” “treatymaking,” and like terms whether they are used as nouns or adjectives.

For all remaining hyphenation questions, you must look to *CMOS*’s table (<https://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/dam/cmos/tables/pdfs/table07-hyphens.pdf>) and *Merriam-Webster*. When editing a piece, leave a comment for your SE any time you (i) notice inconsistent hyphenation within the piece or (ii) think a term or phrase should be hyphenated.

When discussing hyphenation matters, the following taxonomy is helpful for consistency:

- “Closed”: No hyphen or space
- “Hyphenated”
- “Open”: Space between two words

24.4 : Quotation Marks and Apostrophes

SLR exclusively uses smart/curly quotes (for example, “and” or “a husky’s howl”) to designate quoted material; *SLR* never uses straight quotes or apostrophes (for example, "and" or "a husky's howl").

Use caution when applying smart/curly quotes to case names beginning with “Mc” or “Mac.” The apostrophe in these case names is a “turned comma,” and should face in the opposite direction of what Word’s smart quotes feature wants.

Correct: Johnson v. M’Intosh, 21 U.S. (7 Wheat.) 543 (1823).

Incorrect: Johnson v. M’Intosh, 21 U.S. (7 Wheat.) 543 (1823).

24.5 : Commas

SLR defers to the author’s preference regarding commas unless the use violates one of the three rules laid out below or is clearly grammatically incorrect.

1. *Serial (Oxford) comma:* SLR uses a comma after the penultimate item in a series. *CMOS 6.19; see also CMOS 6.60.*

Correct: I’d like to thank my parents, Britney Spears, and Nelson Mandela.

Incorrect: I’d like to thank my parents, Britney Spears and Nelson Mandela.

2. *Initial conjunctions:* Commas should not be used to set off initial conjunctions of three or fewer letters (“so,” “and,” “but,” and “yet”). If an initial conjunction of three or fewer letters is followed by a parenthetical phrase that is *itself* normally set off by commas, defer to the author’s preference (but flag for your SE so that they can ensure consistency throughout).

Correct: And don’t call me Shirley.

Incorrect: And, don’t call me Shirley.

Correct: But, on the other hand, I can’t stop you.

Also correct: But on the other hand, I can’t stop you.

3. *“That” and dependent clauses:* Omit a comma after “that” when it introduces a dependent clause. Cf. *CMOS 6.26.*

Correct: The court held that although hot dogs *could* be considered sandwiches, a hot dog does not fall within the plain (or “cocktail party”) meaning of “sandwich.”

Incorrect: The court held that, although hot dogs *could* be considered sandwiches, a hot dog does not fall within the plain (or “cocktail party”) meaning of “sandwich.”

24.6 : Hyphens and Dashes

SLR uses hyphens (that is, “-”) and em dashes (that is, “—”) in accordance with the rules and examples of *The Bluebook* and *CMOS*. Note, however, that unlike *The Bluebook* and *CMOS*, SLR does not use en

dashes (that is, “–”). Where en dashes are suggested by *The Bluebook* or *CMOS*, hyphens are the appropriate substitute (**including in quotations**, see RB 5.4).

Hyphens are generally used in compound words and names and in word division; they also are used to separate numbers and indicate number ranges. *But see BB 3.2(d)*. Em dashes are generally used to set off an amplifying or explanatory element in a sentence (for example, “It was a revival of the most potent image in modern democracy—the revolutionary idea.”).

There are no spaces before or after em dashes or hyphens.

Correct: Most law students—but not all—study for exams.

Incorrect: Some law students — but not those at Stanford — sit in the sun all day.

Remove any spaces around em dashes or hyphens in quoted material without comment. *See RB 5.4.*

24.7 : The One-Space Rule

SLR always uses only *one* space after periods, colons, or semicolons. This includes quoted material: Where such material uses two spaces, replace with one space and do not indicate it as an alteration. *See RB 5.4; accord BB 2.3.*

24.8 : Nonbreaking Spaces

Insert a nonbreaking space (**Option+Space on a Mac; Ctrl+Shift+Space on a PC**) between a symbol and its corresponding numeral. This is done so that a line break will never separate a symbol from its associated numeral. This most often comes up when using § and ¶.

Correct: The *United States Code* has many important sections, and a quite important one is 42 U.S.C. § 1983.

Incorrect: The *United States Code* has many important sections, and a quite important one is 42 U.S.C. § 1983.

There should *not* be a nonbreaking space between a volume number and the name of a work.

Correct: 587 U.S. 1 (2019); 76 STAN. L. REV. 1 (2024).

Incorrect: 587#U.S. 1 (2019); 76#STAN. L. REV. 1 (2024).

The following are cases where there should always be a nonbreaking space (represented below by the # symbol):

Lists

Example: Many reasons exist why Tottenham Hotspur will win the Champions League: (1) Mauricio Pochettino is the best manager in Europe; (2) Harry Kane scores when he wants; and (3) the spirit of White Hart Lane endures.

Time

Between the time and the AM/PM designation (but not between the AM/PM designation and the time zone):

Example: 10:28 AM MDT.

Dates

Between a month and a day (but not between a month and a year):

Example: Dec. 14, 1993; (May 22, 1685); July 2018.

Cases

With case citations—before the “v.”:

Example: Ygritte v. Snow, 353 F. Supp. 3d 837 (D.N.D. 2018).

Ellipses

Before and inside of an ellipsis (but not after):

Example: “Alice had got so much into the way of expecting nothing but out-of-the-way things to happen, that it seemed quite dull... for life to go on in the common way.”

Example: Ygritte, 353 F. Supp. 3d at 854 (“You know nothing, Jon.”).

Numbered & Lettered Nouns

Whether textual or in citations:

Examples: Part III.B; Figure 8; Table 11; Title IX; Proposition 8; *The Federalist No. 10*; section 101; Exhibit B; No. 88-cv-01028; U.S. CONST. art. II, § 2, cl. 2.

Footnote Numbers

Example: notes 78-83

24.9 : Dates and Date Ranges

Retain all digits when giving a range of years (for example, “1993-1998,” not “1993-98”).

When referring to decades, do not insert an apostrophe (for example, “1780s,” not “1780’s”). *See RB 24.2.*

References to centuries should be spelled out in lowercase (for example, “twentieth century,” not “20th century”).

24.10 : Capital Letter After a Colon

SLR follows a straightforward rule to determine whether to capitalize the first word after a colon: Capitalize if the word is a proper noun or the start of a complete sentence. Contra CMOS 6.63.

Correct: The Court was clear: No liability can attach without a proper showing of scienter.

Correct: The Court focused on two things: scienter and its role in proving liability.

24.11 : Doctrine of Patently Asinine Results

If following any citation or usage rule would create a patently asinine result, leave a comment for your SE. Exercise your discretion in whether this is more appropriate for the spreadsheet.

Clark Packard, *Congress Should Take Back Its Authority over Tariffs*, FOREIGN POL’Y: ELEPHANTS ROOM (May 4, 2019, 4:19 PM), <https://perma.cc/5GBS-Q5K2> [SE: The name of the blog is “Elephants in the Room.” I think we should retain “in the” even though *RB 18.3 says to drop it. “Elephants Room” sounds asinine and breaks the idiom.*].

Tips & Tricks

Stuck On Bluebooking a Citation?

If you are unsure about how to cite a particular source, it may be helpful to search Westlaw or Lexis to see how reputable law journals have treated the source in the past. This is not foolproof—if the source is difficult to cite, different journals have probably treated it differently. But you may notice some consensus.

Check *SLR* precedent first. In Westlaw, you can quickly search *SLR* by writing “stnlr:” in the search bar before the search terms. Give the most weight to more recent uses. If *SLR* has not cited a similar source, look to Harvard (hvlr), Yale (ylj), Columbia (clmlr), and Penn (upalr). *If you use this method to resolve an issue, please briefly describe your findings in the citecheck spreadsheet.* And remember: *SLR* has been wrong before; *The Bluebook* changes; and Westlaw is not perfect.

If you have completed the required steps in the [Introduction](#), submit the [Bluebooking Hotline Form](#).

Keyboard Shortcuts in Word

	Mac	Windows
Small Caps	Command+Shift+K	Ctrl+Shift+K
Nonbreaking Space	Option+Space	Ctrl+Shift+Space
Show/Hide Formatting Marks	Command+8	Ctrl+Shift+8
Update Fields/Cross-References	While in a footnote: Command+A (Select All); then Fn+F9	While in a footnote: Ctrl+A (Select All); then F9
Jump to a Footnote	Command+Option+G	F5

Note: There are many more shortcuts! You may wish to peruse Microsoft’s lists of Word shortcuts for Mac (<https://perma.cc/WR3H-HV65>) and Windows (<https://perma.cc/BP3K-EWL9>).

Finding Codification Information for Session Laws

1. Go to the Office of the Law Revision Counsel (OLRC) [Table III](#) (the last link in *RB* 12.8). This is a very handy tool that shows you exactly where session laws are codified.
2. Go to the year of the session law (e.g., 1964).
3. Select the chapter number or public law number (e.g., 88-352).

- Session laws before 1957 are cited by chapter number, not public law number (this is true in footnotes, too). *See BB* Table T1.1. So if you look for an old session law (e.g., from 1803), you'll see something like 1803:27. This is equivalent to "1803, chapter 27."
 - If the session law hasn't already been pulled, save and redbox the format-preserving version by clicking on the link for "PDF" or the link in the "Stat. Pg." column.
4. In the resulting table, find the row(s) corresponding to the section(s) the author cites. Session law section numbers are in the first column (titled "Act Section") and will dictate which rows are relevant. If the author cites the whole session law, *every row* is relevant for codification information.
 5. Once you've found your row(s), look at the columns labeled "Title" and "Section." These columns correspond to the title and section (in the *United States Code*) where the relevant section was codified.
 - If the author cites § 703 of Pub. L. No. 88-352, we can see that it's been codified at 42 U.S.C. § 200e-2.
 - If the author cites all of Pub. L. No. 88-352, we're probably dealing with a "scattered sections" scenario. *See RB* 12.8.
 6. If there's nothing in the "Status" column, go to step 8.
 7. If there is something in the "Status" column, you're not quite done yet. You can generally ignore "Rep." or "Elim." for codification purposes. But if there's a designation like "Rev. T." or "R.S." (as there is for 1803:27), you'll need to look to [Table I](#) (for "Rev. T.") or [Table II](#) (for "R.S.").
 - Table II indicates where old "R.S." (*Revised Statutes*, the predecessor to the *United States Code*) currently lives. 1803:27 was codified at R.S. Sec 2476, which is now 43 U.S.C. § 931 (and interestingly, does not appear to have been amended since 1803). Note that Table II itself occasionally points to Table I (i.e., has "Rev. T." in its "Status" column).
 - Table I involves statutes that have been moved to different parts (sections or titles) of the *United States Code* since their codification. Find the title number from step 5, use the section number from step 5 to find the right row in "Former Sections," and use the information under "New Sections" for your codification information.
 8. You're done! Check the relevant section(s) of the *United States Code* to see whether the session law has been "codified as amended," pull the relevant statute(s) (assuming that there aren't too many), and move on.
 - If an author cites a whole session law, a lot of sections in a session law, or a session law section that's been codified in many places, there isn't a need to pull all of the relevant statutes. Cataloguing your research (with relevant links) in the citecheck spreadsheet should be sufficient in these scenarios.

- Please Note: If you have any doubt as to whether you should pull a codified statute, consult with your SE and your primary ME. If an author uses, “Act of [Date]” or “[Name] Act” in a citation, chances are that you do.