



**British Columbia Court of Appeal
Practice Directive (Civil & Criminal)
Title: Citation of Authorities**

Issued: 11 July 2022

Effective: 18 July 2022

Cite as: *Citation of Authorities* (Civil & Criminal Practice Directive, 18 July 2022)

Parties preparing factums or submissions to the Court of Appeal are asked to observe the following practices:

General Citation Practices

1. When relying on an authority cited by a different party, always cite to the version within that party's factum or book of authorities and omit the authority from your book of authorities. The Court strongly prefers joint books of authorities and/or joint appeal books where possible.
2. Ensure the version of an authority included in your book of authorities matches the format of the version cited in the parties' factums, particularly with respect to pagination and paragraph numbers.
3. Do not hyperlink authorities cited within factums.

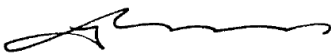
Specific Citation Practices

4. Follow the citation standards in the most recently published edition of the *Canadian Guide to Uniform Legal Citation*, (the *McGill Guide*), unless directed otherwise in this practice directive.
5. Always use periods within citations where omitted by the *McGill Guide*.
6. Cite as precisely as possible to all authorities, for example, to paragraph or section numbers, rather than to pages or chapters.
7. Do not cite to case summaries or headnotes (they are not part of the judgment).
8. Cite Canadian cases to their neutral citation. Additional (parallel) citations are not required.

9. Where a neutral citation is not available for a Canadian case, cite to a freely accessible electronic service (e.g. CanLII) or a printed reporter first. If the first citation is to a printed reporter, include one additional (parallel) citation.
 - ✓ *Green v. Red*, 2013 BCCA 212 at para. 10
 - ✓ *Green v. Red*, 2021 BCCA 333 (CanLII) at para. 10
 - ✓ *Green v. Red* (1977), 3 B.C.L.R. 20 at 21 (Co. Ct.); [2011] 2 W.W.R. 212
 - x *Green v. Red*, [2001] S.C.R. 3, 2001 SCC 1
10. If a case is from outside of Canada, provide the neutral citation if available and one parallel citation.
 - ✓ *Green v. Red*, [1996] SGCA 78, 1 S.L.R.(R) 212 at 213
 - ✓ *Green v. Red*, [1925] 4 D.L.R. 212, 31 W.L.R. 212 at 213 (B.C.C.A.)
11. Use this format for unreported judgments:
 - ✓ *Green v. Red* (30 April 1981), Victoria 79/0123 (B.C.S.C.)
12. When citing a case decided in chambers, include the term "Chambers" or "in Chambers" at the end of the citation within any bracketed information.
 - ✓ *Green v. Red* (1986), 1 B.C.L.R. (2d) 190 (C.A. Chambers)
 - ✓ *Green v. Red*, 2010 BCCA 212 (in Chambers)
13. Only add the name of the judge at the end of the citation when relevant.
 - ✓ *Green v. Red* (1986), 1 B.C.L.R. (2d) 212 (C.A.), Purple J.A., dissenting
14. Do not give the full citation to the rules of the various courts in British Columbia.
 - ✓ *Supreme Court Civil Rules*, R. 15-1
 - ✓ *Supreme Court Family Rules*, R. 15-1
 - ✓ *Court of Appeal Rules*, R. 5
 - ✓ *British Columbia Court of Appeal Criminal Appeal Rules*, 1986, R. 5
 - x *Supreme Court Civil Rules*, B.C. Reg. 168/2009, R. 15-1
15. For books that are continually updated, such as loose-leaf services, include the last revision update. Do not include the "date of consultation".
 - ✓ J.D. Green, *The Law of Tort* (Toronto: Thomson Reuters, 2011) (loose-leaf updated 2013, release 20), ch. 5 at 71.
16. When referring to a practice directive or note, follow the citation style prescribed in that particular directive or note.

Style Practices

17. Review and follow the [completion instructions](#) for all application materials and appeal books before filing. Whenever possible, use the pre-set word templates for factums and written arguments.
18. Do not capitalize the names of documents, the titles of pleadings, or the status of litigation parties unless required in a [Form](#).
 - ✓ “The appellant’s notice of civil claim states a power of attorney...”
 - x “The Appellant’s Notice of Civil Claim states a Power of Attorney...”
19. Capitalize “court” only when referring to a specific court.
 - ✓ “The British Columbia Supreme Court held in *Green* that ...”
 - ✓ “The Court in *Green* ...”
 - ✓ “The case before this Court is about ...”
 - x “There is no Court in Canada except the supreme court of Canada...”
 - x “No Courts have yet adopted...”
20. Capitalize “judge” or “justice” only when naming a particular judge or justice.
 - ✓ “Justice Smith wrote in *Green v. Red* that...”
 - ✓ “The trial judge...”
 - x “The Chambers Judge ...”
21. When referring to an authority several times that must be distinguished from other similarly named authorities, use a short form in brackets. Otherwise, just use a shortened form in subsequent references. Do not use *supra*, *ibid.*, or hereinafter.
 - ✓ *The Red Act of British Columbia*, R.S.B.C. 1995, c. 22, is referred to in both *Green v. Red*, 2007 BCSC 543 (“*Green #1*”) and *Green v. Red*, 2007 BCSC 212 (“*Green #2*”). In both *Green #1* and *Green #2*, *the Red Act* was upheld as constitutional.
22. Avoid overly formalistic language, such as “this Honourable Court,” “heretofore,” “aforesaid,” or “learned”. Only use Latin phrases if necessary.



Chief Justice R.J. Bauman
Court of Appeal for British Columbia

History

Replaces the Civil and Criminal Practice Directive titled *Citation of Authorities* dated 30 May 2013, which replaced previous versions dated 19 September, 2011, and 18 June 2007.