**Definition**: Abbreviate reporters and court names pursuant to the UPR: Put spaces around multi-letter abbreviations and squeeze single characters together; treat ordinal numbers as single characters. I've underlined the spaces in red, so you can see them more easily, but you should not underline them in real citations.

**The UPR and Courts**

| Federal Circuit Courts | Select Federal District Courts | Select State Courts |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Official Court Name | Abbreviation | Official Court Name | Abbreviation |
| 1st\_Cir. | U.S. District Court for the District of Colorado | D.\_Colo.  | California Supreme Court | Cal. |
| 2d\_Cir. | U.S. District Court for the District of Puerto Rico | D.P.R. | California Court of Appeal | Cal.\_Ct.\_App. |
| 3d\_Cir. | U.S. District Court for the Central District of California | C.D.\_Cal.  | Colorado Court of Appeals | Colo.\_App. |
| 4th\_Cir. | U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Alabama | M.D.\_Ala. | Illinois Appellate Court | Ill.\_App.\_Ct. |
| 5th\_Cir. | U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Washington | E.D.\_Wash. | Maryland Court of Appeals[[1]](#footnote-1) | Md. |
| 6th\_Cir. | U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York | E.D.N.Y. | New York Appellate Division | N.Y.\_App.\_Div. |
| 7th\_Cir. | U.S. District Court for the Western District of Louisiana | W.D.\_La. | North Carolina Court of Appeals | N.C.\_Ct.\_App. |
| 8th\_Cir. | U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Florida | N.D.\_Fla. |  |  |
| 9th\_Cir. | U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York | S.D.N.Y. |  |  |
| 10th\_Cir. |  |  |  |  |
| 11th\_Cir. |  |  |  |  |
| D.C.\_Cir. |  |  |  |  |
| Fed.\_Cir. |  |  |  |  |

**The UPR and Local (Single-State) Reporters: A Sampling**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| State | Title | Coverage | Abbreviation |
| Colorado | Colorado Reports | Colorado Supreme Court cases | Colo. |
| Colorado Court of Appeals Reports | Colorado Court of Appeals cases | Colo.\_App. |
| New York | New York Reports | New York Court of Appeals cases[[2]](#footnote-2) | N.Y. |
| N.Y.2d |
| Supreme Court Reports | New York Appellate Division cases[[3]](#footnote-3) | N.Y.\_Sup.\_Ct. |
| New York Miscellaneous Reports | New York cases from lower courts, such as the Supreme Court[[4]](#footnote-4) | Misc. |
| Misc.­\_2d |

**The UPR and Federal Reporters**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Coverage | Abbreviation | Comments |
| The U.S. Supreme Court | U.S. | All U.S. Supreme Court cases are reported. There are three reporters for this Court: U.S. Reports, Supreme Court Reporter, & Lawyers' Edition. The first, U.S. Reports, is the official reporter and you should cite to it whenever possible. |
| S.\_Ct.  |
| L.\_Ed. |
| The federal circuit courts | F. | Some federal circuit-court cases are reported (depending on whether the judges and/or clerks designate them for reporting). There is one reporter for these courts, the Federal Reporter; it has three series. |
| F.2d |
| F.3d |
| The federal trial courts | F.\_Supp. | Some federal trial-level cases are reported (depending on whether the judges and/or clerks designate them for reporting). There is one reporter for these courts, the Federal Supplement; it has three series.  |
| F.\_Supp.\_2d |
| F.\_Supp.\_3d |
| Miscellaneous federal courts | Ct.\_Cl. | This is the reporter for the Federal Court of Claims, a court with which you may be unfamiliar. With the UPR, you can abbreviate this correctly, even though you may have never seen it done before. |
| F.R.D. | This reporter reproduces federal trial court opinions that deal with the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure and have not been designated for publication in the Federal Supplement. With the UPR, even if you've never seen this reporter before, you know that, because "F," "R," and "D" are single letters, you squeeze them together with no spaces in between. |

**The UPR and Regional (Multi-State) Reporters**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Title | Coverage | Abbreviation |
| Atlantic Reporter | State-court cases from Connecticut, Delaware, Washington DC, Maine, Maryland, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Vermont. | A. |
| A.2d |
| A.3d |
| Pacific Reporter | State-court cases from Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming. | P. |
| P.2d |
| P.3d |
| North Eastern Reporter | State-court cases from Illinois, Indiana, Massachusetts, New York, and Ohio. | N.E. |
| N.E.2d |
| North Western Reporter | State-court cases from Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wisconsin. | N.W. |
| N.W.2d |
| South Eastern Reporter | State-court cases from Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, and West Virginia. | S.E. |
| S.E.2d |
| South Western Reporter | State-court cases from Arkansas, Kentucky, Missouri, Tennessee, and Texas. | S.W.  |
| S.W.2d |
| S.W.3d |
| Southern Reporter | State-court cases from Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, and Mississippi. | So.  |
| So.\_2d |
| So.\_3d |

1. The Court of Appeals is Maryland's high court; you can tell this just from the abbreviation because only high-court cases are abbreviated by truncating a single word (the state's name). [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. The Court of Appeals is New York's highest court. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. The Appellate Division is New York's middle-level appellate court. Technically, it is called "Supreme Court, Appellate Division," hence the reporter's title has the phrase "Supreme Court" in it. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. The Supreme Court is New York's trial court. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)