



# COMMON LEGAL CITATIONS AND WHERE TO FIND THEM



# Michigan statutes

Citation	Name of authority	Sample citation	Website and Search Notes
<b>PA</b>	Michigan Public Act	1969 PA 306	<a href="#">Michigan Legislature</a> To find the current version of the act in the MCL, use the <a href="#">Public Act MCL</a> link on the left sidebar.
<b>MCL</b>	Michigan Compiled Laws	MCL 257.18	<a href="#">Michigan Legislature</a> Type the MCL number into the <i>MCL Section</i> box to retrieve the text.
<b>SB or HB</b>	Michigan legislative bills	1995 SB 81	<a href="#">Michigan Legislature</a> Use the <i>Bill Number</i> search box or <i>Bills</i> link for an older session (from 1997 to date). It is only necessary to put in the bill number.
<b>MCLA or MCLS</b>	Michigan Compiled Laws Annotated Michigan Compiled Laws Service	MCLA 257.18 MCLS 257.18	MCLA and MCLS are commercially published, annotated editions of MCL available in both print and online formats. The text of an MCLA or MCLS statute section is the same as MCL. A subscription or payment is required for online access. For possible places of access see the <a href="#">Directory of Michigan Libraries with Legal Collections</a> .

# Federal statutes

Citation	Name of authority	Sample citation	Website and Search Notes
<b>PL</b>	Public Law (federal)	P.L. 111-148	<a href="#">GovInfo</a> <a href="#">Congress.gov</a>
<b>USC</b>	United States Code	11 U.S.C. 354	<a href="#">United States Code</a> from Office of the Law Revision Counsel <a href="#">United States Code</a> from GovInfo <a href="#">Legal Information Institute/LII</a> : Site maintained by Cornell Law School containing added research features such as a popular name table.
<b>Stat.</b>	United States Statutes at Large	107 Stat. 25	Public law compilation published by the United States Government Printing Office after the adjournment of a congressional session. Found on the <a href="#">GovInfo</a> and <a href="#">Library of Congress</a> websites.

# Federal statutes, continued

Citation	Name of authority	Sample citation	Website and Search Notes
<b>USCA or USCS</b>	United States Code Annotated  United States Code Service	11 USCA 354 11 USCS 354	USCA and USCS are commercially published, annotated editions of the United States Code (USC) available in both print and online formats. The text of a USCA or USCS statute section is the same as USC. A subscription or payment is required for online access. For possible places of public access, see the <a href="#">Directory of Michigan Libraries with Legal Collections</a> .
<b>H.R. or S.</b>	House or Senate Bill	S. 2806 H.R. 4989	<a href="#">Congress.gov</a> If the session number is unknown, use the website's <a href="#">Advanced Searches</a> feature.

# State and federal administrative codes or regulations

Citation	Name of authority	Sample citation	Website and Search Notes
<b>MI Admin C</b>	Michigan Administrative Code	R 322.1	<a href="#">Michigan Office of Administrative Hearings and Rules</a> Click on the <a href="#">Publications</a> icon.
<b>MR</b>	Michigan Register	2010 MR 17	For proposed administrative rules and regulations, see the <a href="#">Michigan Office of Administrative Hearings and Rules</a> . Click on <a href="#">Publications</a> .
<b>CFR</b>	Code of Federal Regulations	10 CFR 2.1509	The <a href="#">Electronic Code of Federal Regulations</a> is considered the unofficial version of the CFR, but it updates more quickly than the official version. This version may also be reached through <a href="#">GovInfo</a> .
<b>CFR</b>	Code of Federal Regulations	10 CFR 2.1509	The <a href="#">annual edition of the Code of Federal Regulations</a> , considered to be the official edition, may be found at <a href="#">GovInfo</a> .

# Michigan courts (state courts)

Citation	Name of authority	Sample citation	Website and Search Notes
<b>Mich App</b>	Michigan Court of Appeals decisions	123 Mich App 1	<a href="#">Michigan Court of Appeals</a> Use the Cases, Opinions & Orders link and then choose Opinion & Order Search from the menu. <a href="#">Google Scholar</a> Use the "Case Law" radial button to find copies of state court decisions.
<b>Mich</b>	Michigan Supreme Court decision	451 Mich 1	<a href="#">Michigan Supreme Court</a> Use the Cases, Opinions & Orders link and then choose Opinion & Order Search from the menu. <a href="#">Google Scholar</a> Use the "Case Law" radial button to find copies of state court decisions.
Cases filed in Michigan state courts	Michigan circuit court case number	99-123456 DO	<a href="#">Michigan Trial Courts</a> Generally, circuit court cases are NOT available online, but the <a href="#">Trial Court Directory</a> has links to courts with electronic dockets and filing information. Michigan Court of Claims decisions may be found online through <a href="#">Governing Michigan</a> (soon to be <a href="#">LMDigital</a> ).

# Michigan courts

Citation	Name of authority	Sample citation	Website and Search Notes
<b>MCR</b>	Michigan Court Rule	MCR 2.116	The <a href="#">Michigan Court Rules</a> may be found through the <a href="#">Michigan Courts One Court of Justice</a> website on the <a href="#">Michigan Supreme Court</a> page.
<b>MRE</b>	Michigan Rule of Evidence	MRE 805	<a href="#">Michigan Rules of Evidence</a> may be found through the same pages as the Michigan Court Rules – scroll down to the section for <i>Other Rules</i> .
<b>pca, cc, cia, foc, mc, dc, pc, ccfd PLUS a number</b>	State Court Administrative Office (SCAO) Forms	pc51	<a href="#">SCAO-approved court forms</a> may be found through the <a href="#">Michigan Courts One Court of Justice</a> website.

# Federal courts

Citation	Name of authority	Sample citation	Website and Search Notes
<b>F Supp</b>	Federal District Court decision	1 F Supp 456	The <a href="#">US Courts</a> website has links to individual federal court sites where more recent decisions handed down by that court may be freely available. Use the <a href="#">Google Scholar</a> <i>Case Law</i> radial button to find copies of federal decisions.
<b>F2d</b>	Federal Circuit Court decision	201 F2d 233	The <a href="#">US Courts</a> website has links to individual federal court sites where more recent decisions handed down by that court may be freely available. Use the <a href="#">Google Scholar</a> <i>Case Law</i> radial button to find copies of federal decisions.
<b>US, LEd, SCT</b>	U.S. Supreme Court decision	239 US 1	<a href="#">US Supreme Court</a> (sometimes referred to as SCOTUS). Look for the <a href="#">Opinions link</a> .

# Michigan administrative decisions

Citation	Name of authority	Sample citation	Website and Search Notes
<b>OAG</b> or <b>Op Atty Gen</b>	Michigan Attorney General Opinion	OAG, 1985-1986, No 6406, p431 Op Atty Gen 6406	<a href="#">Michigan Attorney General Opinions</a> back to 1963. An index to the Opinions may be found on <a href="#">Governing Michigan</a> (soon to be <a href="#">LMDigital</a> ).
<b>MTT</b>	Michigan Tax Tribunal	3 MTT 276 (Docket No. 416430), MOAHR Docket No 18-000532	Decisions back to 2008 may be found on the <a href="#">Tax Tribunal website</a> . Older decisions may be found on <a href="#">Governing Michigan</a> (soon to be <a href="#">LMDigital</a> ).
Various	Administrative Hearings		Begin the search for other administrative hearings on the <a href="#">Michigan Office of Administrative Hearings and Rules</a> website. Copies of older materials may be archived on <a href="#">Governing Michigan</a> (soon to be <a href="#">LMDigital</a> ).

# Citation not listed? Call us or send your question to the State Law Library.



## [State Law Library](#)

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Law Reference: 517-335-1480

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Additional information about citations relevant to Michigan legal research may also be found in the [Michigan Appellate Opinion Manual](#).