CONVENTIONS FOR CITATIONS

The Journal of The Missouri Bar uses THE BLUEBOOK: A UNIFORM SYSTEM OF CITATION (19th ed. 2010) (the Bluebook) as its citation manual, with the following modifications. References to rules are the rule numbers of the Bluebook.

CASES

When typing, italicize case names. Do not underline case names in the body of your article.

1. The name of the court rendering the opinion is modified from Bluebook format when it is a Missouri opinion.

Examples:
Missouri Supreme Court en banc.
Sanders v. Ahmed, 364 S.W.3d 195 (Mo. banc 2012)
Missouri Court of Appeals, cite to the appropriate district.

2. All cases should be cited to a West Reporter if possible, and no parallel citation need be given. However, pinpoint citations to the page on which cited material appears are still required. See Rule 3.3(a).

Example:

3. Where the case name is given in the text, it need not be repeated in the note.

Example:
The doctrines are succinctly discussed in Wilkinson v. Diggins.\footnote{80 S.W.3d 849 (Mo. App. E.D. 2002)}

4. Omissions of citations or footnotes need not be indicated, neither by ellipses nor by parenthetical.

5. Certiorari denied need not be included in subsequent history. All subsequent history by which the decision was changed or modified should be included.

Wrong: State v. Grady, 691 S.W.2d 301 (Mo. App. E.D. 1985), cert. denied, 474

6. A citation need not be given every time a case name is used in a sentence. A citation should only be given when quoting from the case, or to show that a case supports a certain proposition. Rule 4.1. **Overscitation interrupts the readability of the article, provides no new information, and is to be avoided. Rule of Thumb: If a pinpoint cite is not required, then a citation is probably unnecessary.**

Wrong: We believe that the balance tips strongly in favor of retrospective operation of the Hoffman rule.
No citation is needed in this sentence.

Right: Nevertheless, in an attempt to ameliorate the unfairness resulting from a rigid application of this rule, courts imposed an obligation on the owner of separate property to reimburse the martial community for its contribution to the purchase of the separate asset.1

1Hoffman, 676 S.W.2d at 824.

Here a pinpoint citation is required to show that Hoffman supports the proposition cited, even though this is not a quote from Hoffman, nor is Hoffman mentioned in the sentence.

**STATUTES AND REGULATIONS**
1. Revised Statutes of Missouri (Do not cite to V.A.M.S.)
   Examples: § 1.070, RSMo 2000.

2. Missouri Code of State Regulations
   Example: 15 C.S.R. § 30-1.010.

3. United States Code
   Example: U.S.C. §.

**COURT RULES**
Missouri Rules of Civil Procedure, Criminal Procedure, and Appellate Procedure should all be cited as: Rule

**GENERALLY**
1. The word supra is not to be used with a case name, see Bluebook Rule 4.2
   Instead use a short form, Rule 4.1.

Wrong: Spudich, supra, at 681.

Right: Spudich, 745 S.W.2d at 681.
To short-cite books or periodicals, Rule 4.2(a), or to cross-reference textual material, Rule 3.6, simply give the note number. *Supra* has been eliminated as unnecessary.

Examples:

*Reich*, note 12 at 4.

*See* notes 12-15 accompanying text.

2. The abbreviation "n." is to be used only when citing to a footnote in the opinion being cited. It is not to be used to cross-reference to a preceding footnote in the instant article.

Wrong: *See* cases cited n.22.

Right: *Spudich v. Dir. of Revenue*, 745 S.W.2d 677, 681 n.1 (Mo. banc 1988).

**CHECKLIST**

**CASES**

1. Is there a book and page number?
2. Is the citation to a West reporter?
3. Are there pinpoint page cites?
4. Is there the name of one party as needed? Exceptions: *Id.* or name stated in text.
5. Do Missouri appellate cases show district?

**STATUTES**

1. Citation to RSMo?
2. Citation to U.S.C.?
3. Citation for another state to recognizable code?
4. NO citations to V.A.M.S.

**RULES & REGULATIONS**

1. Missouri rules cited as Rule?
2. Citation to C.S.R.?
   
   NO citations to V.A.M.R.

**GENERALLY**

1. Is a citation needed?
2. Is use of *Id.* unambiguous?
3. Are clear short forms used where possible?
4. Abbreviation "n." used only for footnotes in cited material and not for cross-references?

*(revised March 1, 2016)*