

# Legal References Explained

Federal statutes are found in the United States Code (USC). The first number refers to the Title of the Code, and the second number refers to the section (which often uses the symbol §) of the statute's text.

Example: 42 USC §10(a) (1)

Federal regulations are found in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). Proposed federal regulations, as well as other notices and actions by federal agencies, are published every weekday in the Federal Register.

In general, states have similar schemes for their own statutes. Titles are sometimes called chapters. In Massachusetts, the statutes are referred to as the Massachusetts General Laws (MGL).

Example: MGL Ch.111 s31

In Massachusetts, state regulations are found in the Code of Massachusetts Regulations (CMR).