

§ 4.4

Star Pagination

Help with Citing Parallel Cites

Assume that a paralegal has a case in the unofficial publication she wants to quote that begins on page 539 and assume the page the actual quote appears on is 545 (for the pinpoint). To be able to pinpoint that citation, both the initial page and pinpoint page in the official must be determined. How, then, can that page be determined? There are three ways.

1. The researcher can travel to the law library, look up the official, and locate the page on which the quote appears.
2. The researcher can look the case up in *Westlaw* or *Lexis* and locate the official publication, determining the correct page in the official.
3. The researcher can use star pagination, which is provided for in most unofficial reporters and in *Westlaw* and *Lexis*.

Star pagination allows the researcher to determine the corresponding official page while in the unofficial reporter. It is a system by which an unofficial publication indicates to the researcher what page the researcher would be on if the official publication had been available.

The researcher must be flexible because the method varies. Sometimes it's as simple as a set of stars, such as: *115*. Sometimes it's a set of brackets: [115], or [343 U.S. 115]. In any case, these numbers refer to the page on which that reference begins in the *official* publication. Star pagination is always found in an *unofficial* publication. Assume the above is from the Supreme Court Reporter by *West*. You are on page 248. The 675 alongside "ARIZONA, Petitioner" indicates that had you been in the official U.S. Reports instead of the unofficial Supreme Court Reporter, the page would have been 675.

1675 ARIZONA, Petitioner

Following is an example of an unofficial reporter (110 S. Ct. 625). Within the page is a bracket that refers to the point where page 277 in the official publication (U.S. Reports) would begin. Notice that the wording after the bracket in the unofficial (S. Ct.) begins with the words "not only to the city but to..." Now refer to the page in the official. The beginning of that page contains the exact same words.

Unofficial Reporter

493 U.S. 278 **SPALLONE v. U.S.**
Cite as 110 S.Ct. 625 (1990)

which the remedial decree was based. Although the injunctive portion of that decree was directed **127** not only to the city but to "its officers, agents, employees, successors and all persons in active concert or participation with any of them," App. 20, the remaining parts of the decree ordering affirmative steps were directed only to the city.¹

Official Reports

SPALLONE v. UNITED STATES **277**

Opinion of the Court

not only to the city but to "its officers, agents, employee successors and all persons in active concert or participation with any of them," App. 20, the remaining parts of the decree ordering affirmative steps were directed only to the city.¹

It was the city, in fact, which capitulated. After the Court of Appeals had briefly stayed the imposition of sanctions in August, and we granted a stay as to petitioners by denying it to the city in September, the city council on September 9, 1988, finally enacted the Affordable Housing Ordinance by a vote of 5 to 2. While the District Court could not have been sure in late July that this would be the result, the city arguments against imposing sanctions on it pointed out the cost of measures that such sanctions would impose on the city.

Lexis

the action, and they had not been found individually liable, which the remedial decree was based. Although **[*277]** not only to the city but to "its officers, agents, employees, successors and all persons in active concert or participation with any of them," App. 20, the remaining parts of the decree ordering affirmative steps were directed only to the city.

Westlaw

which the remedial decree was based. Although directed ***277** not only to the city but to "its officers, agents, employees, successors and all persons in active concert or participation with any of them," App. 20, the remaining parts of the decree ordering affirmative steps were directed only to the city.

Typically, after the researcher has identified the page to cite in the official, it is not necessary to look up that case since it is identical to the unofficial.