Legal citation does not follow exact APA format. Follow the guidelines below, keeping in mind that the purpose of the citation is to lead your reader to your source.

- “Style of Cause” is the shorter version of the case title (use italicized font)
  - e.g. R v Smith
- R = The Crown, The Queen, Regina, Rex
- Provide sources that are the most easily accessible to your reader
- Year of decision precedes year of reporter
- Year of decision use ( )
- Year of reporter use [ ]
- If year of decision & reporter are same, just use year of decision:
  - Bhinder v Canadian National Railway (1985), 2 SCR 561 (SCC)
- If year of decision & reporter are different:
  - Swiss Bank Corp v Air Canada (1987), [1988] 1 FC 71
- Neutral citation year does not include ( ) or [ ]
- Neutral citation identifies case only, not where located or retrieved
  - R v Pickton, 2005 BCSC 836
- Pinpoint (in-text) example: (R v Pickton, 2005 at para 10)
- Pinpoint: only use page number if no paragraph number available
- Begin page or paragraph pinpoint with at
- Do not place comma before at and do not use p for page number
- Cite paragraphs using para or paras

Note for JIBC students: Unless your instructor states otherwise, you are not required to follow the absolutely official legal citation rules which are:

- If possible, provide your reader with two sources (“parallel citation”)
- Provide neutral citation and one other if available
- After the neutral citation, provide the official reporters for national jurisdictions (e.g. Supreme Court Reports = SCR or Federal Court Reports = FCR) or semi-official reporters for provincial jurisdictions (e.g. Ontario Reports = OR)

EXAMPLES ON FOLLOWING PAGE and more examples at the APA Subject Guide Legal Citation Tab
http://libguides.jibc.ca/apa

Tips taken from: Canadian Guide to Uniform Legal Citation (Also known as “The McGill Guide”) Section E “Jurisprudence”
Available at the JIBC Library, Reference Section, KE 259 C36 2018
### Revised Statutes of Canada:


*Criminal Code, RSC (1985) c C-46*

Citation in text: *(Criminal Code, 1985, s 318(1)(a))*

- When **official** version is in e-format, you do **NOT** need to indicate the electronic source

### Charter of Rights and Freedoms

(print or **official** online version; no retrieval statement required)

*Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, s 7, Part I of the Constitution Act, 1982, being Schedule B to the Canada Act 1982 (UK), 1982, c11*

Citation in text: *(Canadian Charter, 1982, s 6(2)(b))*

### Revised Statutes of British Columbia:

Retrieved from a database (e.g. QuickScribe)

*Treaty Commission Act, RSBC 1996, c 461, (QS)*

Citation in text: *(Treaty Commission Act, 1996, s 5(1))*

### Statutes of British Columbia:

Unofficial version retrieved from website, include retrieval statement


Citation in text: *(Parental Liability Act, 2001, s 7(3)(b))*

### Regulations of British Columbia

(print version)

*Child Care Licensing Regulation, BC Reg 332/2007*

Citation in text: *(Child Care Reg, 2007, s 3(24)(2))*

### Case Law: Neutral citation

(identifies case only, not where located or retrieved)

Year=2005 –(no parentheses)

B.C. Supreme Court

836=Number assigned by Court

*R v Pickton, 2005 BCSC 836*

Citation in text: *(R v Pickton, 2005 at para 10)*

### Case Law: Print Source

239=Volume Number

Canadian Criminal Cases, 3rd series

233 = starting page: 234=page

B.C. Court of Appeal

*R v Ellard (2008), 239 CCC (3d) 233 (BCCA)*

Citation in text: *(R v Ellard, 2008 at 234)*

### Case Law: Retrieved from the

Canadian Legal Information Institute

CanLII (canlii.org)

*R v Glowatski, 1999 CanLII 5608 (BCSC)*

Citation in text: *(R v Glowatski, 1999 at para 17)*

### Case Law: Retrieved from a database (e.g. Quicklaw)

*R v Ellard (2008), BCJ no 1689 (QL) (BCCA)*

Citation in text: *(R v Ellard, 2008 at para 8)*

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Examples are based on Canadian Guide to Uniform Legal Citation. Also known as “The McGill Guide” Available at the JIBC Library, Reference Section, KE 259 C36 2018

For examples and explanations, visit the LEGAL SOURCES tab at [http://libguides.jibc.ca/apa](http://libguides.jibc.ca/apa)