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Court Practice Directions

In most Australian jurisdictions, Court Practice Notes require the authorised citation for a case to be used in preference to other citations. In jurisdictions with no Practice Note mandating this practice, it is an unwritten convention that authorised citations be used in preference to other citations.

Current as at 1 October 2019

High Court of Australia

Practice Direction No 1 of 2019, "Legislation and Authorities: Appeals and Other Full Court Matters" – Cases should be reproduced from the authorised series of law reports, where possible (para 4)

Federal Court of Australia

General Practice Note GPN-AUTH, "Lists of Authorities and Citations" – A reference to a case must include its citation in an authorised series of reports (if available) (para 2.5)

New South Wales

Practice Note SC Gen 20, "Citation of Authority" – Where a judgment is reported in an authorised series of reports, that citation should be used (para 3)

Victoria

Practice Note SC Gen 3, "Citation of authorities and legislation" – Where a judgment is reported in an authorised series of reports, all references and citations must be to, and any copy provided to the Court must be a copy of, the authorised report (para 5.1)

Queensland

Practice Direction Number 16 of 2013, "Citation of Authority" – When citing a judgment, a citation of the judgment from an authorised series of reports is to be preferred (para 3)

Western Australia

Consolidated Practice Directions, "2. Submissions and Authorities" – Reported cases must be cited by reference to relevant authorised report (para 14)

South Australia

Practice Direction 5.6, "Lists, Citations & Copies of Authorities" – When a case is reported in an authorised series of reports, the citation of the report of the case in that series must be used (para 5.6.4)

Tasmania

Practice Direction No 3 of 2014, "Citation of Judgments" – When citing a judgment, a citation of the judgment from an authorised series of reports is to be preferred (para 3)

Northern Territory

Practice Direction No 2 of 2007, "Citation of Authorities" – If an authority is reported in an authorised report, the authorised report is to be cited or a photocopy of that report provided to the Court (para 1)

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