

IN THE SUPREME COURT, STATE OF WYOMING

OCTOBER TERM A.D. 2000

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In the Matter of Adopting )  
A Public Domain, Neutral-Format Citation Format )

**ORDER ADOPTING A PUBLIC DOMAIN OR NEUTRAL-FORMAT CITATION**

This Matter came before the Court by direction of the Board of Judicial Policy and Administration, in recognition of the increasing level of legal research being conducted via the Internet and other electronic resources, to adopt a public domain, neutral-format citation which will support use of legal sources in both the traditional book and electronic formats. Accordingly, IT IS ORDERED that, from and after January 1, 2001:

(1) At the time of issuance, this Court shall assign to all opinions and to those orders designated by this Court for publication (hereinafter referred to as substantive orders) a citation which shall include the calendar year in which the opinion or substantive order is issued followed by the Wyoming U.S. Postal Code (WY) followed by a consecutive number beginning each year with "1" (for example, 2001 WY 1). This public domain, neutral-format citation shall appear on the title page of each opinion and on the first page of each substantive order issued by this Court. All publishers of Wyoming Supreme Court materials are requested to include this public domain, neutral-format citation within the heading of each opinion or substantive order they publish.

(2) Beginning with the first paragraph of text, each paragraph in every such opinion and substantive order shall be numbered consecutively beginning with a ¶ symbol followed by an Arabic numeral, flush with the left margin, opposite the first word of the paragraph. Paragraph numbers shall continue consecutively throughout the text of the majority opinion or substantive order and any concurring or dissenting opinions or rationale. Paragraphs within footnotes shall not be numbered nor shall markers, captions, headings or Roman numerals, which merely divide opinions or sections thereof. Block-indented single-spaced portions of a paragraph shall not be numbered as a separate paragraph. All publishers of Wyoming Supreme Court materials are requested to include these paragraph numbers in each opinion or substantive order they publish.

(3) In the case of opinions which are not to be cited as precedent (per curium opinions) and in the case of all substantive orders (unless otherwise specifically designated by this Court), the consecutive number in the public domain or neutral-format citation shall be followed by the letter "N" to indicate that the opinion or substantive order is not to be cited as precedent in any brief, motion or document filed with this Court or elsewhere (for example, 2001 WY 1N).

(4) In the case of opinions or substantive orders which are withdrawn or vacated by a subsequent order of this Court, the public domain, neutral-format citation of the withdrawing or vacating order shall be the same as the original public domain, neutral-format citation but followed by a

letter "W" (for example, 2001 WY 1W). An opinion or substantive order issued in place of one withdrawn or vacated shall be assigned the next consecutive number appropriate to the date on which it is issued.

(5) In the case of opinions or substantive orders which are amended by a subsequent order of this Court, the public domain, neutral-format citation of the amending order shall be the same as the original public domain, neutral-format citation but followed by a letter "A" (for example, 2001 WY 1A). Amended paragraphs shall contain the same number as the paragraph being amended. Additional paragraphs shall contain the same number as the immediately preceding original paragraph but with the addition of a lower case letter (for example, if two new paragraphs are added following paragraph 13 of the original opinion, the new paragraphs will be numbered ¶13a and ¶13b). If a paragraph is deleted, the number of the deleted paragraph shall be skipped in the sequence of paragraph numbering in any subsequently published version of the amended opinion of substantive order, provided that at the point where the paragraph was deleted, there shall be a note indicating the deletion of that paragraph.

(6) For cases decided between January 1, 2001, and December 31, 2003, for documents filed with the Court, a proper citation shall also include the volume and initial page number of the West Pacific Reporter in which the opinion is published. For cases decided after December 31, 2003, reference to the volume and initial page number of the West Pacific Reporter in which the opinion is published shall be optional in documents filed with the Court. The Wyoming Reporter will remain the official reporter of this Court's opinions and, where West Pacific Reporter citations are available at the time an opinion is issued, this Court will continue to cite to the West Pacific Reporter in addition to the public domain, neutral-format citation in all of its opinions.

(7) The following are examples of proper citations to Wyoming Supreme Court opinions:

For cases decided before January 1, 2001:

Primary cite:

*Roe v. Doe*, 989 P.2d 472 (Wyo. 1997).

Primary cite with pinpoint cite:

*Roe v. Doe*, 989 P.2d 472, 475 (Wyo. 2001).

Pinpoint cite alone:

*Roe*, 989 P.2d at 475.

For cases decided from and after January 1, 2001 to December 31, 2003:

Primary cite:

*Doe v. Roe*, 2001 WY 12, 989 P.2d 1312 (Wyo. 2001).

Primary cite with pinpoint cite:

*Doe v. Roe*, 2001 WY 12, ¶44, 989 P.2d 1312, ¶44 (Wyo. 2001).

Pinpoint cite:

*Doe*, ¶¶44-45.

For cases decided from and after December 31, 2003:

Primary cite:

*Doe v. Roe*, 2001 WY 12

or

*Doe v. Roe*, 2001 WY 12, 989 P.2d 1312 (Wyo. 2001).

Primary cite with pinpoint cite:

*Doe v. Roe*, 2001 WY 12, ¶¶44-45.

or

*Doe v. Roe*, 2001 WY 12, ¶44, 989 P.2d 1312, ¶44 (Wyo. 2001).

Pinpoint cite:

*Doe*, ¶44-45.

DATED this 2nd day of October, 2000.

BY THE COURT:

LARRY L. LEHMAN  
Chief Justice  
Chairman, Board of Judicial  
Policy and Administration