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An Introduction to the Louisiana Law Review Streamlined Citation Manual

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An Introduction to the Louisiana Law Review Streamlined Citation Manual

Beginning with Volume 45 the Louisiana Law Review has provided a list of guidelines applicable to the technical aspects of the legal articles, commentaries on legislation or cases, and book reviews published in the law review. These guidelines are located on the last page of each issue of the law review. Among these guidelines is the requirement that the footnotes should conform both to the *Louisiana Law Review Streamlined Citation Manual* and *A Uniform System of Citation*, the Bluebook. Although most authors are familiar with the Bluebook, relatively few authors are aware of the contents or purpose of the *Louisiana Law Review Streamlined Citation Manual*, known simply as the Streamlined Citation Manual (SCM). Because of this lack of information about the SCM, which plays an important role in the editing process of an article's footnotes, the Board of Editors of Volume 50 felt it would be beneficial to print the 1989 edition of the Streamlined Citation Manual and provide a brief overview of its function.

The Streamlined Citation Manual serves two purposes. First, the SCM states the general rule that the Bluebook governs the footnote citation format. Along this line, the SCM provides the author with many of the frequently used citation rules with examples. It also serves as a guide to the location in the Bluebook of many other rules that are used regularly. This aspect of the SCM is designed to save the author time by providing him or her with much of the necessary citation format information in a small, concise manual, thereby reducing the amount of time spent in the Bluebook itself.

Second, the Streamlined Citation Manual requires a footnote citation format different than the Bluebook rules for certain information. The SCM gives the required footnote citation format for many of the civil law doctrinal works, such as the Civil Law Treaties. It also provides the different rules adopted by the Louisiana Law Review for some of the procedural signals and other mechanical aspects of the footnote. Finally, with certain types of authority, the SCM allows for "author discretion" as to the citation format. When a SCM rule conflicts with the Bluebook rule, the SCM will control.

By publishing the *Louisiana Law Review Streamlined Citation Manual* in this issue of the law review and providing the citation to this printing in the guidelines, we hope that it will be more readily accessible to future authors.

The SCM was revised and expanded this past summer, replacing the original 1984 edition with a 1989 edition. The Board of Editors

believes that the new version will allow authors and members of the Louisiana Law Review to devote more time to the substantive text of his or her article by reducing the amount of time required to assure correct footnote citations. Individual copies of the SCM may still be obtained from the Louisiana Law Review.

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Volume 50