MASSACHUSETTS REPORTS

MASSACHUSETTS APPEALS COURT REPORTS

STYLE MANUAL

PREPARED BY

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1.00 GENERAL RULES

1.01 Introduction

This style manual is used by the Justices of the Supreme Judicial Court (SJC) and the Appeals Court, their law clerks and staff attorneys, and the staff of the office of the Reporter of Decisions in the creation of slip opinions. The manual may be useful to those preparing appellate briefs, and it may offer readers of the official reports a better understanding of the process of reporting the opinions of both courts.

The manual includes general rules of writing style, tables of abbreviations, guidelines for case citation, and rules of punctuation and capitalization followed in preparing the official reports. There are sections explaining the method of forming case captions and party designations. Examples of common statements of dispositive language, referred to as "snappers," are provided. The manual also contains information with regard to the publication of the court's decisions.

Historically, both courts followed the Uniform System of Citation as its general authority for citations, with certain exceptions followed in the interest of consistency with long-standing Massachusetts custom. These exceptions are memorialized here, and the Uniform System of Citation should be consulted only when referred to by the Style Manual or when the Style Manual is silent on a given matter.

1.02 Footnotes

The SJC and the Appeals Court have not adopted the practice followed by many legal periodicals of placing most citations in footnotes, rather than in the text.

1.03 Numerals

The use of Arabic numerals is preferred. However, in referring to articles of Constitutions (Federal or State), statutes, session laws, and other materials, Roman numerals should be retained when used in the original text.

Spell out all numbers smaller than 101. Use a comma when expressing numbers of four or more digits (e.g., 1,234; 98,765).

Exceptions:

- 1. Numbers that begin sentences are always spelled out.
- 2. Substitute words for strings of zeroes (e.g., \$10 million, five billion) or units of measure.
- 3. Use numerals where a series of numbers occur in close proximity to each other.
- 4. Numerals are used if the number includes a decimal point (e.g., 33.3 percent, \$555.37). However, if only zeros follow the decimal, omit them (e.g., \$555).
- 5. Fractions are spelled out with hyphens, whether they are used as nouns or adjectives (e.g., a one-half interest; one-sixth of the group).

1.04 Italics

Italicize a word or phrase by underlining with a single line.

- 1. Foreign words and phrases are not italicized.
- 2. Italicize the expressions <u>ante</u>, <u>post</u>, <u>supra</u>, <u>infra</u>, id., and [sic].
- 3. Italicize the parties within a case citation (but see $\S 2.05$).
 - 4. Introductory signals are not italicized.
- 5. Where a case name that is italicized in the text of an opinion also appears in a section heading of the opinion, the case name is not italicized in the section heading. For example:
 - b. The Batson issue.
 - 2. The Aguilar-Spinelli test.

1.05 Signals

Signals are used to introduce citations by indicating the

purpose of the citation and the degree of support a particular citation gives. The rules governing the use of signals may be found in the Uniform System of Citation, with the following exceptions.

Within a signal, cite cases of the SJC first, the Appeals Court second, and follow the Uniform System of Citation for the rest. The exception to this rule, however, is that citations to cases decided by the Supreme Court of the United States should be placed first. In citing statutes, cite Massachusetts statutes first and follow the Uniform System of Citation for the rest.

In a string citation introduced by a signal, a semicolon should separate the individual citations. Where a string citation has not been introduced by a signal, a period should separate the individual citations. Each signal requires its own sentence. "See also" cannot be used as signal without being preceded by a "see" signal.

1.06 Pages

When citing material that spans more than one page, separate the beginning and ending page numbers with a hyphen and retain all digits:

Matthews v. Ocean Spray Cranberries, Inc., 426 Mass. 122, 128-129 (1997)

When the use of a hyphen would create confusion, use the word "to":

6 Moore's Federal Practice § 26.06[2], at 26-41 to 26-42 (3d ed. 2010)

To cite to an entire footnote that spans multiple pages, cite only the page on which the footnote begins:

Caffyn v. Caffyn, 441 Mass. 487, 494 n.16 (2004)

1.07 Parenthetical Phrases

Unless directly quoting another source, parenthetical phrases appearing after citations should not include articles (the, an, a) but should include all connectors (that, which,

etc.) and all forms of the verb "to be." Omit closing punctuation. For example,

"See G. L. c. 233, § 20B (\underline{e}) (psychotherapist-patient privilege does not apply to child custody or adoption proceedings if judge finds that it is more important for psychotherapist's evidence to be disclosed than to preserve confidential relationship)." Board of Registration in Medicine v. Doe, 457 Mass. 738, 745 (2010).

Parenthetical phrases appear after any subsequent history to a cited case, as well as after "quoting" or "citing" phrases and citations. For example,

Commonwealth v. Delaney, 425 Mass. 587, 591 (1997), cert. denied, 522 U.S. 1058 (1998), quoting Matter of Kenney, 399 Mass. 431, 435 (1987) ("[t]he fundamental requisite of due process is an opportunity to be heard at a meaningful time and in a meaningful manner").

If a parenthetical phrase contains only a quotation, there is no need to alter the first letter of the quotation.

1.08 Maps and Plans

The engineering department in the Land Court will lend assistance in drafting a plan or map that is suitable for reproduction in the official reports.

2.00 CITATION GUIDELINES

2.01 Court Decisions

When citing a published decision, italicize (underline) case names and use roman type for the letter "v."

```
Commonwealth v. Latimore, 378 Mass. 761 (1979)
Commonwealth v. Delaney, 425 Mass. 587, 591 (1997), cert.
denied, 522 U.S. 1058 (1998)
```

Do not underline a period at the end of a party's name.

Heublein, Inc. v. Capital Distrib. Co., 434 Mass. 698
(2001)

Always include denials of certiorari by the United States Supreme Court.

Abbreviate titles of reports according to the Uniform System of Citation. Abbreviate case names according to Appendix 1.

Abbreviations used for subsequent history and other explanatory phrases can be found in Appendix 2.

2.02 Massachusetts Decisions

From 1822 to 1867, the volumes of the official reports were named for the individuals (i.e., the reporters) who prepared the volumes for publication. When citing cases from this era, use the following reporter names, with abbreviations as indicated. A table converting early Massachusetts Reports to these names can be found in Appendix 3.

```
Pickering (1822-1839)

Pick.

e.g., <u>Lawrence</u> v. <u>Stearns</u>, 11

Pick. 500, 501 (1831)

Metcalf (1840-1847)

Met.

e.g., <u>Washburn</u> v. <u>Phillips</u>, 2

Met. 296, 298-299 (1841)
```

Cushing (1848-1853)	Cush. e.g., <u>Robinson</u> v. <u>Gould</u> , 11 Cush. <u>55</u> , 57 (1853)
Gray (1854-1860)	Gray e.g., <u>Farnsworth</u> v. <u>Taylor</u> , 9 Gray 162 (1858)
Allen (1861-1867)	Allen e.g., Oliver v. Washington Mills, 11 Allen 268, 270 (1865)

Where pagination differs between the original edition and the reprints of the early Massachusetts Reports, use the original pagination as indicated by asterisks appearing in the reprinted version. (Do not include asterisks in citations.)

Citation to Massachusetts Reports from 1867 to the present (i.e., 97 Mass. to the present) should be to the official reports:

Gaffney v. Contributory Retirement Appeal Bd., 423 Mass. 1 (1996)

Citation to Massachusetts Appeals Court Reports should be to the official reports:

Commonwealth v. Bartlett, 41 Mass. App. Ct. 468 (1996)

2.02.1 Subsequent History

 $\underline{S}.\underline{C}.$ stands for "same case." This is used with a case of either the SJC or the Appeals Court where subsequent action has taken place in the SJC. Note that the SJC reviews the action in the court of origin and does not reverse or affirm Appeals Court decisions.

Examples:

Reversal by the SJC followed by an appeal from convictions at new trial:

Commonwealth v. Lanoue, 392 Mass. 583, 589 (1984), <u>S.C.</u>, 400 Mass. 1007 (1987), and 409 Mass. 1 (1990).

Commonwealth v. <u>Schnopps</u>, 383 Mass. 178, 180 (1981), <u>S.C.</u>, 390 Mass. 722 (1984).

Commonwealth v. Haas, 373 Mass. 545, 550 (1977), $\underline{S}.\underline{C}.$, 398 Mass. 806 (1986).

Remands for further proceedings:

Onofrio v. Department of Mental Health, 408 Mass. 605 (1990),
S.C., 411 Mass. 657 (1992).
Dynan v. Fritz, 400 Mass. 230 (1987), S.C., Martin v. F.S. Payne
Co., 409 Mass. 753 (1991).

Cases considered by the SJC on further appellate review:

Wilcox v. Riverside Park Enters., 21 Mass. App. Ct. 419, 421
(1986), S.C., 399 Mass. 533 (1987).
White Constr. Co. v. Commonwealth, 11 Mass. App. Ct. 640, 647
(1981), S.C., 385 Mass. 1005 (1982).
Ferrari v. Toto, 9 Mass. App. Ct. 483 (1980), S.C., 383 Mass. 36
(1981).

<u>Note</u>: Generally, denials of further appellate review by the Supreme Judicial Court are not included in citations. If necessary, provide such information in a separate sentence, e.g.:

"The Supreme Judicial Court denied further appellate review. See 461 Mass. 1103 (2011)."

2.02.2 Other Massachusetts Sources

See Appendix 4 for the style of citations for sources reporting decisions of Massachusetts lower courts or agencies.

2.03 Federal Court Decisions

Abbreviate the titles of reports according to the Uniform System of Citation. Use the abbreviation "Fed. Appx." for citations to the Federal Appendix.

A citation to a United States Supreme Court decision should be to the United States Reports (U.S.). If that citation is not available, citation should be to S. Ct. or U.S.L.W., in that order.

2.04 Out-of-State Court Decisions

- (a) Where a court's decisions are officially reported, as in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, use only the official citation. No parallel citation is required.
- (b) Where an out-of-State case is found only in the National Reporter System, such as those jurisdictions that have adopted that system as their sole law reporter (e.g., Alaska), specify the court in parentheses before the year of decision: e.g., (Mo. 1992); (Minn. Ct. App. 1989).
- (c) Use a public domain citation format for those jurisdictions that have adopted it as their official format: e.g., State v. Pickens, 2014-Ohio-5445, \P 63. No parallel citation is required.
- (d) Abbreviate the titles of reports according to the Uniform System of Citation.

2.05 Unpublished Orders, Decisions, and Slip Opinions

Use the following basic citation form:

name vs. name, court, No. --, slip op. at --- (full date)

Do not cite to online legal research services such as Lexis and Westlaw.

Examples:

- 1. Raines \underline{vs} . Byrd, U.S. Supreme Ct., No. 96-1671, slip op. at 8 (June 26, 1997)
- 2. United States <u>vs</u>. Labovitz, U.S. Ct. App., No. 94-1725, slip op. at 2 (1st Cir. Mar. 28, 1997)
- 3. Olin Corp. <u>vs</u>. Fisons PLC, U.S. Dist. Ct., No. 93-11166 (D. Mass. Apr. 24, 1995)
- 4. Parks \underline{vs} . Petraglia, Boston Hous. Ct., No. 93-CV-00155 (Jan. 20, 1995)
- 5. Liberty Mut. Ins. Co. \underline{vs} . Gonzalez, Mass. Super. Ct., No. ESCV20151794B (Essex County June 8, 2017)

Note: When it is necessary to cite unpublished Appeals Court decisions issued pursuant to its rule 23.0 (formerly rule 1:28), use the format described in $\S 2.01$, supra. However, citation to such decisions is not encouraged. See $\S 5.02(3)$, infra.

2.06 Massachusetts Statutes

Citations to the General Laws should refer to the official compilation, including the supplement, if any, in which the cited material appears. Insert hard spaces between G. and L., between the section symbol and the section number, and between subsections. Underline lowercase lettered subsections. Do not use symbols to express fractions (e.g., use 1/2, not $\frac{1}{2}$).

Use of the phrases "inserted by," "as appearing in," "as amended by," or "as amended through," with reference to the General Laws, is no longer required, although these phrases may be inserted, in any precise form, at the discretion of the author. Their use may be avoided (again at the discretion of the author) by use of the following forms when reference to the statute as in effect at a particular time is important.

Examples of forms of citation to Massachusetts statutory material (including examples of the unusual forms for G. L. c. 4, § 6, and G. L. c. 272):

```
General Laws
                     G. L. c. 156, § 10
                     G. L. c. 93A, § 2 (a) (1)
                     G L. c. 231, § 2, first par.
                     G. L. c. 272, § 99 C 1
                     G. L. c. 4, § 6, Third
                     G. L. c. 30A, \S 14 (7) (a)-(d), (f),
                     (q)
                     G. L. cc. 108, 109
                    G. L. c. 6, § 168, inserted by St.
legislative history
                     1972, c. 805, § 1
                     G. L. c. 156, § 10, as amended
                     through St. 1943, c. 549, § 4
                     St. 2008, c. 521, § 9 (effective
                     July 1, 2009)
legislative
                     1989 House Doc. No. 482
documents
                     1992 Senate Doc. No. 301
```

2014 House J. 1396-1400 2017 Senate J. for Oct. 26, at 40-41 (uncorrected proof)

ordinances Ordinances, c. 34 (1984), of the city of Boston

If the citation begins a sentence in running text, spell out the abbreviation appearing at the beginning of the citation:

General Laws c. 93A, \S 2 (a), makes unlawful

Statute 1997, c. 164, which amended the siting board statute . . .

2.07 Federal Statutes

Cite only to official compilations. There are no spaces between subsections. Do not underline lettered subsections.

Use of the year is no longer required, although an author may elect to do so when reference to the statute as in effect at a particular time is important.

United States Code (U.S.C.) 42 U.S.C. § 1395 42 U.S.C. § 1396p(c)(1)

amendments Pub. L. No. 101-239, 101st Cong., 1st Sess., reprinted in 1989 U.S.C.C.A.N. 1906

Pub. L. No. 101-239, Title VI, Subtitle B,
Part 2, \$ 6411(e)(1), 103 Stat. 2271 (1989)

congressional H.R. Rep. No. 265, 99th Cong., 1st Sess., pt. 1, at 71-72 (1985) (Committee on Energy and Commerce)

H.R. Conf. Rep. No. 104-458, 104th Cong., 2d Sess. [page] (1996)

If the citation begins a sentence in running text, spell out the abbreviation appearing at the beginning of the citation:

Title 42 U.S.C. § 1988 makes unlawful

2.08 Out-of-State Statutes

Cite only to official compilations, following the Uniform System of Citation. There are no spaces between subsections. Do not underline lettered subsections.

2.09 Massachusetts Court Rules

Citations to the Rules of Civil Procedure, the Rules of Appellate Procedure, the Rules of the Supreme Judicial Court, and the Rules of Criminal Procedure are followed by a reference to (1) the volume of the Massachusetts Reports in which the SJC promulgated or amended the rule, and (2) the page on which the rule (or the amendment) starts. Include spaces between subparts, but do not underline lettered subparts of rules.

Citations for the Rules of Civil Procedure can be found in Appendix 5.

Citations for the Rules of Appellate Procedure can be found in Appendix 6.

Citations for the Rules of the Supreme Judicial Court can be found in Appendix 7.

Citations for the Rules of Criminal Procedure can be found in Appendix $8. \,$

Citation examples for other Massachusetts court rules can be found in Appendix 9.

2.10 Federal Court Rules

Use of the year is no longer required, although an author may elect to do so when reference to the rule as in effect at a particular time is important.

Fed. R. A. P. xx

Fed. R. Civ. P. xx

Fed. R. Crim. P. xxx

Fed. R. Evid. xxx

2.11 Massachusetts Regulations

Cite to the Code of Massachusetts Regulations according to the following examples. There are no spaces between subsections. Do not underline lettered subsections.

```
301 Code Mass. Regs. § 11.01(3) (1993)
106 Code Mass. Regs. § 303.230(A)(2)(b) (1986)
```

Do not use "et seq." when citing multiple provisions of the Code of Massachusetts Regulations. Use multiple section signs only.

```
970 Code Mass. Regs. §§ 5.00 (1999)
```

If the citation begins a sentence in running text, place "Title" at the beginning of the citation.

Title 301 Code Mass. Regs. \$ 11.01(3) (1993) provides that . . .

Cite to the Massachusetts Register only when no citation to the Code of Massachusetts Regulations is available.

1171 Mass. Reg. 7-9 (Dec. 10, 2010)

2.12 Federal Regulations

Code of Federal Regulations

```
45 C.F.R. § 233.90(c)(1)(v)(B) (1994)
18 C.F.R. § 292.304(e) (1988)
```

Federal Register

```
55 Fed. Reg. 36,813, 36,816 (1990) 53 Fed. Reg. 8034, 8068 (1988)
```

2.13 Massachusetts Constitution

The Massachusetts Constitution will be cited in the same manner as appears in recent volumes of Massachusetts Reports. Common examples are as follows:

art. 48, The Initiative, II, § 3, of the Amendments to the

Massachusetts Constitution, as amended by art. 74 of the Amendments

art. 12 of the Declaration of Rights of the Massachusetts Constitution ("Massachusetts Declaration of Rights" is also acceptable)

art. 114 of the Amendments to the Massachusetts Constitution

art. 63, § 5, of the Amendments to the Massachusetts Constitution, as amended by art. 90 of the Amendments

art. 16 of the Declaration of Rights, as amended by art. 77 of the Amendments to the Massachusetts Constitution

Part II, c. 1, § 2, art. 8, of the Constitution of the Commonwealth

art. 101, \S 3, of the Amendments to the Massachusetts Constitution

If the citation begins a sentence in running text, spell out the abbreviation appearing at the beginning of the citation:

Article 12 of the Massachusetts Declaration of Rights provides that in a criminal trial . . .

Article 46, \S 1, of the Amendments to the Massachusetts Constitution further provides that . . .

2.14 Federal Constitution

e.g., Fourteenth Amendment to the United States
Constitution
art. I, § 10, of the United States Constitution

2.15 Texts

The titles of texts appear in roman type. Omit language such as "The Law of" or "A Treatise on" when it appears at the beginning of the title.

The author of a text is referred to by last name, with initials used for the author's first name and middle name, if

given. Cite all authors. The use of "et al." is not encouraged.

The style of citation for popular texts appears in Appendix 10.

Citation forms for volumes in the Massachusetts Practice Series appear in Appendix 11.

2.16 Periodicals and Articles

The titles of articles and periodicals appear in roman type. Abbreviate the titles of periodicals according to the Uniform System of Citation. The author of an article is referred to by last name only. For example,

Weigand, Employee Duty of Loyalty and the Doctrine of Forfeiture, 42 Boston B.J. 6 (Sept.-Oct. 1998)

Cite to articles in the American Law Reports by the designation "Annot.," followed by the title of the work in roman type. For example,

Annot., Taking and Use of Trial Notes by Jury, 36 A.L.R. 5th 255 (1996 & Supp. 2002)

2.17 Electronic Sources

Cite to the Internet only when the material cited is not available in a traditional printed format or when a citation to the Internet would substantially aid the reader in accessing material that is not widely available in printed format.

2.17.1 Direct Citations to the Internet

A direct citation to material on the Internet should include the last name of the author (if any), the title (in roman type), and the uniform resource locator (URL). For example,

Innocence Project, Eyewitness Misidentification, http://www.innocenceproject.org/understand/Eyewitness-Misidentification.php.

Reeves & Cuddy, Hitting Kids: American Parenting and Physical Punishment, Brookings Inst. Long Memos No. 4 (Nov. 6, 2014), http://www.brookings.edu/blogs/social-mobility-memos/posts/2014/11/06-parenting-hitting-mobility-reeves.

Note that, as reflected in the above examples, we no longer include a "last visited" line indicating the date the source was last accessed. Instead, the Reporter's office inserts a Perma.cc link. See 2.17.3, infra.

2.17.2 Parallel Citations to the Internet

A citation to a primary source (e.g., an article or report) should be formatted pursuant to the guidelines in this style manual. Where appropriate, such a citation may also include a parallel citation to the Internet. For example,

Massachusetts Parole Board, Guidelines for Life Sentence Decisions (updated Mar. 3, 2014), http://www.mass.gov/eopss/agencies/parole-board/guidelines-for-life-sentence-decisions.html.

Supreme Judicial Court Study Group on Eyewitness Evidence: Report and Recommendations to the Justices (July 25, 2013), http://www.mass.gov/courts/docs/sjc/docs/eyewitness-evidence-report-2013.pdf

The Multistate Tax Compact: Suggested Legislation and Enabling Act, art. I, at 1 (effective Aug. 4, 1967), http://www.mtc.gov/uploadedFiles/Multistate_Tax_Commission/About_MTC/MTC_Compact/COMPACT(1).pdf

Report of the Special Master, State vs. Henderson, N.J. Supreme Ct., No. A-8-08, at 14 (June 18, 2010), http://www.judiciary.state.nj.us/pressrel/henderson%20final%20brief%20.pdf%20%2800621142%29.pdf.

2.17.3 Perma.cc

In 2014, the SJC and the Appeals Court began using Perma.cc, a service that helps courts, scholars, and others create Web citation links that will never expire by archiving content found at a URL and generating a Perma.cc link to the archived content. To learn more about how Perma.cc works, visit https://perma.cc/docs.

As part of the editorial process, the Reporter's office adds Perma.cc links in brackets to citations to the Internet. For example,

Innocence Project, Eyewitness Misidentification, http://www.innocenceproject.org/understand/Eyewitness-Misidentification.php [http://perma.cc/XAQ2-4QJG].

Supreme Judicial Court Study Group on Eyewitness Evidence: Report and Recommendations to the Justices (July 25, 2013), http://www.mass.gov/courts/docs/sjc/docs/eyewitness-evidence-report-2013.pdf [http://perma.cc/WY4M-YNZN].

2.18 Short Forms

<u>Cases</u>. In a short form case citation, use only one party's name, in accordance with the Uniform System of Citation.

For example:

"Archer v. Grubhub, Inc." becomes "Archer"

"Commonwealth v. McGhee" becomes "McGhee"

"Conservation Commission of Norton v. Pesa" becomes "Pesa"

After a full case citation is used for the first time in the text of an opinion, use id. or supra, as appropriate, for a subsequent citation to that case in the same paragraph.

For subsequent paragraphs or footnotes, cite to the case using a short form citation with the volume number (e.g., "McGhee, 470 Mass. at 639"). After such a short form citation is used, use supra or id., where appropriate, for subsequent citations to that case in the same paragraph or footnote. (Exception: where there is an uninterrupted multiparagraph discussion of one case, the first citation to that case in the second or subsequent paragraph may use supra or id., where appropriate.)

Statutes and regulations. Do not use "id. at" or "supra at" for citations to the General Laws or the Code of Massachusetts Regulations. Id. is acceptable only where it refers to the same chapter and section of the General Laws, or the same title and section of the Code of Massachusetts

Regulations.

<u>For all authorities</u>. Do not use <u>ibid</u>. Use <u>id</u>. only where there is no intervening authority, even if the intervening authority appears in a quotation.

3.00 WRITING STYLE

3.01 Punctuation and Grammar

3.01.1 Apostrophe

Singular possessive:
 administratrix's
 Congress's
 Richards's
 witness's

Plural possessive:
Johnsons'
Richardses'
witnesses'

Avoid double possessives.

3.01.2 Brackets

Brackets are used around the expression $[\underline{sic}]$ and to enclose citations, corrections, explanations, etc., that were not in the original text but that have been subsequently added.

3.01.3 Colon

Use the colon after an independent clause to introduce a list.

3.01.4 Comma

In a list of three or more terms, insert a comma after every term except the last.

The following list provides further examples of comma usage.

Joseph Calloway \underline{vs} . Richard Smith & others, trustees. ABC Mortgage Co., Inc. \underline{vs} . Drury Corp., Inc., & another. Lydia Griffin, administratrix, vs. Lars Boman.

Commonwealth \underline{vs} . Marion H. Hall, Sr. Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, receiver, \underline{vs} . Roberts. 100,000; 10,000; 1,000

The accident occurred on January 3, 1996, before . . . The statute, G. L. c. 123, § 6, violates . . . See $\underline{\text{Morgan}}$, $\underline{\text{supra}}$ at 63. See $\underline{\text{Tucker}}$, $\underline{\text{supra}}$, in which . . .

3.01.5 Dash

The em-dash (--) is used to indicate a break in the structure of a sentence. It should be typed by using two hyphens.

3.01.6 Hyphen

Unless otherwise provided in Appendix 12 (Style of Particular Words), place a hyphen in an adjectival phrase when it precedes the noun it modifies.

Examples: child-support payment; common-law indemnity; felony-murder rule; long-standing arrangement; second-floor apartment; court-appointed counsel; work-related injury; well-settled law

Otherwise, avoid hyphens.

Examples: the arrangement was long standing;

the action was time barred;

an apartment on the second floor; antitrust; biweekly; codefendant;

coconspirator; counterclaim; extrajudicial; interstate;

intrastate; multistate; nonpayment;
postjudgment; posttrial; pretrial;

subcontractor; prearrest; two year old child

Exceptions: Proper noun: anti-Marxist

Looks bad: anti-intellectual

Confusing: re-sign

3.01.7 Parentheses

If less than a full sentence is enclosed in parentheses, the final punctuation should not remain inside the parentheses. Brackets are used within parentheses to avoid double parentheses.

3.01.8 Virgules (slashes)

Avoid using slashes: and/or, his/her, etc. Use "or" in most situations.

3.01.9 Dates and Time

Where only a month and year are given, a comma is preferred but not necessary (e.g., "July 2001"). Similarly, a comma is preferred but not required where only a specific day and year are given (e.g., "Christmas 1975").

If an author elects to use a full month-day-year as an adjective, no comma is necessary after the year (e.g., "the March 25, 2001 agreement"). However, a month-day or month-year construction, if possible, is preferred (e.g., "the March 25 agreement" or "the March 2001 agreement"). If a full month-day-year date is not being used as an adjective, a comma is required after the year (e.g., "The accident occurred on January 3, 1996, before . . . ").

Decades are expressed without an apostrophe: "The defendant had numerous brushes with the law in the late 1970s into the early 1980s."

The time of day takes a double underscore: "10:45 $\underline{\underline{A}}$. $\underline{\underline{M}}$." Omit zeros when expressing time occurring on the hour: "9 A.M."

3.01.10 Spacing after Sentences

Use two spaces at the end of each sentence.

3.01.11 Accent Marks

Add appropriate accent marks where indicated by the record

(e.g., acute [é], grave [à], circumflex [ô], tilde $[\tilde{n}]$, cedilla [c]).

3.02 Quotations

3.02.1 In General

Quotation marks are commonly used with a colloquialism, e.g., "rock concert," "double aught buckshot," "cruising," "crack" cocaine. Use quotation marks the first time the colloquialism appears; subsequent appearances do not require quotation marks.

Quotation marks also are used in an opinion when material is quoted directly from another source, whether it appears in the text or footnotes, or as blocked text. Quotation marks are used at the beginning of a quote, the beginning of any intermediate paragraphs within the quote, and at the end of the quote.

For quotations of fifty words or more, use blocked text. In blocked text, the indentation is only on the left side of the page. The material in blocked text should be single spaced.

With the exception of colons, semicolons, and dashes, all punctuation is enclosed in the quotation marks.

3.02.2 "Quoting," "quotation omitted," and "citation omitted"

When a citation supporting a quotation is not the original source, the phrase "quoting" is used, followed by the earlier source. "Quoting" references can be strung together if the quotation has been used in successive cases, but it is not necessary to go back more than one layer.

Single quotation marks are used to indicate the material quoted from the earlier source. For example:

"The polling procedure serves a similar purpose because it provides each juror with an opportunity . . . 'to change his mind about a verdict to which he has agreed in the jury room.'" Commonwealth v. Nettis, 418 Mass. 715, 719 (1994), quoting United

States v. Shepherd, 576 F.2d 719, 724 (7th Cir.),
cert. denied, 439 U.S. 852 (1978).

If both sources quote identical material, the single quotation marks are unnecessary:

"We consider the state of the evidence both at the close of the Commonwealth's case, and at the close of all the evidence." <u>Commonwealth</u> v. <u>Zevitas</u>, 418 Mass. 677, 680 (1994), quoting <u>Commonwealth</u> v. <u>Basch</u>, 386 Mass. 620, 622 (1982).

An author may omit the attribution to the earlier source by using the phrase "citation omitted" in parentheses before the initial citation. For example:

"The polling procedure serves a similar purpose because it provides each juror with an opportunity . . . 'to change his mind about a verdict to which he has agreed in the jury room'" (citation omitted). Commonwealth v. Nettis, 418 Mass. 715, 719 (1994).

Similarly, an author may omit the single quotation marks by using the phrase "quotation omitted" in parentheses before the initial citation. Finally, an author may omit both the attribution and the single quotation marks by using the phrase "quotation and citation omitted" in parenthesis before the initial citation. For example:

"The polling procedure serves a similar purpose because it provides each juror with an opportunity . . . to change his mind about a verdict to which he has agreed in the jury room" (quotation and citation omitted). Commonwealth v. Nettis, 418 Mass. 715, 719 (1994).

3.02.3 Other Alterations in Quotations

An author who wishes to bring a word in a quotation to the reader's attention may use " $[\underline{sic}]$." The author may correct or change a word in a quotation as desired. The change should appear in brackets. Omissions should be indicated by the use of ellipses. For guidance on the use of ellipses, consult the Uniform System of Citation.

Other parentheticals regarding alterations to quotations,

such as (emphasis added), are placed immediately following the altered quotation and before the citation to the quoted source. Do not use (emphasis supplied).

When the alteration appears in the quotation before the last sentence quoted, use "(Citation omitted.)" or "(Emphasis added.)" When the alteration appears in the last sentence quoted, use "(citation omitted)." or "(emphasis added)." Do not add "(emphasis in original)."

An author may omit a citation appearing inside the body of a quotation by indicating that omission either with an ellipsis or with the phrase "citation omitted" in parenthesis.

If multiple alterations have been made (e.g., a citation has been omitted and emphasis has been added), this may be indicated in the same parenthetical, using a semicolon between the phrases. For example:

There is thus significant justification for the position that "because Congress only expressly permitted employers to hold . . . alcoholics to the same objective standards of conduct as other employees even though their disability causes misconduct . . . Congress implicitly did not intend to extend the same employer prerogative to employees with other disabilities" (emphasis added; citation omitted). Den Hartog v. Wasatch Academy, 129 F.3d 1076, 1086 (10th Cir. 1997).

Finally, if the altered quotation is itself enclosed within parentheses, the alteration should be noted in brackets within the parentheses. For example:

See G. L. c. 234A, § 39 ("The court shall have authority to excuse a juror . . . only upon a finding of an emergency or other compelling reason" [emphasis added]).

Do not use "(cleaned up)."

3.02.4 Colloquy

Colloquies between or among judges, counsel, witnesses, or parties may appear in the text or footnotes and may be

blocked or may run on in the text. Speaker designations are placed in small capitals outside the quotation marks. When the colloquy is between two parties, the preferred speaker designations are "Q.:" and "A.:" See, e.g., Commonwealth v. Woods, 419 Mass. 366, 375 n.13 (1995) (runon in footnote); Commonwealth v. Barnoski, 418 Mass. 523, 534 n.6 (1994) (footnote); Commonwealth v. Fordham, 417 Mass. 10, 16 (1994) (blocked in text).

3.03 Cross-references

Within the same opinion. When reference is made in an opinion to a portion of the text within the same opinion, supra and infra may be used. With supra and infra, the page number is used without the abbreviation "p."

<u>Supra</u> and <u>infra</u> may be used in an opinion to refer to a footnote appearing elsewhere in the same opinion. (E.g., "See note 6, <u>supra</u>.") Do not use a page number or the abbreviation "n."

In addition, <u>supra</u> and <u>infra</u> (as well as <u>id</u>., where permissible) may be used in referring to cases and statutory material cited within the same opinion. <u>Ibid</u>. is never used.

To dissenting and concurring opinions. When citation is made within a majority opinion to a dissenting or concurring opinion in that case, use "post at ." If there is only one dissenting or concurring opinion, there is no need to identify the author (i.e., "post at [xxxx, J., dissenting]"). If there is more than one dissenting or concurring opinion, use "post at (xxxx, J., dissenting)" only if the text does not identify the dissenting or concurring Justice. For citations to the majority opinion from a dissenting or concurring opinion, use "ante at ."

3.04 Capitalization

3.04.1 Governments, Officials, & Parties

Capitalize the following words when they appear in the text of an opinion. It is not necessary to alter quotations where these words appear in lower-case type.

- 1. Federal, such as Federal government, Federal Reserve, Federal constitutional right, Federal law, etc.
- 2. State, when referring to a State of the United States.
 - 3. Commonwealth.
- 4. Titles of the Commonwealth's constitutional officers:

Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, Secretary of the Commonwealth, Treasurer and Receiver General, Auditor, Attorney General

5. Names of Statewide Commonwealth offices (except when defined as lower case):

Department of Revenue, Department of Environmental Protection, Civil Service Commission

6. Titles of the heads of Statewide Commonwealth offices (except when defined as lower case):

Commissioner of Revenue, Registrar of Motor Vehicles

7. Courts:

Supreme Judicial Court, Appeals Court, Superior Court, District Court, Probate and Family Court, Juvenile Court

- 8. Justice, when referring to a Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court or the Appeals Court (but not when referring to a single justice: for example, "A single justice reported the case . . .").
- 9. References to the Supreme Court or intermediate appellate court of a particular State or the United States Court of Appeals for a particular circuit.
 - 10. Names of governmental bodies:

Appellate Tax Board Congress

Legislature Assembly
Senate Parliament
House General Court

Do not capitalize the following:

bureaus or divisions of the Commonwealth offices (except Division of Insurance and Division of Special Education)
mayors and lesser municipal officials
district attorney
city (e.g., "city of Boston")
town (e.g., "town of Danvers")
assistant attorney general
house of correction
zoning boards
other municipal-level entities

3.04.2 State and Federal Constitutions

The word "Constitution" is capitalized in references to either the Federal or a State Constitution. References to major parts of either, such as "Declaration of Rights" or "Fifth Amendment," take capitals, but expressions such as "due process," "commerce clause," and "equal protection clause" do not.

3.04.3 Statutes

Capitalize the expressions "Statute of Frauds" and "Statute of Wills" (but not "statute of limitations").

3.04.4 Title or Designation Preceding a Name

Capitalize a title or designation preceding a name, e.g., Officer Smith, Trooper Johnson, President Obama, Governor Baker.

When referring to a specific named law enforcement officer, avoid capitalization of the word "police." Thus:

State police Trooper John Doe

Boston police Detective Jane Doe

Similarly, do not capitalize the word "department" when referring to a police department:

Scituate police department

However, an author may elect to use capitals in such situations. For example:

State Police Trooper John Doe Boston Police Detective Jane Doe Scituate Police Department

In either case, do not capitalize either "department" or "police" when making a general reference. For example:

"State police responded to the scene of the accident"
"A Boston police officer witnessed the incident"

3.05 Specific Word Styles

A listing of the style of particular words appears in Appendix 12. For words not appearing on the list, consult the latest available unabridged edition of Webster's Third New International Dictionary of the English Language.

3.06 Gender Neutral Writing

The following suggestions are offered as aids to the use of inclusive language in opinion writing.

1. Use plural pronouns and antecedents.

Attorneys should conscientiously represent the interests of their clients.

2. Eliminate the personal pronoun.

An attorney can give you $\underline{\text{his}}$ advice as to a possible solution.

becomes

An attorney can give you advice as to a possible solution.

3. Replace the personal pronoun with "the," "this," or

"a."

A prudent testator will review his will to ensure that it continues to provide for an appropriate distribution of his estate.

becomes

A prudent testator will review the will from time to time to ensure that it continues to provide for an appropriate distribution of the estate.

4. Use the gender-neutral "who" or "whose."

A law professor often assumes that if a student cannot write clearly, <u>he</u> cannot analyze a complex legal problem. becomes

A law professor often assumes that a student who cannot write clearly cannot analyze a complex legal problem.

5. Use passive voice instead of active voice.

If the judge concludes that venue is improper, \underline{he} should grant a motion to transfer venue.

becomes

If the judge concludes that venue is improper, a motion to transfer venue should be granted.

6. Repeat the noun.

If the judge concludes that the court lacks jurisdiction, he should dismiss the appeal.

becomes

Use

If the judge concludes that the court lacks jurisdiction, then the judge should dismiss the appeal.

Avoid

Additional suggestions:

presiding juror foreman
member of congress, congressman
senator, or representative

chair chairman
anchor anchorman

colleagues brethren
firefighter fireman

fisher
homemaker
executive
representative

reasonable person

artificial staff

diplomacy

server

parking enforcement

officer

fisherman
housewife
businessman
spokesman

reasonable man

man-made
manpower

statesmanship

waiter

meter maid

4.00 GUIDELINES FOR FORMATTING OPINIONS

4.01 Guidelines for Word Processing

- (a) All new decisions or documents that may become part of such decisions must be composed in Microsoft Word and saved in the .docx format.
- (b) When copying and pasting material into decisions from any source other than another Word document, always choose the "Keep Text Only" or "Paste Special, Unformatted Text" options. This eliminates disruptive formatting from being pasted into the decision.
- (c) Margins must be one inch on all sides, with one-half inch headers and footers. Block quotations are indented only on the left side of the page.
- (d) The required font is Courier New, twelve-point type. Separate sentences with two spaces between sentences.
- (e) Page numbers also must be in twelve-point Courier New font, right-justified in the headers. No page number is included on the first page of an opinion.
- (f) Use twelve-point double spacing except for footnotes, block quotations, rescript decisions, and text in appendices, which have twelve-point single spacing with two hard returns after each paragraph.
- (g) Indent the first line of each footnote by one-half inch. Include one space between the footnote number and the text of the footnote.
- (h) An author may elect to add section headings to an opinion (e.g., "Discussion," "Background"). If using introductory letters and numbers with section headings, do so in the following order: 1., a., i., A., I. See, e.g., Lyons v. Secretary of the Commonwealth, 490 Mass. 560 (2022). Underline section headings but not introductory letters or numbers. Capitalize only the first word of a section heading (e.g., "Standard of review"). For case names in section headings, see § 1.04(5).
- (i) Indent "snapper" lines at the end of an opinion

through the use of a series of seven tabs; do not change the margin (e.g., to a 4" left margin) or use a series of spaces. Where a snapper sentence runs to a second or third line, insert a return at the end of each line and, using single spacing, begin each new line with the series of tabs followed by an additional two spaces to further indent the second or third line of the "snapper." Thus:

Judgment affirmed.

Order denying motion for new trial affirmed.

For further guidance on snappers, see § 4.03.

4.02 Case Captions and Party Designations

(a) Criminal Cases

- 1. <u>Case caption</u>. The name that appears in the caption is the name that appears on the complaint or indictment. Where there is an obvious error in the indictment or complaint, the defendant's correct name should be used with an explanatory footnote.
- 2. <u>Party designation</u>. The defendant can be referred to in the text either as "the defendant" or by his or her last name.

(b) Multiple Indictments and Companion Cases

1. <u>Case caption</u>. Each indictment (the conviction of which is appealed) is considered a case. When more than one indictment and more than one defendant exists, there must be a companion case for each.

Examples:

Commonwealth \underline{vs} . David Alvarez (and seventeen companion cases¹). 422 Mass. 198 (1996)

¹ Two indictments against Miguel A. Ocasio, two indictments against Marc Ferrait, two indictments against John Barreto,

five indictments against Jeanatte Pizzaro, five indictments against Pedro Ramos, and one indictment against David Alvarez.

Commonwealth \underline{vs} . Ventry Gordon (and six companion cases¹). 422 Mass. 816 (1996)

¹ Three indictments against Sean Lee, two against Ventry Gordon, and one against Ronald Settles.

Commonwealth \underline{vs} . Daniel J. Curtis (and a companion case¹). 417 Mass. 619 (1994)

¹ Commonwealth vs. Mark J. Giglio.

DISTINGUISH: When there is more than one defendant named in the indictment itself, it is considered one case and is indicated in the case caption by "& another" or "others."

Example:

Commonwealth vs. Max J. Allen & others. 379 Mass. 564 (1980)

¹ Michael R. Cappiello and Martin Koplow.

(c) Tax Cases

- 1. <u>Case caption</u>. The party appealing is named first. The title "Commissioner of Revenue" is used rather than the commissioner's name.
- 2. <u>Party designation</u>. The taxpayer, whether individual or corporate, should be referred to in the text as "taxpayer." It is also correct, for an individual, to simply use his or her last name. The party is <u>not</u> referred to as "plaintiff" or "petitioner."

In most cases, the appeal is from a decision of the Appellate Tax Board. In the text, it should be referred to as:

Appellate Tax Board (board)

Refer to the Commissioner of Revenue in the text as:

Commissioner of Revenue (commissioner)

(d) Administrator(trix) or Executor(trix) of an Estate

General Laws c. 195, § 19: The administrator(trix) or executor(trix) of an estate is sued in his or her fiduciary capacity. The administrator(trix) or executor(trix) does not appear in the case caption in an individual capacity, unless personal liability is alleged in the complaint.

- 1. <u>Case caption</u>. The fiduciary's capacity is indicated in the case caption but not in general citations.
- 2. <u>Party designation</u>. Refer to as executor(trix) or administrator(trix) when appropriate.

(e) Miscellaneous Probate Cases

- 1. <u>Case caption</u>. Administrator(trix) de bonis non and administrator(trix) with the will annexed may be indicated by using just administrator(trix) in the case caption and giving the full title in the text.
- 2. <u>Party designation</u>. If an individual or a group of individuals are sued in more than one capacity, that is indicated in the case caption.

Examples:					
	,	individually	and	as	administrator,
	,	executors and	d tru	ıste	ees,

(f) Trusts

<u>Case caption</u>. The trustee is the party as the trust itself cannot be sued. Provide the name of the trust in a footnote.

Americo Lopes, trustee, $\frac{1}{2}$ vs. City of Peabody. 430 Mass. 305 (1999)

¹ Of the 841 Lake Realty Trust.

<u>Exception</u>. Where a trust is organized as a Massachusetts business trust, it can be sued as if it were a corporation. Therefore, the name of the trust can be used in the case caption:

Marco Realty Trust \underline{vs} . Commissioner of Revenue. 385 Mass. 798 (1982)

(g) Corporations

A corporation is sued in its corporate capacity, and the corporate name should appear in the case heading.

To get the official names of insurance companies and banks, look for a piece of their stationery or an official stamp in the record appendix.

(h) Partnerships

General Laws cc. 108 and 109 govern the formation of general and limited partnerships.

The name of the partnership should not be used in the case caption; ideally, all partners should be named. See, e.g., Anderson v. Phoenix Investment Counsel of Boston, Inc., 387 Mass. 444 (1982).

The name of an LLP or LLC may be used in a case caption. See, e.g., Imprimis Investors, LLC v. KPMG Peat Marwick, LLP, 69 Mass. App. Ct. 218 (2007).

(i) Unions

<u>DiLuzio</u> v. <u>United Elec., Radio & Mach. Workers, Local 274, 386 Mass. 314 (1982), held that labor unions are legal entities for the purpose of suing or being sued. Therefore, the official name of the union appears in the case caption.</u>

(j) Minors or Incompetent Persons

A minor or incompetent person cannot be sued. Parent(s), a guardian, or a conservator are named parties.

With respect to minors, the term p/p/a is not to be used. See, e.g., Bouchard v. DeGagne, 368 Mass. 45 (1975).

Where an incompetent is of age, his or her surname is used. See, e.g., Matter of Spring, 380 Mass. 629 (1980).

Where the incompetent is not of age, he or she is referred to by an assigned pseudonym. See, e.g., Matter of Moe, 385 Mass. 555 (1982).

(k) Custody and Adoption Cases

1. <u>Case caption</u>. In custody and adoption cases, the case captions appear according to the following examples:

Custody of Brandon. 407 Mass. 1 (1990)

Adoption of Mary. 414 Mass. 705 (1993)

2. <u>Party designation</u>. The child is referred to by an assigned pseudonym. The real name of the child is never used.

(1) Juveniles

1. <u>Case caption</u>. In a case involving a juvenile, the juvenile is referred to by an assigned pseudonym. E.g.,

Patrick P., a juvenile, \underline{vs} . Commonwealth. 421 Mass. 186 (1995)

2. <u>Party designation</u>. The name of the juvenile is never used. Refer to the "juvenile."

(m) Youthful offenders

1. Prearraignment.

A. <u>Case caption</u>. In an appeal from a prearraignment order on a motion to dismiss a youthful offender

indictment, use initials for the youthful offender's
name:

N.M., a juvenile \underline{vs} . Commonwealth, 478 Mass. 89 (2017).

B. <u>Party designation</u>. The name of an individual who has been charged but not yet arraigned on a youthful offender indictment is never used. Refer to the "juvenile."

2. Postarraignment.

A. <u>Case caption</u>. In an appeal from a postarraignment order or judgment on a youthful offender indictment, use the full name of the youthful offender, as that name appears on the indictment:

Commonwealth vs. Carter, 481 Mass. 352 (2019).

B. <u>Party designation</u>. An individual who has been arraigned on a youthful offender indictment may be referred to in the text either as "the defendant" or by his or her last name.

(n) Workers' Compensation Cases

1. <u>Case caption</u>. Use the claimant's full name, followed by the word "Case." E.g.,

Joseph Gateley's Case. 415 Mass. 397 (1993)

2. <u>Party designation</u>. The person who is appealing is referred to as the claimant.

Remember to distinguish between administrative judges and administrative law judges at the Department of Industrial Accidents. The two titles are not interchangeable. An administrative judge is a hearing officer or trial judge. He or she, individually, renders a decision based on the evidence presented before him or her. The reviewing board, which is comprised of administrative law judges, is the appellate branch within the department. Administrative law judges review the decisions of administrative judges and issue opinions via multi-member panels.

(o) Inanimate Objects

Inanimate objects can be sued where they are the goods that have been forfeited pursuant to G. L. c. 94C, \S 47. A description of the inanimate object appears in the case caption.

Commonwealth \underline{vs} . One 1976 Cadillac DeVille Automobile. 380 Mass. 411 (1980)

Commonwealth \underline{vs} . Fourteen Thousand Two Hundred Dollars. 421 Mass. 1 (1995)

(p) Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus

1. <u>Case caption</u>. Use the petitioner's full name, followed by a comma and the word "petitioner."

George Upton, petitioner. 387 Mass. 359 (1982)

2. <u>Party designation</u>. The petitioning party may be referred to as "petitioner."

(q) Cities and Towns

<u>General rule</u>. Omit the term "city of" or "town of" unless the expression begins a party name.

Roda Realty Trust \underline{vs} . Board of Assessors of Belmont. 385 Mass. 493 (1982)

Worcester Vocational Teachers Association \underline{vs} . City of Worcester.

385 Mass. 1103 (1982)

<u>Note</u>. The name of a board or committee precedes the municipality's name: e.g., Rent Control Board of Belmont; School Committee of Beverly; Retirement Board of Springfield, Board of Selectmen of Wenham.

(r) Office Holders

The title of the office appears in the case caption, not the surname of the office holder:

Attorney General \underline{vs} . Travelers Insurance Co. 385 Mass. 598 (1982)

Libby \underline{vs} . Commissioner of Correction. 385 Mass. 421 (1982)

(s) Sexually Dangerous Persons (SDP)

In appeals from petitions for release from confinement under G. L. c. 123A, § 9, the individual's full name appears in the case caption, followed by a comma and the word "petitioner." In the text, the individual is referred to as "petitioner."

George Johnstone, petitioner. 453 Mass. 544 (2009)

In appeals from classifications under G. L. c. 6, § 178M, the case caption contains the individual's registry number, in the following format. In the text, the individual is referred to as "plaintiff" or "Doe."

John Doe, Sex Offender Registry Board No. 3974 $\underline{\text{vs}}$. Sex Offender Registry Board. 457 Mass. 53 (2010)

In appeals from SDP adjudications under G. L. c. 123A, \$ 12 (\underline{b}), the case caption is identical to captions used in criminal cases. In the text, the individual is referred to as "defendant."

Commonwealth vs. Joseph Blake. 454 Mass. 267 (2009)

(t) Interveners

Interveners (note spelling) are usually indicated by "& another" or "& others," with a footnote detailing the names of the interveners.

Gale Costa $\underline{\text{vs}}$. Fall River Housing Authority & another. 1

453 Mass. 614 (2009)

¹ The Attorney General, intervener.

(u) Double Case Captions

Double case captions appear in the rare circumstance when cases separately argued are addressed in a single opinion. This is not the same as cases being consolidated in the trial court or in an appellate court.

The New York Times Company \underline{vs} . Commissioner of Revenue. Federal Express Corporation \underline{vs} . Commissioner of Revenue. 427 Mass. 399 (1998)

(v) Third-Party Cases

A third-party plaintiff or defendant is indicated in the case caption as follows.

Louise R. MacDonald \underline{vs} . Joseph N. Najjar; Canada Dry Corporation, third-party defendant. 362 Mass. 119 (1972)

(w) Cases Involving Abuse Prevention or Harassment Prevention Orders

Published opinions in civil cases arising under G. L. c. 209A, involving abuse prevention orders, or under G. L. c. 258E, involving harassment prevention orders, shall use pseudonyms in lieu of the parties' names. The style of such pseudonyms shall be similar to the style of pseudonyms used in cases involving juvenile delinquents, i.e., a first name and an initial employing the first letter of the first name (e.g., Adam A. or Brenda B.). For cases arising in the Appeals Court, the Appeals Court staff attorneys will assign a pseudonym from the list that they maintain. For cases arising in the SJC, the Reporter of Decisions will obtain the pseudonym from the list that the Appeals Court staff attorneys maintain. Chambers will employ whatever nomenclature they choose for the parties (real names, initials, made-up pseudonyms, etc.), and one of the editorial groups will put the final pseudonym in place. Both chambers and the editorial group will take all steps

to avoid including in the opinion any additional information that would identify the parties (e.g., names of relatives, addresses, names of work places).

Published opinions in criminal cases involving a violation of a G. L. c. 209A or G. L. c. 258E order ordinarily will describe the victim or complainant but not name him or her. The defendant's name will appear in the caption of the opinion but will not be used in the opinion itself. Again, all steps will be taken to avoid including information that would identify the parties.

Memoranda and orders pursuant to Appeals Court rule 1:28 (now rule 23.0) in civil cases under G. L. c. 209A or G. L. c. 258E will employ initials in lieu of the parties' names, as there is less need to identify such decisions easily. Such memoranda and orders in criminal cases involving a violation of a G. L. c. 209A or G. L. c. 258E order will name the defendant in the caption but not in the body of the memorandum and order; the victim or complainant will be described but not named. All steps will be taken to avoid including in the body of the memorandum and order any additional information that would identify the parties.

4.03 Snappers; General

A judgment is the final decisive act taken by a court in setting forth the rights of the parties. The judgment may include a decree and order from which an appeal lies. Traditionally, a decree was the final act taken by an equity court. Today we use judgment as the term for final disposition in either an equity or legal proceeding.

A verdict is handed down by a jury. Also, an appeal is taken from a judgment, not a verdict.

In drafting a judgment or snapper the lower court must be given clear instruction. If the words "So ordered" are used, they should be preceded by a statement making the disposition clear.

Avoid long snappers, which can create problems with formatting and pagination when published in the advance sheets. Instead, use complete sentences in the text that make the disposition clear, and use as a snapper the words "So ordered."

The following distinctions should be kept in mind: The SJC affirms, reverses, or modifies judgments and remands cases.

The court will sometimes issue an order in a case "with opinion or opinions to follow"; no snapper is needed when opinion is subsequently released. See, e.g., Commonwealth v. Bernardo B., 453 Mass. 158 (2009).

No snapper is necessary on opinions answering questions certified to this court by the Federal District Court or the Court of Appeals for the First Circuit. See, e.g., Foxworth v. St. Amand, 457 Mass. 200 (2010).

A number of common errors committed in drafting an order or snapper are illustrated in a law review article written by former Chief Justice Robert W. Calvert of the Supreme Court of Texas (6 Tex. Tech. L. Rev. 915 [1975]).

- 1. Do not mistake the lower court for its judgment.
- Ex. "We deny the petitions and affirm [the order of the] Interstate Commerce Commission."
- 2. Do not mistake the case for the judgment below.
- Ex. "The case [judgment] is affirmed."
- 3. Do not mistake the lower court's opinion for its judgment.
- Ex. "The opinion [judgment] of the District Court is reversed."
- 4. Do not mistake the judgment for the case.
- Ex. "The judgment of the trial court is reversed and [the case] remanded."
- 5. Do not omit a remand.
- Ex. "The judgment that the plaintiff take nothing is reversed" should read, "We reverse the judgment and remand for a determination of damages."

4.03.1 Judgment Reversed or Vacated

The snapper "Judgment reversed" should be used when the judge in the trial court should have disposed of a case in a different manner. If the trial judge may not have been incorrect in deciding a case but the SJC is remanding the case for further proceedings, the snapper "Judgment vacated" should be used.

4.03.2 Common Examples; Civil Cases

- (a) Judgment affirmed.
- (b) Judgment reversed.
- (c) The judgment is vacated, and the case is remanded to the Superior Court for entry of an order declaring that

So ordered.

(d) The judgment is affirmed, and the order denying the motion for a new trial is affirmed.

So ordered.

4.03.3 Common Examples; Criminal Cases

- (a) Judgment affirmed.
- (b) Judgment vacated.

Verdict set aside.

(c) If the evidence remaining after a suppression motion is allowed seems insufficient to warrant conviction on the charges, use phrasing similar to that in Commonwealth v. Torres, 424 Mass. 153, 164 (1997), where the court indicated that it was "doubtful" that the Commonwealth had enough evidence to reprosecute, but that the court would leave that decision to the district attorney.

If, however, it is impossible to retry the defendant (e.g., because of double jeopardy):

Judgment reversed.

Verdict set aside.

Judgment for the defendant.

(d) The judgment is affirmed, and the order denying the motion for a new trial is affirmed.

So ordered.

(e) If the case was tried to a judge rather than a jury:

Judgment vacated.

Finding set aside.

4.03.4 Particular Cases

(a) Appellate Division

When the Appellate Division agrees with the trial court, it dismisses the report.

Examples:

The order of Appellate Division dismissing the report is affirmed.

So ordered.

The decision and order of the Appellate Division is affirmed (reversed).

So ordered.

(b) Appellate Tax Board

The decision of the Appellate Tax Board is reversed (affirmed).

So ordered.

(c) Arbitration

A judgment of a lower court is either to "confirm" or "vacate" an arbitration award.

Judgment affirmed.

(d) Care and Protection

The judge's order granting the petition to dispense with parental consent to adoption of the two children is affirmed.

So ordered.

The judge's order committing the children to the care and protection of the department and the orders allowing the petitions to dispense with the need for consent to adoption are affirmed.

So ordered.

(e) Companion and Consolidated Cases

The snapper should recognize multiple judgments.

Judgments affirmed (reversed).

(f) Contributory Retirement Appeal Board

The judgment of the Superior Court affirming the Contributory Retirement Appeal Board's decision to deny benefits is affirmed.

So ordered.

The judgment of the Superior Court is vacated. An order is to enter remanding the case to the Contributory Retirement Appeal Board for further proceedings consistent with this opinion.

So ordered.

(g) Multiple Convictions

An order and snapper should clearly identify which convictions are being reviewed (convictions that are filed or not appealed do not count; count only those convictions from which an appeal is taken).

(h) Dismissal

Appeal dismissed.

(i) <u>Habeas Corpus</u>

The order denying the petition for a writ of habeas corpus is affirmed.

So ordered.

(j) Labor Relations Commission

The decision (or order) of the commission dismissing the . . . is affirmed.

So ordered.

(k) Medical Malpractice Tribunal

Judgment of dismissal affirmed.

The findings of the tribunal are to be replaced by the decision of this court that the offer of proof of the original plaintiffs, if properly substantiated, is sufficient to raise a legitimate question of liability appropriate for judicial inquiry. The judgment of dismissal is vacated and the present plaintiffs may proceed with their claims.

So ordered.

(1) Mootness

The judgment is vacated, not on the merits but because the case became moot, and a new judgment is to be entered dismissing the action.

So ordered.

The issues raised on appeal are moot and the appeal is dismissed. The judgment is to stand.

So ordered.

(m) Rate Setting Commission

The judgment of the Superior Court reversing the decision of the commission is affirmed.

So ordered.

5.00 PUBLICATION OF MASSACHUSETTS OPINIONS

5.01 Slip opinions; advance sheets; bound volumes

Opinions of the SJC and the Appeals Court are originally released in slip opinion form and contain the opinion and certain preliminary material added by the Reporter's office (county of origin, date of argument, date of decision, panel, catchwords indicating various issues, statement of procedural history, and listing of counsel).

Each week's decisions are then published in weekly advance sheet form. The advance sheets include headnotes written by the Reporter's office and permanent pagination provided by the official printer, thus making official citations available upon publication of the advance sheets. Decisions issued by Wednesday of a given week will appear in the issue of advance sheets dated Friday of the same week. Any corrections or amendments to the advance sheets should be forwarded to the Reporter by $2 \ \underline{P} \cdot \underline{M}$. on Wednesday so that they may appear in the next issue of the advance sheets.

Slip opinions are superseded by the publication of the advance sheets. If discrepancies exist between the slip opinion and the advance sheet versions, the advance sheet version controls.

After a sufficient number of advance sheet pages have been published, the volume is closed and these pages form the bound volume. Any corrections to the advance sheets should be forwarded to the Reporter by mail or e-mail so that they may appear in the bound volume. The bulk of such corrections do not require immediate inclusion in the advance sheets (e.g., typographical errors that do not blur the author's meaning). If a Justice wishes to amend an opinion, an amendment is prepared. If a significant error is found that affects the meaning of the opinion or in some way makes the opinion unclear, a correction is prepared.

Advance sheets are superseded by the publication of the bound volume. If discrepancies exist between the advance sheet and bound volume versions, the bound volume version controls.

The bound volumes of the Massachusetts Reports and

Massachusetts Appeals Court Reports contain the only official text of the opinions of the SJC and Appeals Court. If discrepancies exist between any other version of a case and the bound volume version of the Massachusetts Reports or Massachusetts Appeals Court Reports, the bound volume version controls.

5.02 Electronic resources

- 1. The official Web site of the Reporter's office is www.mass.gov/orgs/office-of-the-reporter-of-decisions, which is also found at www.massreports.com. This Web site includes the following:
 - (a) Daily slip opinions. An announcement is made on the Web site (under "New opinions") at 8 $\underline{\mathbb{A}} \cdot \underline{\mathbb{M}}$. indicating whether the Supreme Judicial Court or Appeals Court intends to issue opinions at 10 $\underline{\mathbb{A}} \cdot \underline{\mathbb{M}}$. and listing the case captions and docket numbers of those opinions each court intends to release. (A similar announcement is made under the username @MassReports.) Slip opinions are posted to the Web site daily after 10 $\underline{\mathbb{A}} \cdot \underline{\mathbb{M}}$. They are removed at the end of two weeks and, thereafter, may be found in the archive of published opinions (see § 5.02[2]).
 - (b) Registration to receive notification of the release of slip opinions by e-mail on a daily basis.
 - (c) Links to free unofficial collections of past published opinions of the Supreme Judicial Court and Appeals Court (including the archive detailed in § 5.02[2]);
 - (d) A link to a free archive of past Appeals Court unpublished summary decisions (see § 5.02[3]);
 - (e) Historical information regarding the Reporter's office, from 1804 to the present.
 - (f) A downloadable copy of the SJC Style Manual in PDF format.
 - (g) A list (under "Opinion revisions") of corrections, amendments, and supplements made to SJC and Appeals Court opinions prior to publication in final form.
- 2. As part of its contract with the Reporter's office,

LexisNexis has created a free Web site at www.lexisnexis.com/clients/macourts. This Web site includes searchable, free access to an archive of published opinions of the Supreme Judicial Court and the Appeals Court, from 2001 to the present, and searchable, free access to unpublished decisions of the Appeals Court.

3. The Reporter's office maintains a separate Web site, www.128archive.com, for the posting and archiving of unpublished Appeals Court decisions issued pursuant to its rule 23.0 (formerly rule 1:28) that have been released since the decision in Chace v. Curran, 71 Mass. App. Ct. 258, 260 n.4 (2008). This Web site is updated with new releases daily at 10 A.M.

These unpublished decisions are primarily addressed to the parties and, therefore, may not fully address the facts of the case or the panel's decisional rationale. Moreover, these decisions are not circulated to the entire court and, therefore, represent only the views of the panel that decided the case. These decisions may be cited for their persuasive value but, because of the limitations noted above, not as binding precedent. When citation is necessary, use the format described in § 2.02, supra.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1

ABBREVIATIONS FOR CASE NAMES

- 1. Do not abbreviate the first word of a party's name.
- 2. Do not use "Inc." if the name of the firm also contains words that clearly indicate that the entity is a business (e.g., Co., Bros., Corp., Ass'n).
- 3. Do not include the words "City of," "Town of," or "Inhabitants of" in citations. However, these words are included in the "running heads" (i.e., the page headers that appear at the top of each page of the opinions in the advance sheets and the bound volume).
- 4. The words "Board of" are dropped when the expression refers to constituent members (e.g., "Board of Overseers" or "Board of Selectmen"). The words are retained in such expressions as "Board of Appeals" or "Board of Health." Where a municipal official or board is a party, the name of the city (or town) should be retained. The name of the city (or town) appears at the end of the party's name (e.g., Smith v. Board of Appeals of Salem; Jones v. Mayor of Peabody) and not the beginning (e.g., Smith v. Salem Board of Appeals).
- 5. Shorten the phrase "In the Matter of" to "Matter of" (e.g., Matter of the Estate of King).
- 6. Do not substitute acronyms, even if well known, in place of a longer name or phrase (e.g., "American Civil Liberties Union" not "ACLU").
- 7. The following words and the names of States are to be abbreviated for purposes of citation. Abbreviations for the names of States appear in the Uniform System of Citation. Unless otherwise indicated, add an "s" inside the period to make an abbreviation plural.

Accident Acc. Administrat[or, Adm'[r, x] rix]
Administrat[ion, Admin. rix]
Agricultur[al, e] Agric.

And America[n]	& Am.	<pre>Distribut[ing, or]</pre>	Distrib.
Associate	Assoc.	District	Dist.
Association	Ass'n	Division	Div.
Assurance	Assur.	Domestic	Dom.
Atlantic	Atl.	East[ern]	E.
Authority	Auth.	Education[al]	Educ.
Automobile	Auto.	<pre>Electric[al, ity]</pre>	Elec.
Avenue	Ave.	Electronic	Elec.
Board	Bd.	Engineer	Eng'r
Boulevard	Blvd.	Engineering	Eng ' g
Brotherhood	Bhd.	Enterprise	Enter.
Brothers	Bros.	Environment	Env't
Builder	Bldr.	Environmental	Envtl.
Building	Bldg.	Equipment	Equip.
Bureau	Bur.	Exchange	Exch.
Casualty	Cas.	<pre>Execut[or, rix]</pre>	Ex'[r,x]
Cent[er, re]	Ctr.	Federal	Fed.
Central	Cent.	Federation	Fed'n
Chemical	Chem.	Fidelity	Fid.
Civil	Civ.	Financ[e, ial,	Fin.
Commission	Comm'n	ing] Foundation	Found.
Commissioner	Comm'r	General	Gen.
Committee	Comm.	Government	Gov't
Company	Co.		Guar.
Consolidated	Consol.	Guaranty Hospital	Hosp.
Construction	Constr.	Housing	Hous.
Continental	Cont.	Incorporated	Inc.
<pre>Contract[ing, or]</pre>	Contr.	Indemnity	Indem.
Cooperative	Coop.	Independent	Indem.
Co-operative	Co-op.	Industr[y, ies,	Indus.
Co-Operative	Co-Op.	ial]	inadb.
Corporation	Corp.	Information	Info.
Department	Dep't	<pre>Institut[e, ion]</pre>	Inst.
Development	Dev.	Insurance	Ins.

International	Int'l	Railroad	R.R.
Investment	Inv.	Railway	Ry.
Junior	Jr.	Redevelopment	Redev.
Laborator[y, ies]	Lab.	Refining	Ref.
Liability	Liab.	Reproduct[ion,	Reprod.
Limited	Ltd.	ive]	
Litigation	Litig.	Road	Rd.
Machine[ry]	Mach.	Savings	Sav.
Management	Mgt.	School[s]	Sch.
Manufacturer	Mfr.	Securit[y, ies]	Sec.
Manufacturing	Mfg.	Service	Serv.
Market	Mkt.	Society	Soc'y
Marketing	Mktg.	South[ern]	S.
Medic[ine, al]	Med.	Square	Sq.
Metropolitan	Metro.	Steamship[s]	S.S.
Mortgage	Mtge.	Street	St.
Municipal	Mun.	Superintendent	Supt.
Mutual	Mut.	Supermarket	Supermkt.
National	Nat'l	Surety	Sur.
North[ern]	N.	System[s]	Sys.
Number	No.	Techn[ical, ology]	Tech.
Orchestra	Orch.	Telecommunication	Tologomm
Organiz[ation,	Org.	[s]	rerecomm.
ing] Pacific	Pac.	<pre>Tele[gram, graph, phone, vision]</pre>	Tel.
Pharmaceutical	Pharm.	Theological	Theol.
Product[ion]	Prod.	Transport[ation]	Transp.
Property	Prop.	Treasurer	Treas.
Public	Pub.	Typographical	Typo.
Publication[s],	Publ.	University	Univ.
Publish[er, ing]		Utility	Util.
Purchasing	Purch.	West[ern]	W.
			-

Railroad Abbreviations

New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad Company = New York, N.H. & H.R.R.

New York Central Railroad Company = New York Cent. R.R.

New York Central and Hudson River Railroad Company = New York Cent. & H.R.R.R.

New York and New England Railroad Company = New York & New England R.R.

See also $\underline{\text{Newton}}$ v. $\underline{\text{Department of Pub. Utils.}}$, 339 Mass. 535, 546-547 (1959).

MISCELLANEOUS ABBREVIATIONS

affirmed aff'd

amended do not abbreviate

American Law Reports A.L.R. and following et seq. Annotation Annot.

appeal do not abbreviate

article(s) art. & arts.

certiorari cert.

certiorari denied cert. denied certiorari dismissed cert. dismissed cert. dismissed certiorari granted cert. granted chapter(s) c. & cc.

Circuit Cir. clause cl.

denied do not abbreviate dismissed do not abbreviate

edition ed.

footnote(s) n. & nn.

modified do not abbreviate

number(s) no. & nos.

page do not use (use "at")

paragraph(s) par. & pars.

rehearing do not abbreviate

reversed rev'd revised rev. same case $\underline{S} \cdot \underline{C} \cdot$ section(s) \S & \S \$ title tit.

volume(s) vol. & vols.

EARLY MASSACHUSETTS REPORTS CONVERSION TABLE

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# FICK. = 18 Mass. 4 Met. = 45 Mass. 6 Gray = 72 Mass.

2 Pick. = 19 Mass. 5 Met. = 46 Mass. 7 Gray = 73 Mass.

3 Pick. = 20 Mass. 6 Met. = 47 Mass. 8 Gray = 74 Mass.

4 Pick. = 21 Mass. 7 Met. = 48 Mass. 9 Gray = 75 Mass.

5 Pick. = 22 Mass. 8 Met. = 49 Mass. 10 Gray = 76 Mass.

6 Pick. = 23 Mass. 9 Met. = 50 Mass. 11 Gray = 77 Mass.

7 Pick. = 24 Mass. 10 Met. = 51 Mass. 12 Gray = 78 Mass.

8 Pick. = 25 Mass. 11 Met. = 52 Mass. 13 Gray = 79 Mass.

9 Pick. = 26 Mass. 12 Met. = 53 Mass. 14 Gray = 80 Mass.

10 Pick. = 27 Mass. 13 Met. = 54 Mass. 15 Gray = 81 Mass.

11 Pick. = 28 Mass. 1 Cush. = 55 Mass. 16 Gray = 82 Mass.

12 Pick. = 29 Mass. 2 Cush. = 56 Mass. 1 Allen = 83 Mass.

13 Pick. = 30 Mass. 3 Cush. = 57 Mass. 2 Allen = 84 Mass.

14 Pick. = 31 Mass. 4 Cush. = 58 Mass. 3 Allen = 85 Mass.

15 Pick. = 32 Mass. 6 Cush. = 60 Mass. 5 Allen = 86 Mass.

17 Pick. = 34 Mass. 7 Cush. = 61 Mass. 6 Allen = 88 Mass.

18 Pick. = 35 Mass. 8 Cush. = 62 Mass. 7 Allen = 89 Mass.

19 Pick. = 36 Mass. 9 Cush. = 63 Mass. 9 Allen = 90 Mass.

20 Pick. = 37 Mass. 10 Cush. = 64 Mass. 11 Allen = 93 Mass.

21 Pick. = 38 Mass. 11 Cush. = 65 Mass. 11 Allen = 93 Mass.

22 Pick. = 39 Mass. 11 Cush. = 64 Mass. 11 Allen = 94 Mass.

23 Pick. = 40 Mass. 11 Gray = 67 Mass. 12 Allen = 94 Mass.

24 Pick. = 41 Mass. 2 Gray = 68 Mass. 13 Allen = 95 Mass.

25 Met. = 42 Mass. 3 Gray = 70 Mass. 14 Allen = 96 Mass.

26 Met. = 42 Mass. 3 Gray = 70 Mass. 14 Allen = 96 Mass.

27 Met. = 44 Mass. 4 Gray = 70 Mass. 14 Allen = 96 Mass.
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           6 Gray = 72 Mass.
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              4 \text{ Met.} = 45 \text{ Mass.}
                     1 Pick. = 18 Mass.
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STYLE OF CITATION FOR MISCELLANEOUS MASSACHUSETTS SOURCES

1. Board of Registration in Medicine:

Matter of Listernick, Adjudicatory Case No. 03-37-DALA (May 16, 2007)

2. Department of Public Utilities/Department of Telecommunications and Energy:

Bay State Gas Co., D.T.E. 05-27, at 189-190 (2005) Haverhill Gas Co., D.P.U. 246, at 7 (1980)

3. Massachusetts Attorney Discipline Reports:

Matter of Kelley, 24 Mass. Att'y Discipline Rep. 392 (2008)

4. Massachusetts Discrimination Law Reporter:

Blue v. Aramark Corporation, 27 Mass. Discrimination L. Rep. 73 (2004)

5. Massachusetts Labor Cases:

City of Holyoke, 29 M.L.C. 97 (2002)

6. Massachusetts Workers' Compensation Reports:

Frechette v. Northeastern University, 21 Mass. Workers' Comp. Rep. 105 (2007)

7. Massachusetts Land Court Reporter:

Norton v. Joseph, 17 Land Ct. Rep. 40, 41 (2009)

8. Reports of the Attorney General:

Rep. A.G., Pub. Doc. No. 12, at 55 (1966)

9. Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission:

Martignetti Grocery Co. vs. Pine Ridge Winery, LLC, ABCC decision No. 25E-1285 (Nov. 20, 2013)

10. Massachusetts Child Support Guidelines:

Child Support Guidelines § 1(A)(1)(a) (Aug. 2013)

MASSACHUSETTS RULES OF CIVIL PROCEDURE

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Mass. R. Civ. P. 1, as amended, 474 Mass. 1402 (2016)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 1A, repealed, 450 Mass. 1401 (2008)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 1B, 371 Mass. 910 (1977)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 2, 365 Mass. 733 (1974)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 3, as appearing in 488 Mass. 1401 (2021)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 4, as amended, 402 Mass. 1401 (1988)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 4 (a), 365 Mass. 733 (1974)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 4 (b), 365 Mass. 733 (1974)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 4 (c), as amended, 369 Mass. 997 (1976)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 4 (d), as amended, 370 Mass. 918 (1976)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 4 (e), 365 Mass. 733 (1974)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 4 (f), 365 Mass. 733 (1974)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 4 (g), 365 Mass. 733 (1974)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 4 (h), as appearing in 367 Mass. 918 (1975)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 4 (i), 385 Mass. 1215 (1982)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 4 (j), as appearing in 402 Mass. 1401 (1988)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 4.1, 365 Mass. 737 (1974)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 4.2, 365 Mass. 740 (1974)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 4.3, 365 Mass. 744 (1974)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 5, as amended, 476 Mass. 1401 (2017)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 5 (a), as amended, 488 Mass. 1402 (2021)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 5 (b), as amended, 488 Mass. 1402 (2021)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 5 (c), 365 Mass. 745 (1974)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 5 (d), as amended, 404 Mass. 1401 (1989)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 5 (d) (2), as amended, 436 Mass. 1401 (2002)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 5 (e), 365 Mass. 745 (1974)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 5 (f), as appearing in 488 Mass. 1402 (2021)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 5 (q), as amended, 368 Mass. 905 (1975)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 5 (h), 476 Mass. 1401 (2017)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 6, 365 Mass. 747 (1974)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 6 (e), 488 Mass. 1402 (2021)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 7, as amended, 385 Mass. 1215 (1982)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 7 (a), as amended, 385 Mass. 1215 (1982)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 7 (b), 365 Mass. 748 (1974)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 7 (c), 365 Mass. 748 (1974)
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Mass. R. Civ. P. 8.1, 479 Mass. 1401 (2019)
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Mass. R. Civ. P. 10, as amended, 456 Mass. 1401 (2010)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 10 (e), 456 Mass. 1401 (2010)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 10 (f), 488 Mass. 1403 (2021)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 11, as amended, 456 Mass. 1401 (2010)
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Mass. R. Civ. P. 11 (a), as appearing in 488 Mass. 1403 (2021)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 12, 365 Mass. 754 (1974)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 12 (b) (9), as amended, 450 Mass. 1403 (2008)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 12 (b) (10), as appearing in 450 Mass. 1403
     (2008)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 12 (d), as amended, 451 Mass. 1401 (2008)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 12 (h) (1), as appearing in 450 Mass. 1403
     (2008)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 13, as amended, 423 Mass. 1405 (1996)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 13 (a), as amended, 423 Mass. 1405 (1996)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 13 (b), 365 Mass. 758 (1974)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 13 (c), 365 Mass. 758 (1974)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 13 (d), 365 Mass. 758
                                       (1974)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 13 (e), 365 Mass. 758
                                       (1974)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 13 (f), 365 Mass. 758
                                       (1974)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 13 (g), 365 Mass. 758 (1974)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 13 (h), 365 Mass. 758 (1974)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 13 (i), 365 Mass. 758 (1974)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 13 (j), as amended, 450 Mass. 1401 (2008)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 14, as amended, 385 Mass. 1216 (1982)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 14 (a), as amended, 385 Mass. 1216 (1982)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 14 (b), 365 Mass. 760 (1974)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 15, 365 Mass. 761 (1974)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 16, as amended, 466 Mass. 1401 (2013)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 17, 365 Mass. 763 (1974)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 17 (a), 461 Mass. 1401 (2011)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 17 (b), as appearing in 454 Mass. 1402 (2009)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 18, 365 Mass. 764 (1974)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 19, 365 Mass. 765 (1974)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 20, 365 Mass. 766 (1974)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 21, 365 Mass. 767 (1974)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 22, 365 Mass. 767 (1974)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 23, as amended, 471 Mass. 1491 (2015)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 23 (c), as amended, 471 Mass. 1491 (2015)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 23 (e), as amended, 471 Mass. 1491 (2015)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 23 (e) (3), as amended, 492 Mass. 1401 (2023)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 23.1, 365 Mass. 768 (1974)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 23.2, 365 Mass. 769 (1974)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 24, 365 Mass. 769 (1974)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 25, 365 Mass. 771 (1974)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 25 (b), as appearing in 454 Mass. 1403 (2009)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 26, as amended, 474 Mass. 1401 (2016)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 26 (a), as appearing in 382 Mass. 823 (1981)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 26 (b), 365 Mass. 772 (1974)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 26 (b) (5), as appearing in 466 Mass. 1402
     (2013)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 25 (b) (5) (A), as appearing in 477 Mass. 1401
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(2017)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 26 (c), as amended, 474 Mass. 1401 (2016)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 26 (d), 365 Mass. 772 (1974)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 26 (e), 365 Mass. 772 (1974)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 26 (f), 466 Mass. 1404 (2013)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 27, as amended, 423 Mass. 1401 (1996)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 27 (a), as amended, 423 Mass. 1401 (1996)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 27 (a) (1), as amended, 423 Mass. 1401 (1996)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 27 (a) (2), as amended, 454 Mass. 1401 (2009)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 27 (a) (3), 365 Mass. 777 (1974)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 27 (a) (4), 365 Mass. 777 (1974)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 27 (b), 365 Mass. 777 (1974)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 27 (c), 365 Mass. 777 (1974)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 28, as amended, 385 Mass. 1209 (1982)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 28 (a), as amended, 385 Mass. 1209 (1982)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 28 (b), 365 Mass. 779 (1974)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 28 (c), 365 Mass. 779 (1974)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 29, 365 Mass. 780 (1974)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 30, as appearing in 489 Mass. 1401 (2022)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 30A, repealed, 489 Mass. 1401 (2022)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 31, as amended, 404 Mass. 1403 (1989)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 31 (a), 365 Mass. 786 (1974)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 31 (b), as appearing in 404 Mass. 1403 (1989)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 31 (c), as appearing in 404 Mass. 1403 (1989)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 32, as amended, 392 Mass. 1105 (1984)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 32 (a) (1), 365 Mass. 787 (1974)
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Mass. R. Civ. P. 32 (a)
                        (3), as amended, 392 Mass. 1105 (1984)
                        (3) (A), 365 Mass. 787 (1974)
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                        (3) (B), as appearing in 392 Mass. 1105
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                        (3) (C), 365 Mass. 787 (1974)
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                        (3) (E), 365 Mass. 787 (1974)
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Mass. R. Civ. P. 32 (b), 365 Mass. 787 (1974)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 32 (c), 365 Mass. 787 (1974)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 32 (d), 365 Mass. 787 (1974)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 33, as amended, 385 Mass. 1212 (1982)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 33 (a), as appearing in 436 Mass. 1401 (2002)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 33 (a) (6), as appearing in 454 Mass. 1404
     (2009)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 33 (b), 365 Mass. 790 (1974)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 33 (c), as amended, 385 Mass. 1212 (1982)
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Mass. R. Civ. P. 34 (b), as amended, 474 Mass. 1402 (2016)

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Mass. R. Civ. P. 34 (c), as appearing in 474 Mass. 1403 (2016)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 35, as appearing in 492 Mass. 1402 (2023)
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Mass. R. Civ. P. 37, as amended, 423 Mass. 1406 (1996)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 37 (a) (1), as appearing in 423 Mass. 1406
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Mass. R. Civ. P. 37 (a) (2), 365 Mass. 797 (1974)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 37 (a) (3), 365 Mass. 797 (1974)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 37 (a) (4), as amended, 417 Mass. 1401 (1994)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 37 (b), as amended, 423 Mass. 1406 (1996)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 37 (b) (1), as appearing in 423 Mass. 1406
     (1996)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 37 (b) (2), as amended, 390 Mass. 1208 (1984)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 37 (c), 365 Mass. 797 (1974)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 37 (d), 365 Mass. 797 (1974)
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Mass. R. Civ. P. 38 (e), as amended, 450 Mass. 1401 (2008)
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Mass. R. Civ. P. 39 (d), as amended, 450 Mass. 1401 (2008)
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Mass. R. Civ. P. 42, as amended, 423 Mass. 1406 (1996)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 42 (a), as amended, 423 Mass. 1402 (1996)
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Mass. R. Civ. P. 42 (c), as appearing in 423 Mass. 1406 (1996)
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Mass. R. Civ. P. 44, 365 Mass. 807 (1974)
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Mass. R. Civ. P. 45 (c), as appearing in 470 Mass. 1402 (2015)
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Mass. R. Civ. P. 46, 365 Mass. 811 (1974)
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Mass. R. Civ. P. 52 (a), as amended, 423 Mass. 1402 (1996)
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Mass. R. Civ. P. 52 (d), as appearing in 423 Mass. 1408 (1996)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 53, as amended, 423 Mass. 1408 (1996)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 53 (a), as amended, 386 Mass. 1237 (1982)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 53 (b) (1), as appearing in 423 Mass. 1408
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Mass. R. Civ. P. 53 (b) (2), as amended, 386 Mass. 1237 (1982)
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Mass. R. Civ. P. 53 (c), as amended, 386 Mass. 1237 (1982)
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Mass. R. Civ. P. 54, as amended, 382 Mass. 829 (1981)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 54 (a), 365 Mass. 820 (1974)
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Mass. R. Civ. P. 61, 365 Mass. 829 (1974)
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Mass. R. Civ. P. 62 (a), as amended, 423 Mass. 1409 (1996)
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Mass. R. Civ. P. 73 - RESERVED
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Mass. R. Civ. P. 75 - RESERVED
Mass. R. Civ. P. 76 - RESERVED
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Mass. R. Civ. P. 77 (c), 365 Mass. 841 (1974)
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Mass. R. Civ. P. 79 (a), 365 Mass. 839 (1974)

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Mass. R. Civ. P. 79 (b), 365 Mass. 839 (1974)
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Mass. R. Civ. P. 80 (b), as amended, 423 Mass. 1403 (1996)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 80 (c), as appearing in 450 Mass. 1405 (2008)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 80 (d), as appearing in 423 Mass. 1412 (1996)
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Mass. R. Civ. P. 81 (a), as amended, 481 Mass. 1401 (2018)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 81 (a) (1), as amended, 481 Mass. 1401 (2018)
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Mass. R. Civ. P. 81 (c), as amended, 423 Mass. 1404 (1996)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 81 (d), 365 Mass. 841 (1974)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 81 (e), 365 Mass. 841 (1974)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 81 (f), as amended, 423 Mass. 1404 (1996)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 81 (g), 365 Mass. 841 (1974)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 82, 365 Mass. 843 (1974)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 83, 365 Mass. 843 (1974)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 84, repealed, 476 Mass. 1401 (2017)
Mass. R. Civ. P. 85, 365 Mass. 843 (1974)
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MASSACHUSETTS RULES OF APPELLATE PROCEDURE

Use the following format when citing to rules 1 to 32 of the rules of appellate procedure as in effect **beginning March**1, 2019. For rules in effect before that date, see infra.

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Mass. R. A. P. 1, as appearing in 481 Mass. 1601 (2019)
Mass. R. A. P. 1 (c), as amended, 487 Mass. 1601 (2021)
Mass. R. A. P. 2, as appearing in 481 Mass. 1603 (2019)
Mass. R. A. P. 3, as appearing in 481 Mass. 1603 (2019)
Mass. R. A. P. 3 (c) (1), as appearing in 491 Mass. 1601 (2023)
Mass. R. A. P. 3 (c) (3), 491 Mass. 1602 (2023)
Mass. R. A. P. 4, as appearing in 481 Mass. 1606 (2019)
Mass. R. A. P. 4 (b) (2), as appearing in 489 Mass. 1601 (2022)
Mass. R. A. P. 4 (b) (3), as appearing in 489 Mass. 1601 (2022)
Mass. R. A. P. 5, as appearing in 481 Mass. 1608 (2019)
Mass. R. A. P. 6, as appearing in 481 Mass. 1608 (2019)
Mass. R. A. P. 7, as appearing in 481 Mass. 1611 (2019)
Mass. R. A. P. 8, as appearing in 481 Mass. 1611 (2019)
Mass. R. A. P. 9, as appearing in 481 Mass. 1615 (2019)
Mass. R. A. P. 10, as appearing in 481 Mass. 1618 (2019)
Mass. R. A. P. 11, as appearing in 481 Mass. 1620 (2019)
Mass. R. A. P. 11.1, as appearing in 481 Mass. 1623 (2019)
Mass. R. A. P. 12, as appearing in 481 Mass. 1623 (2019)
Mass. R. A. P. 13, as appearing in 481 Mass. 1624 (2019)
Mass. R. A. P. 14, as appearing in 481 Mass. 1626 (2019)
Mass. R. A. P. 15, as appearing in 481 Mass. 1627 (2019)
Mass. R. A. P. 16, as appearing in 481 Mass. 1628 (2019)
Mass. R. A. P. 17, as appearing in 481 Mass. 1635 (2019)
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Mass. R. A. P. 17 (c) (5), 489 Mass. 1602 (2022)
Mass. R. A. P. 18, as appearing in 481 Mass. 1637 (2019)
Mass. R. A. P. 18 (a) (1) (D), as appearing in 491 Mass. 1603
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Mass. R. A. P. 18 (a) (1) (G), 491 Mass. 1603 (2023)
Mass. R. A. P. 19, as appearing in 481 Mass. 1642 (2019)
Mass. R. A. P. 19 (d) (1) (A), as amended, 489 Mass. 1603 (2022)
Mass. R. A. P. 19 (d) (2) (A), as amended, 489 Mass. 1603 (2022)
Mass. R. A. P. 20, as appearing in 481 Mass. 1646 (2019)
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Mass. R. A. P. 20 (a) (2) (D), as amended, 487 Mass. 1601 (2021)
Mass. R. A. P. 20 (a) (3) (F), as amended, 487 Mass. 1602 (2021)
Mass. R. A. P. 20 (a) (4) (C), as amended, 487 Mass. 1602 (2021)
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Mass. R. A. P. 22, as appearing in 481 Mass. 1651 (2019)
Mass. R. A. P. 23, as appearing in 481 Mass. 1653 (2019)
Mass. R. A. P. 24, as appearing in 481 Mass. 1654 (2019)
Mass. R. A. P. 24.1 [DELETED]
Mass. R. A. P. 25, as appearing in 481 Mass. 1654 (2019)
Mass. R. A. P. 26, as appearing in 481 Mass. 1655 (2019)
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Mass. R. A. P. 27.1, as appearing in 481 Mass. 1657 (2019)
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Mass. R. A. P. 28, as appearing in 481 Mass. 1669 (2019)
Mass. R. A. P. 29, as appearing in 481 Mass. 1660 (2019)
Mass. R. A. P. 30, as appearing in 481 Mass. 1661 (2019)
Mass. R. A. P. 31, as appearing in 481 Mass. 1662 (2019)
Mass. R. A. P. 31, as appearing in 481 Mass. 1662 (2019)
Mass. R. A. P. 32, 365 Mass. 880 (1974)
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Cite to the rules of appellate procedure as in effect **before**March 1, 2019, as follows:

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Mass. R. A. P. 1, as amended, 430 Mass. 1601 (1999)
Mass. R. A. P. 1 (a), 365 Mass. 844 (1974)
Mass. R. A. P. 1 (b), as amended, 421 Mass. 1601 (1995)
Mass. R. A. P. 1 (c), as amended, 454 Mass. 1601 (2009)
Mass. R. A. P. 1 (d), as appearing in 397 Mass. 1228 (1986)
Mass. R. A. P. 2, 365 Mass. 845 (1974)
Mass. R. A. P. 3, as amended, 430 Mass. 1602 (1999)
Mass. R. A. P. 3 (a), as amended, 378 Mass. 927 (1979)
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Mass. R. A. P. 4 (c), as amended, 378 Mass. 928 (1979)
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Mass. R. A. P. 6, as appearing in 454 Mass. 1601 (2009)
Mass. R. A. P. 7, 365 Mass. 849 (1974)
Mass. R. A. P. 8, as amended, 430 Mass. 1601 (1999)
Mass. R. A. P. 8 (a), as amended, 378 Mass. 932 (1979)
Mass. R. A. P. 8 (b) (1), as amended, 430 Mass. 1601 (1999)
Mass. R. A. P. 8 (b) (2), as amended, 437 Mass. 1602 (2002)
Mass. R. A. P. 8 (b) (3), as amended, 430 Mass. 1601 (1999)
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Mass. R. A. P. 8 (b) (3) (ii), as amended, 428 Mass. 1601 (1998)
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Mass. R. A. P. 8 (b) (3) (iii), as appearing in 388 Mass. 1106
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Mass. R. A. P. 8 (b) (3) (iv), as appearing in 388 Mass. 1106
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Mass. R. A. P. 8 (b) (3) (v), as appearing in 388 Mass. 1106
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Mass. R. A. P. 8 (b) (3) (vi), as amended, 397 Mass. 1229 (1986)
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Mass. R. A. P. 8 (b) (5), 430 Mass. 1603 (1999)
Mass. R. A. P. 8 (c), as amended, 378 Mass. 932 (1979)
Mass. R. A. P. 8 (d), as amended, 378 Mass. 932 (1979)
Mass. R. A. P. 8 (e), as amended, 378 Mass. 932 (1979)
Mass. R. A. P. 9, as amended, 417 Mass. 1601 (1994)
Mass. R. A. P. 9 (a), as amended, 417 Mass. 1601 (1994)
Mass. R. A. P. 9 (b), as amended, 378 Mass. 935 (1979)
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Mass. R. A. P. 9 (c) (2), as amended, 437 Mass. 1602 (2002)
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Mass. R. A. P. 10 (a), as amended, 430 Mass. 1605 (1999)
Mass. R. A. P. 10 (a) (1), as amended, 435 Mass. 1601 (2001)
Mass. R. A. P. 10 (a) (2), as amended, 378 Mass. 937 (1979)
Mass. R. A. P. 10 (a) (3), as amended, 378 Mass. 937 (1979)
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Mass. R. A. P. 11 (g), as amended, 409 Mass. 1602 (1991)
Mass. R. A. P. 11 (q) (1), 365 Mass. 854 (1974)
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Mass. R. A. P. 11 (q) (3), 365 Mass. 854 (1974)
Mass. R. A. P. 11 (g) (4), as amended, 410 Mass. 1602 (1991)
Mass. R. A. P. 11.1, 365 Mass. 857 (1974)
Mass. R. A. P. 12, as amended, 409 Mass. 1602 (1991)
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Mass. R. A. P. 13 (d), 365 Mass. 854 (1974)
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Mass. R. A. P. 15, as amended, 378 Mass. 939 (1979)
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Mass. R. A. P. 16 (a), as amended, 428 Mass. 1603 (1999)
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Mass. R. A. P. 16 (a) (2), 365 Mass. 860 (1974)
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                      (3), 365 Mass. 860 (1974)
Mass. R. A. P. 16 (a)
                      (4), as amended, 367 Mass. 921 (1975)
Mass. R. A. P. 16 (a)
                      (5), 365 Mass. 860 (1974)
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Mass. R. A. P. 16 (a)
                      (7), as appearing in 428 Mass. 1603 (1999)
Mass. R. A. P. 16 (a)
Mass. R. A. P. 16 (a) (8), 428 Mass. 1603 (1999)
Mass. R. A. P. 16 (b), as appearing in 411 Mass. 1602 (1992)
Mass. R. A. P. 16 (c), as amended, 399 Mass. 1217 (1987)
Mass. R. A. P. 16 (d), as amended, 425 Mass. 1601 (1997)
Mass. R. A. P. 16 (e), as amended, 378 Mass. 940 (1979)
Mass. R. A. P. 16 (f), 365 Mass. 860 (1974)
Mass. R. A. P. 16 (q), as amended, 405 Mass. 1701 (1989)
Mass. R. A. P. 16 (h), as amended, 438 Mass. 1601 (2003)
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Mass. R. A. P. 16 (j), 365 Mass. 860 (1974)
Mass. R. A. P. 16 (k), 445 Mass. 1601 (2005)
Mass. R. A. P. 16 (1), as amended, 386 Mass. 1247 (1982)
Mass. R. A. P. 16 (m), 425 Mass. 1601 (1997)
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     cite individual rule as Mass. R. E. F. xx, 480 Mass. xxxx
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MASSACHUSETTS RULES OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE

Use the following format when citing to one of the rules of criminal procedure, unless an amendment is listed below.

Mass. R. Crim. P. xx, 378 Mass. xxx (1979)

The following rules of criminal procedure have been amended:

- Mass. R. Crim. P. 1, as appearing in 442 Mass. 1501 (2004)
- Mass. R. Crim. P. 2 (b), as amended, 397 Mass. 1226 (1986)
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- Mass. R. Crim. P. 5 (b), as appearing in 489 Mass. 1505 (2022)
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- Mass. R. Crim. P. 5 (g), as amended, 489 Mass. 1507 (2022)
- Mass. R. Crim. P. 5 (i), as appearing in 489 Mass. 1507 (2022)
- Mass. R. Crim. P. 7, as appearing in 461 Mass. 1501 (2012)
- Mass. R. Crim. P. 8, as amended, 397 Mass. 1226 (1986)
- Mass. R. Crim. P. 10 (a) (4), 426 Mass. 1501 (1997)
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- Mass. R. Dom. Rel. P. -- Massachusetts Rules of Domestic Relations Procedure

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- The texts in this list are alphabetized by the last name of the author or, if no author is given, by title.
- This list is intended only as an example of style. Individual texts may have differing publication dates, editions, or authors; consult the volume you are citing to confirm.

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- 4 W.R. LaFave, Search and Seizure § 9.2(f), at 337 (4th ed. 2004)
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For words not appearing on the list, consult the latest available unabridged edition of Webster's Third New International Dictionary of the English Language.

A	appendices
	Appendix (i.e., attachment to
aboveground (adj.)	opinion)
above-mentioned (avoid)	Armed Forces
abridgment	arm's length (n.)
access (v.) (avoid)	arm's-length (adj.)
accidentally (not	assistant attorney general
"accidently")	as to whether (avoid; omit
accommodation	"as to")
acknowledgment	attorney-at-law
action (if a law matter;	Attorney General
"suit" if equity matter)	attorney-in-fact
adversary (not "adversarial")	attorney's fees
adviser	audiotape (n. and v.)
advisory	audio-visual
African-American	Auditor
aforementioned (avoid)	<pre>automobile (not "auto")</pre>
air conditioning	Avenue (when one)
alcoholic beverages control	avenues (when more than one)
commission	a while (n.)
all-alcoholic license	awhile (adv.)
all right (not "alright")	axe
all together (i.e., unity of	
place or time)	В
altogether (i.e., entirely)	
amendments to the	baby-sitter
Constitution ("to" not	baby-sitting
"of")	back-dating
and/or (avoid use; see	band-aid
§ 3.01.8)	bankbook
annulment	bankruptcy court
annulling	bar counsel
ante mortem (two words)	based on (not "upon")
anti (generally no hyphen;	<pre>before (not "preliminary to")</pre>
see § 3.01.6)	before-mentioned (avoid)
appeal from	benefiting
Appellate Division	benefited
Appellate Tax Board	bilateral

bimonthly	beginning with 481 Mass.
bind-over	and 95 Mass. App. Ct.)
Black (when used in a racial,	canceled
ethnic, or cultural	canceling
sense)	cancellation
blacktop	car (acceptable in place of
blood alcohol test	"automobile" beginning
bloodstain	with 481 Mass. and 95
board	Mass. App. Ct.)
board of assessors	case-by-case basis
bodily injury	case-in-chief
bondholders	case law
bookkeeper	"castle law" statute
Boston Municipal Court (but	cellular telephone ("cell
note division when	phone" is acceptable
citing a specific court,	beginning with 481 Mass.
e.g., "West Roxbury	and 95 Mass. App. Ct.)
Division of the Boston	center (not "centre")
Municipal Court	charge back
Department")3	child care (n.)
Boston navy yard	child victim
Boston police headquarters	child witness
boyfriend (beginning with 481	citation (n.)
Mass. and 95 Mass. App.	cite (v.)
Ct.)	City Hall, Boston
breach (use as noun only; do	city of Boston
not "breach a contract"	Civil War veteran
but "commit a breach")	class B substance
break-in (n.)	clerk-magistrate
breathalyzer	cliché
bullets	closely held corporation
burglar's tools (not "burglar	coconspirator
tools")	co-counsel
bus	codefendant
bused	coexecutor
buses	coinsurer
busing	collector-treasurer
bylaw (provisions are	Colonial
"adopted," not	commerce clause
"enacted")	Commissioner of Insurance
enacted)	Commissioner of Revenue
ć	
С	commissions (in general,
C /	lower case)
café	common-law (adj., as in
caliber (not "calibre")	"common-law right")
call (v., as in "to	common law (n.)
telephone," acceptable	commonsense (adj.)

common sense (n.)	cross complaint
Commonwealth	cross-examination (n.)
Communist Party	cross-examine (v.)
compact disc	cross motion (n.)
condominium units (not	cross-move (v.)
"condominiums")	cross payments
Congress	cross section
congressional	crosswalk
Constitution	cul-de-sac (plural: culs de
constitutional	sac)
Constitutions	Custom House
<pre>controlled purchase (not "controlled buy")</pre>	cutoff (n. & adj.)
conviction of (not	D
"conviction for")	_
cooperation	damage (i.e., loss or injury)
cooperative	damages (i.e., monetary
coowner	compensation)
correction officer	day care (n.)
correspondent	daytime
cotenant	day-to-day (adj.)
coterminous	dead end (n.)
cotrustee	dead-end (adj.)
councillors	decision maker
counselled	decision-making
counselling	declaration in set-off
counsellors	deem (avoid)
count 1	defense
counter affidavit	de minimis
counterclaim	different from (not
counter designation	"different than")
county of Suffolk (or	digital video disc
"Suffolk County")	dispute whether
County of Dukes County	dissociate (not
court-appointed counsel	"disassociate")
court house (but "Suffolk	district attorney (but refer
County Court House")	to the official name of
court room	the district, per G. L.
coventurer	c. 12, § 13, when
coworker	referencing full title,
"crack" cocaine	e.g., "district attorney
cross action	for the Middle
cross appeal (n.)	district," not
cross-appeal (v.)	"Worcester County
cross bill	<pre>district attorney")</pre>
cross claim (n.)	District Court (but note
cross-claim (v.)	division when citing a

specific court, e.g.,	encumbrance
"Springfield Division of	enforceable
the District Court	ensure/insure/assure
Department")	entranceway
dollar bill	entrust
domicil	equal protection clause
doorknob	etc. (avoid; use "and so
doorway	forth")
doubtless (adv.) (not	et seq. (no comma, no
"doubtlessly")	italics)
down payment	exhibit A
Draconian	exit (not favored as verb)
driver's side	extrajudicial
drug store	extreme atrocity or cruelty
due process clause	eyewitness
Dumpster	-
duplicative convictions (not	F
"duplicitous")	
-	face-to-face
E	fact finder (n.)
	fact finding (n.)
each and every (avoid)	fact-finding (adj.)
east coast	fall (as a season)
e.g. (for example)	far-reaching (adj.)
e-mail (n.) (to describe the	father-in-law
means or system of	Federal
sending messages	federally
electronically; to refer	felony-murder
to messages, see	file a complaint (not "file
"electronic mail	an action")
message," infra)	finalize (avoid)
e-mail (v.) (avoid; use "send	fingernail
an e-mail message")	firefighter (beginning with
electronic mail message ("e-	481 Mass. and 95 Mass.
mail message" is	App. Ct.)
acceptable beginning	fire house
with 481 Mass. and 95	fireproof
Mass. App. Ct.)	firsthand (adj. & adv.)
embarrass	fitted (past tense & past
empanelled	participle) (not "fit")
empanelling	five to four decision (no
empanelment	hyphens)
enact (use only for statutes;	food stamp
use "adopt" for	forbear (i.e., tolerate)
ordinances and bylaws	forebear (i.e., ancestor)
and "promulgate" for	forcible
rules)	forego, foregoing (i.e., to
± 4± 55 /	

go before)	Н
forgo, forgoing (i.e., to do	
without, waive,	happened (not "transpired")
renounce, waive, avoid)	hallway
freeze-out (n.)	hand bills
freeze out (v.)	handbag
fulfill (beginning with 481	handgun
Mass. and 95 Mass. App.	hand rail
Ct.)	harass
fulfilled	hard pressed
fulfilling	headlight
fulfillment (beginning with	head on collision
481 Mass. and 95 Mass.	heir at law
App. Ct.)	heirs at law
full-blown	high crime area
full court	high-speed
full-time (adj.)	high tension wire
full time (n.)	high-power lines
fund raising	hit-and-run (adj.)
	Hobson's choice
G	hopefully (avoid)
	hot top
gasoline (avoid "gas")	hot topping
gasoline station	house of correction
girlfriend (beginning with	Houses (when referring to
481 Mass. and 95 Mass.	House and Senate)
App. Ct.)	
good will	I
Governor	
grand jury for the county of	ibid. (do not use)
Norfolk	id. (period and underscore;
(but "grand jury for	no comma when followed
Norfolk County")	by page number)
grand jury (plural, i.e.,	idiosyncrasy (not
"the grand jury are")	"idiosyncracy")
grandchildren	i.e. (that is)
grandfather (avoid use as in	ill-advised
"grandfather clause";	ill-considered
use, e.g., "preexisting	ill-equipped
nonconforming use")	impact (avoid use as verb)
grandfather clause (avoid)	impostor
grievous (not "grievious")	inasmuch as
guarantee (v.)	in camera
guaranty (n.)	in-court
guardian ad litem	in-court identification
gunshot	incumbent
	<pre>indicate (avoid; use "say,"</pre>

"state," or "show")	Justices
individual (avoid; use	
"person")	${f L}$
indorse (i.e., commercial	
paper)	labeled
indorsement (i.e., commercial	labeling
paper)	landowner
Industrial Accident Board	last-minute
industry-wide	lawmaker
in evidence (not "into	lay persons
evidence")	Legislature
inferable	legislative
in personam	lesser included offense
insofar (one word)	libellous
insofar as	lienholder
installment (beginning with	Lieutenant Governor
481 Mass. and 95 Mass.	life beneficiary (used in
App. Ct.)	trust matter; "life
install	tenant" used in
installation	connection with real
installed	estate)
instalment	lifetime
Internet	linchpin
Interstate Highway 93	lineup
Interstate Commerce	lock up (v.)
Commission	Lord's day
Internal Revenue Service	lot 40
intervener	lump-sum (adj.)
in the circumstances (not	(
"under")	M
Irish-American	
irregardless (avoid)	makeup (i.e., cosmetics)
issue whether (not "issue of	marijuana (beginning with 429
whether")	Mass.)
italicized	mayor of Boston
	Mexican-American
J	mid-1970s
	millimeter (e.g, "nine
East Cambridge jail	millimeter handgun")
Suffolk County jail	mischievous
joint venture	minuscule
judgment	Miranda rights (no italics)
<pre>judgment n.o.v. (not jnov)</pre>	Miranda warnings (no italics)
jury (plural, i.e., "the jury	moot (avoid use as verb)
are")	mugshots
<pre>jury-of-six (adj.)</pre>	multi (generally no hyphen;
jury of six (n.)	see § 3.01.6)

murder in the first degree	patfrisk (n.)
	pat frisk (v.)
N	pejorative (not
	"perjorative")
next door	percent (beginning with 481
nighttime	Mass. and 95 Mass. App.
1970s	Ct.)
Nineteenth Century (initial	petit larceny (not "petty
caps.)	larceny")
no-fault	phone (v.) (avoid; use
	-
nol pros (v.)	"telephone")
nolle prosequi (n.)	photocopied (not
nonfelony-murder	"reproduced")
non (generally no hyphen; see	photograph (not "photo")
\$ 3.01.6)	pickup truck
nonprofit	plan to go (not "plan on
nonunion	going")
nonprejudicial	pleaded (past tense of plead)
	(not "pled")
0	<pre>post (generally no hyphen;</pre>
	see § 3.01.6)
observed (avoid)	postjudgment
o'clock (9 <u>A.M.</u> , 9:15 <u>P.M</u> .)	postminority
off duty (was off duty)	post mortem
off-duty officer	posttrial
offset (n. & v.)	pre (generally no hyphen; see
on (not "upon")	\$ 3.01.6)
online	prescribe (i.e., dictate)
one-on-one	prefer to or over (not
oneself	"prefer than")
one-way street	pretext (not "pretextual")
ongoing	pretrial
	preventive (not
on the part of (avoid; use "by")	"preventative")
out-of-court (adj.)	<u> -</u>
_	pro rata (adj. & adv.) (no
out-of-State (adj.)	hyphen)
over-all (adj.)	proscribe (i.e., prohibit)
overall (adv. & n.)	Probate and Family Court
_	probate court
P	probate judge
	<pre>product (not "products")</pre>
<pre>pager (not "beeper")</pre>	liability
<pre>parameter (avoid; use "limit")</pre>	proffered
part time (n.)	Q
part-time (adj.)	
pat-down	quasi contract

quasi contractual	setoff (n.)
quasi judicial	set-off (adj.)
question whether (not	set off (v.)
"question as to	self-dealing
whether" or "question of	self-defense
whether")	self-help
	semiautomatic
R	sentence of from (three to
	five years)
rainwater	sergeant
ratemaking	shortfall
ratepayer	shotgun
rate setting (two words)	showup
record-keeping	[sic] (bracketed &
recommittal	underscored)
redirect	sidebar
reelected	single justice
reenactment	small-time
reexamine	"smart phone"
reexamination	snide (avoid use)
reelection	snow blower
regardless of whether	snow storm
registry of deeds	so-called
relied on (not "upon")	Social Security
remodeling	son-in-law
required finding	spring (as in season)
res judicata (not "res	stage two (Bishop-Fuller
adjudicata")	protocol)
resume	staircase
retroactive to	stairway
revise or revoke	stairwell
a right of way	state of mind
right hand side	statement of agreed facts
roll call vote	(not "agreed statement")
Route 125	State police
rowboat	State Secretary
rule against perpetuities	Statewide
runoff election	station house
	Statute of Frauds
S	statute of limitations
	Statute of Wills
S.C. (same case; cap.; ital.)	streets (when plural)
second-hand	struck (not "stricken")
second level hearsay	subbid
self- (always hyphenated)	subcontractor
Secretary of the Commonwealth	sub-subcontractor
setback (n.)	Suffolk County (or "county of
	<u> </u>

Suffolk")	thirty-day lapse
supersede	thirty days' grace
susceptible of	thirty-day reign
_	thirty-day tenure
T	toward
	town of
T-shirt	traveled
tablet computer (do not use	traveler
brand names such as	traveling
"iPad")	Treasurer and Receiver
tape record (v.)	General
tax-exempt character	treble damages
taxicab	trial court
telephone (v.) ("call" as a	truth-telling (adj.)
verb is acceptable	two-lane traffic
beginning with 481 Mass.	two-tone
and 95 Mass. App. Ct.)	
telephone call	U
Terry-type	
text (v.) (avoid; use "send a	underground (adj.)
text message")	unobjected-to statements
text message (n.) (avoid	U-turn
"text" alone)	
third-floor landing	V
third prong malice	
The following nouns denoting	vis-à-vis
elapsed spans of time should	Vice-President (U.S.)
preferably be used as	vice-president (all others)
indicated:	video footage
thirty days' time	video recording
thirty days' duration	videotape (n. and v.)
thirty-day period	
thirty-day term	W
thirty-day span	
thirty-day spell	website (beginning with 481
thirty-day	Mass. and 95 Mass. App.
or	Ct.)
thirty days' notice	well-being
thirty-day interim	well-settled law (but "the
thirty-day interval	law is well settled,"
thirty-day pendency	see § 3.01.6)
thirty-day	whether (not "as to whether")
intermission	white (when used in a racial,
thirty-day sentence	ethnic, or cultural
thirty-day	sense)
or	wholly owned
thirty days' delay	widespread

willful (beginning with 481
Mass. and 95 Mass. App.
Ct.)
witness's
witnesses'
work product doctrine
work-related injury
workers' compensation
workers' compensation act
World War II

Χ

X-ray

Υ

year old (adj.)