



Riverside County Law Library

Using a California Citation

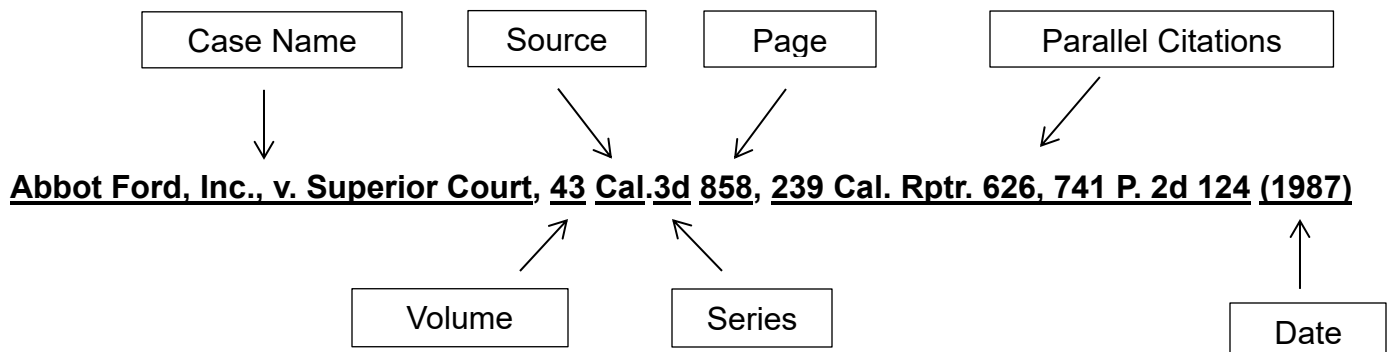
What is a citation?

A citation is a standard reference to a published court decision; basically, the “address” where the case can be located.

Elements of a full citation

- Case Name
- Volume
- Source
 - The abbreviated name of the resource
- Series Number (if any)
 - Typically, the higher the series the newer the case
- Page Number
- Parallel Citations
 - Many times, cases are published by more than one authority/source. A citation may include “parallel citations”, which point to other resources that cite the cases
 - The first citation cited is the “official” report, the citations after are “unofficial.” The designation “official” or “unofficial” do not diminish the authority of a case, it only affects the order in which they are cited
- Date the case was decided

Example



Please Note: The information presented in this information sheet is intended to provide information over a particular subject. For information pertaining to your case please consult with an attorney, court facilitator, or specialist.