

Why Use *Shepard's Citations* or *KeyCite* as Research Tools?

Because change is inherent in the law and because of the doctrine of precedent and *stare decisis*, a researcher must determine the current status of a case. Say, for instance, you want to rely on the opinion in the case Able v. Baker. How do you know if that decision is still good law? Use a citator. A citator is a mechanical list that will refer you to every subsequent case that mentions the Able v. Baker decision. Editors read and analyze all the subsequent cases mentioning Able v. Baker and describe how those later cases treat the decision in Able v. Baker. In addition to cases, citators also cover statutes, administrative law, and some secondary material. The major citators are *Shepard's Citations* by LexisNexis and *KeyCite* by Thomson West. A citator is not the only tool for finding other cases on your issue, but it can be a useful technique for locating information specific to your case in a single search.

- ❖ Citators facilitate the verification of authority through a system of abbreviations or symbols that indicate whether a case has been affirmed, superseded, followed, or overruled by later cases.
- ❖ Primary purpose is to indicate current status and treatment of a decision, a statute or a secondary source.
- ❖ Coverage includes state, federal, and secondary material.
- ❖ Published and updated in supplements in print format as well as electronic format.
- ❖ Efficient, time-saving, user-friendly research tool.
- ❖ Topical, like *Shepard's Bankruptcy Citations*, as well as jurisdictional and regional such as *Shepard's Atlantic Reporter, 2nd Series (Maine Cases)* or *Shepard's Supreme Court Reporter*.
- ❖ Useful for checking the status of cases as well as for finding and analyzing case law.
- ❖ *Shepard's* is a verb as well as a noun, i.e., *Shepardize* a case.

MAINE REVISED STATUTES ANNOTATED		TITLE 30-A § 3001	
§ 2104 Subsec. 3 662A2228	§ 2501 et seq. Cir. 1 177FS2373	Subsec. 13 2001ME126 775A2374	Subsec. 3 2002ME13 658A21079
Subsec. 5 662A2228	§ 2502 A 1995C483	Subsec. 14 1997ME218 704A2348 Cir. 1 164FS2443	662A2915 676A2923 788A2600 (LX)23128
§ 2108 2003ME59 822A21198 822A21199	Subsec. 1 A 1999C645	§ 2503 2003ME135 837A2153	837A2154 i 837A2155 854A2119 879A21011 1999USDist Cir. 1 35FS24131
§ 2171 1995C377 1999C381	Subsec. 2 A 1997C567	Subsec. 1 A 1997C32	Subsec. 4 2001ME1 2005ME102 659A2281 763A21160 879A21011
§ 2171-A to 2171-G	Subsec. 2 A 2001C537	§ B A 1995C94	§ 2702 Cir. 157FRD138
§ 2172 1995C377 1997C699	Subsec. 6 A 2003ME131 834A20921	§ 2671 2000ME194 658A20665 761A24290 Cir. 1 226FS24238	Subsec. 1 2005ME12 757A20776 772A21185 797A2328 868A2164
Subsec. 1 1999C381	§ 2528 661A2162	Subsec. 1 1998ME135 2002ME27	Subsec. 1 2005ME12 866A2120
§ 2173 1997C699 1999C381	Subsec. 4 A 1995C102	Subsec. 2 2003ME135 2000ME194 2003ME69 761A24289 834A20921 Cir. 1 2004USDist (LX)18432	§ 2702 Cir. 157FRD138 Subsec. 1 2005ME12 866A2120
§ 2251 et seq. 2004USDist (LX)22661 2005USDist (LX)11066	§ 2531-A Subsec. 11 Ad 1999C712	Subsec. 1 2001ME16 2002ME27 2003ME131 2003ME135 708A2662 769A2839 790A2601 834A20921 837A2156 Cir. 1 1999USDist (LX)23128	Subsec. 2 A 1997C770 Cir. 1 157FRD140 Subsec. 1 157FRD140 Cir. 1 157FRD142
§ 2252 1999C657 2001ME59 658A21203 769A24860	§ 2601 Cir. 1 943FS1353 182FS2122	Subsec. 1 2002ME175 2005ME30 i 763A21188 812A2257 868A2333 Cir. 1 1999USDist (LX)23128	Ad 1997C600 § 2851 A 2003C781 A 2003C782
§ 2253 Subsec. 1 224FRD523	§ 2603 A 1995C57	§ 2677 Ad 1997C419	§ 2901 A 1999C700
Subsec. 1-A 2001C97	§ 2605 1997ME189 2000ME91 698A21066 750A24581 Cir. 1 1998ME214	§ 2691 1998ME88 1999ME81 2000ME30 2000ME129 2000ME157 2000ME180 2003ME135 2004ME95 2005ME102 703A2847 712A2518 712A21053 716A21024 730A2674 746A2371 755A2496 757A2375 760A2268	§ 3001 et seq. Cir. 1 177FS2473 § 3001 1997ME78 1998ME42 1998ME192 2000ME129 2000ME79 2000ME186 2001ME53 2003ME46 2003ME71 2003ME46 2003ME51 2004ME18 2004ME71 659A24266 665A21001 693A2334 709A2108 715A24934 755A2497 760A24265 760A24637
§ 2311 1995C233	§ 2636 2001ME126 775A2374 Cir. 1 164FS2443	Subsec. 6 676A20922 710A20907 715A2164 i 716A21024 f 757A21777 760A21222 763A21160 799A21242 Cir. 1 2001USDist (LX)14163	§ 3001 et seq. Cir. 1 177FS2473 § 3001 1997ME78 1998ME42 1998ME192 2000ME129 2000ME79 2000ME186 2001ME53 2003ME46 2003ME71 2003ME46 2003ME51 2004ME18 2004ME71 659A24266 665A21001 693A2334 709A2108 715A24934 755A2497 760A24265 760A24637
§ 2356 Subsec. 3 1995C616	Subsec. 6 704A2348 Cir. 1 2001USDist (LX)14163	Subsec. 8 to 11 2001ME126 775A2375	Continued

STATUTE ANALYSIS—ABBREVIATIONS	
OPERATION OF STATUTE LEGISLATIVE	
A	(amended) Statute amended.
Ad	(added) New section added.
E	(extended) Provisions of an existing statute extended in their application to a later statute, or allowance of additional time for performance of duties required by a statute within a limited time.
L	(limited) Provisions of an existing statute declared not to be extended in their application to a later statute.
R	(repealed) Abrogation of an existing statute.
Re-en	(re-enacted) Statute re-enacted.
Rn	(renumbered) Renumbering of existing sections.
Rp	(repealed in part) Abrogation of part of an existing statute.
Rv	(repealed and superseded) Abrogation of an existing statute and substitution of new legislation thereafter.
S	(superseded) Statute revised.
Sd	(suspended) Substitution of new legislation for an existing statute not expressly abrogated.
Sdp	(suspended in part) Statute suspended.
Sdp	(suspended in part) Statute suspended in part.
Sg	(supplementing) New matter added to an existing statute.
Sp	(superseded in part) Substitution of new legislation for part of an existing statute not expressly abrogated.
OPERATION OF STATUTE JUDICIAL	
C	(constitutional) The citing case upholds the constitutionality of the statute, rule or regulation you are <i>Shepardizing</i> .
f	(followed) The citing opinion expressly relies on the statute, rule or regulation you are <i>Shepardizing</i> as controlling authority.
i	(interpreted) The citing opinion interprets the statute, rule or regulation you are <i>Shepardizing</i> in some significant way, often including a discussion of the statute's legislative history.
na	(not applicable) The citing opinion expressly finds the statute, rule or regulation you are <i>Shepardizing</i> inapplicable to the legal or factual circumstances of the citing case.
rt	(retroactive/prospective) The citing opinion discusses retroactive or prospective application of the statute, rule or regulation you are <i>Shepardizing</i> .
U	(unconstitutional) The citing case declares unconstitutional in part the statute rule or regulation you are <i>Shepardizing</i> .
Up	(unconstitutional in part) The citing case declares unconstitutional in part the statute, rule or regulation you are <i>Shepardizing</i> .
V	(void or invalid) The citing case declares void or invalid the statute, rule, regulation or order you are <i>Shepardizing</i> because it conflicts with an authority that takes priority.
Va	(valid) The citing case upholds the validity of the statute, rule, regulation or order you are <i>Shepardizing</i> .
Vp	(void or invalid in part) The citing case declares void or invalid part of the statute, rule, regulation or order you are <i>Shepardizing</i> because it conflicts with an authority that takes priority.
~	(concurring opinion) A concurring opinion cites the statute you are <i>Shepardizing</i> .