

"Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD, Behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner stone, a sure foundation..." *Isaiah 28:16*

## *Research Cornerstones*

### *Decoding Legal Citations*

#### **Case Citations:**

Citation example for a United States Supreme Court case:

**384 U.S. 436**

Decoding the citation format:

<b>384</b>	<b>U.S.</b>	<b>436</b>
Volume #	Name of the set of	Page #

#### **Statutory Citations:**

Federal statute example:

**28 U.S.C. § 1983**

Decoding the citation format:

<b>28</b>	<b>U.S.C.</b>	<b>1983</b>
Title #	Name of the set of statutes	Section#

Alabama statute example:

**Code of Alabama, 1975, 16-5-10**

Decoding the citation format:

<b>1975</b>	<b>16 - 5 - 10</b>
Code Edition	Title – Chapter- Section#

#### **COMMON ABBREVIATIONS:**

##### **U.S. Supreme Court Reporters**

<b>ABBREVIATION</b>	<b>NAME OF REPORTER</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>
U.S.	United States Reports	1st Floor – Aisle 119
S.Ct.	Supreme Court Reporter	1st Floor – Aisle 119
L.Ed. & L.Ed.2d	United States Supreme Court Reports, Lawyer's Edition	1st Floor - Aisle 118
U.S.L.W.	United States Law Week	Reserve Collection- Current 2 years Older than 2 years -1st Floor - Aisle 24

##### **Federal Court Reporters - Lower Federal Courts**

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<b>ABBREVIATION</b>	<b>NAME OF REPORTER</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>
F., F.2d, or F.3d	Federal Reporter	1st Floor - Aisles 120-124
F.Supp. or F.Supp.2d	Federal Supplement	1st Floor - Aisles 125-128
F.R.D.	Federal Rules Decisions	2d Floor - Aisle 221-222

### Regional Reporters: State Cases

<b>ABBREVIATION</b>	<b>NAME OF REPORTER</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>
A., A.2d	Atlantic Reporter	1st Floor - Aisles 133-134
N.E., N.E.2d	North Eastern Reporter	1st Floor - Aisles 134-135
N.W., N.W.2d	North Western Reporter	1st Floor - Aisles 135-136
P., P.2d	Pacific Reporter	1st Floor - Aisles 137-140
S.E., S.E.2d	South Eastern Reporter	1st Floor - Aisles 141-142
S.W., S.W.2d	South Western Reporter	1st Floor - Aisles 143-145
So., So.2d	Southern Reporter	1st Floor - Aisle 146-150

### Alabama Court Reporters

<b>ABBREVIATION</b>	<b>NAME OF REPORTER</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>
Ala.	Alabama Reports	Alabama - Aisle 103-104
Ala. App.	Alabama Appellate Reports	Alabama - Aisle 104

### Statutes - Names & Abbreviations of Federal & Alabama Compilations

<b>ABBREVIATION</b>	<b>NAME OF COMPILATION</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>
U.S.C.	United States Code	1st Floor – Aisle 115
U.S.C.A.	United States Code Annotated	1st Floor – Aisle 116
U.S.C.S.	United States Code Service	1st Floor - Aisle 115
Ala. Code	State Code of Alabama	Reserve Collections & Alabama – Aisle 101

### Cases and Annotations

<b>ABBREVIATION</b>	<b>NAME OF REPORTER</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>
A.L.R., A.L.R. 2d, 3d, 4 <sup>th</sup> , 5 <sup>th</sup> , 6 <sup>th</sup> , or Fed.	American Law Reports	Reference - Aisles 110-112

**National Encyclopedias**

<b>ABBREVIATION</b>	<b>NAME OF REPORTER</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>
Am.Jur., Am.Jur.2d	American Jurisprudence	Reference Aisle 113
C.J.S.	Corpus Juris Secundum	Reference – Aisle 113-114

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