

13.5 Reporters & Digests

CASE REPORTERS

Periodically (usually annually), details and decisions from significant cases heard by appeals courts of a state or nation are compiled into volumes called *case reporters*.

DIGESTS

Printed indexes to names of plaintiffs and defendants are found in publications generally called *digests*, which are periodically compiled extracts from the cases, arranged topically. However, also see 13.6 for another legal use of the term *digest*.

13.6 Statutory Law: Slip Laws, Statutes & Codes

SLIP LAWS

Individual laws, after they are passed and before they are consolidated into bound collections, are known as *slip laws*.

STATUTES

The laws passed during each legislative session are, at the end of the session, compiled into volumes called *session laws* or *statutes*.

CODES (SOMETIMES, DIGESTS)

Periodically, the accumulated laws and amendments are consolidated into a *code*—a summary of existing laws. Laws that once existed but had been dropped prior to the compilation of the code would not be included. Sometimes the label *digest* is used in lieu of *code*, but you should note that the term *digest* also has another legal meaning discussed under 13.5.

13.7 Titles of Laws: Punctuation & Typeface

SESSION LAWS OR CODES ..... Because these laws are published as bound volumes, the titles of the volumes follow the common practice of using italics for book titles. The titles of the individual laws are placed in roman type, with quotation marks around the exact words of the law’s title, as you would do when citing a chapter within a book or an article within a journal.

SLIP LAWS ..... Because these are published individually, their exact titles are set in italics, without quotation marks.