INTRO: LEGAL CITATIONS

Statutes:

33 USC § 1251 et seq.

This is an example of a citation to a Federal statute. This citation refers to the Clean Water Act.

33 - The number in front refers to the title, chapter, or volume number

USC - This stands for the United States Code, where the statute is published

§ - Section symbol

1251 - Indicates the number of the first section in the statute

et seq. - Indicates that the number preceding it is the first section of the statute and more follow

MCL 324.31 or MCL 324.3101

This is an example of a citation to a Michigan statute. This particular citation is to the State Water Resources Protection Act.

MCL - Stands for Michigan Compiled Laws, where the statute is published

324.31 - The statute section. The first numbers after the period indicate the general section part for that statute.

324.3101 - The last 2 numbers of the section make up the entire section number. So in Part 31, there are sections 3101-3133.

Administrative Regulations:

40 CFR § 1502 et seq.

This is an example of a federal regulation. This regulation was promulgated by the Council on Environmental Quality pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act.

40 - The number in front is the title number of the CFR

CFR - Stands for Code of Federal Regulations where the regulation is published

§ - Section symbol

1502 - The first section of the administrative regulations

et seq. - Indicates that 1502 is the first section, and that the sections that follow make up the entire regulation
This is an example of a regulation promulgated by a state agency. In Michigan, such regulations are published in the Michigan Administrative Code. This rule was promulgated by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality to regulate surface water discharges pursuant to the Water Resources Protection Act.

*R* - Stands for rule

**323.2101** - This is the full rule number for the first rule in Part 21 of the regulation. It may be abbreviated as R 2101 or Rule 2101.

**Case Citations:**


*Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corp v Natural Resources Defense Council* - The names of the parties involved in the lawsuit. The “v” stands for versus and separates the plaintiff from the defendant, or the petitioner from the respondent.

435 - The volume number of the reporter where the case is published

US - Indicates the reporter where the case is published. US stands for the United States Supreme Court reporter.

519 - The page in the US reporter where the case begins

; - Separates citations to multiple reporters, where the case is published in more than one reporter

98 - Volume of the reporter

S Ct - Stands for the Supreme Court reporter where the case is also published

1197 - The page in the Supreme Court reporter where the case begins

1978 - The year the case was decided


*Calvert Cliffs’ Coordinating Committee, Inc v US Atomic Energy Comission* - The names of the parties involved in the lawsuit. The “v” stands for versus and separates the opposing parties.

449 - The volume of the reporter where the case is published

F 2d - The 2nd edition of the Federal Reporter where the case is published. Federal cases are published in the Federal Reporter.

1109 - The page number in the Federal Reporter where this case begins

CADC - Stands for the Court of Appeals in the District of Colombia. Depending on where the case was heard, there will be different abbreviations such as - 6th Cir (6th Circuit decision).
1971 - The year when the case was decided


Dwyer v Ann Arbor - The names of the parties involved in the suit. The “v” stands for versus and separates the opposing parties.

79 - The volume of the reporter (Mich App) where the case is published

Mich App - Stands for the reporter where the case is published, the Michigan Appeals Reports

113 - The page number in Mich App where the case begins

; - Separates citations to multiple reporters, where the case is published in more than one reporter

261 - The volume of the reporter (NW2d) where the case is published

NW2d - Stands for the 2nd edition of the North Western Reporter where the case is also published

231 - The page number in NW2d where the case begins

1977 - The year the case was decided