

# Westlaw Next: Bluebook Cites

## Mastering the Bluebook • Teresa Bruce • University of Colorado Law School

Follow these steps to get Bluebook-compliant citations from WestlawNext:

- ✓ Start at the Home Page
- ✓ Click on "Preferences" at the bottom of the screen
- ✓ A window will pop up; choose the "Citations" tab
- ✓ Under *Citation Format*, choose "Standard"
- ✓ Under *Citation Style*, choose "Legal Briefs"
- ✓ Under *Citation Formatting*, choose "Underline Title" or "Italicize Title," depending on your preference, and "Include Subsequent History"<sup>1</sup>
- ✓ Under *Parallel Citations*, choose "Include only one citation per authority cited" and "cite to the official reporter if possible"

Now, whenever you use Westlaw's "copy with reference" function, pasting material into a document, you will get a Bluebook-compliant citation, including a pincite. That said, you may need to alter the citation in the two following respects: (1) there may be superfluous subsequent history, not required by the Bluebook (see footnote below) and (2) the font may be different from that in your own document. You can easily avoid the latter problem, however, if you simply paste the material copied from Westlaw as "unformatted text."

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<sup>1</sup> Note, with regard to the latter (subsequent history), that you will have to eliminate some of it because, generally, the Bluebook only requires reference to affirmances, reversals, overrulings, and recent denials of certiorari, and Westlaw gives not only this sort of subsequent history but other sorts, as well.