



Supreme Court of Victoria

Practice Note SC Gen 3

Citation of authorities and legislation

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Chief Justice has authorised the issue of the following Practice Note.
- 1.2 The purpose of this Practice Note is to set out the requirements in relation to the citation of authorities and legislation and the provision of those to the Court and other parties.

2. COMMENCEMENT

- 2.1 This Practice Note was issued and commences on 1 December 2025.

3. DEFINITIONS

- 3.1 In this Practice Note:
AGLC means the Australian Guide to Legal Citation published by the Melbourne University Law Review.
Authorised series of law reports means a series of law reports authorised by the Court whose judgments are contained in the report.

4. CITATION FORMAT

- 4.1 The Court uses the AGLC as the basis for citation formats in its publications and parties are invited to do the same to assist the Court.

5. CITATION OF JUDGMENTS

- 5.1 Parties are responsible for verifying the authenticity and accuracy of all citations.
- 5.2 Where a case is reported, that report must be included instead of the unreported version. Authorised reports must be used over unauthorised reports. Unreported judgments should be provided with their medium neutral citation.
- 5.3 If a party intends to rely upon a judgment or ruling which is not publicly available, a copy of this judgment must be provided to all other parties, and to the Court, as soon as it is reasonably practicable.

- 5.4 Judgments provided to the Court are to be in a format that is text searchable where available.
- 5.5 Where a judgment is divided into numbered paragraphs, all references to that judgment must be to the relevant paragraph or paragraphs and, where the judgment has been published in a report, the page on which those paragraphs commence. For example:

Bogan v Estate of Smedley (Deceased) (2023) 72 VR 394 at 410 [60].
(authorised report where 394 is the first page of the judgment in the report, 410 is the page on which the passage is found at paragraph 60).

Rickerby v R [2025] VSCA 252 [57](medium neutral citation, where 57 is the paragraph in which the cited passage is found).

6. CITATION OF LEGISLATION

- 6.1 Legislation from any Australian jurisdiction may be cited without producing a copy to the Court. However, where proceedings involve detailed consideration of point-in-time legislation parties may wish to consider providing copies of the relevant parts of the enactments for the assistance of the Court.

7. FOREIGN LAW

- 7.1 Parties should cooperate to avoid the need for formal proofs of foreign law wherever possible and agree upon the format to be provided to the Court and referenced by the parties.

AMENDMENT HISTORY

30 January 2017: This Practice Note was issued on 30 January 2017 and replaced Practice Note(s) No 9 of 2011 2 of 1999 and 4 of 1998

1 December 2025: The Practice Note was reissued on 1 December 2025 and replaced the version issued on 30 January 2017.

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1 December 2025