

Restatements of the Law are treatise-like publications. They provide clear statements of and consensus views on specific rules prevailing among the fifty states. In this respect they resemble treatises. Restatements seek to summarize and "restate" general principles of American common law, much like legal encyclopedias. Unlike encyclopedias, restatements also provide some analysis and try to predict how the law will develop.

Additionally, restatements include commentary on each restated principle as well as examples of particular applications and variations of the principles. Though they have no official legal status, they have considerable influence in the courts.

The Restatements are available on both Lexis and Westlaw.

Subjects covered - list of the Restatements:

Interim case citations to the restatements of the law	KF395.A4 I58 Reserve only
Restatement of the law, second: agency 2d	KF1345 .A762
Restatement of the law, second: conflict of laws, 2d	KF411 .A453 Reserve only
Restatement of the law, second : contracts 2d	KF801 .R47 1981
Restatement of the law: third, the foreign relations law of the United States	KF4651 .R47 1987
Restatement of the law, second : judgments 2d	KF8990 .R48 1982 Reserve only
Restatement of the law: the law governing lawyers : tentative draft	KF300 .R47 1988
Restatement of the law, property (donative transfers) : tentative draft	KF613 .R47 1995 Reserve only
Restatement of the law second: property 2d, landlord and tenant	KF590 .A84 1977
Restatement of the law, property (mortgages). Tentative draft	KF695 .A4
Restatement of the law of restitution: quasi contracts and constructive trusts	KF1244 .A943
Restatement of the law of security	KF1050 .A745 1941 not on Reserve
Restatement of the law: suretyship : tentative draft	KF1045 .R48 1992
Restatement of the law: second, torts 2d	KF1249.A4 R47
Restatement of the law: torts--products liability	KF1296 .R467 1998
Restatement of the law: second: trusts 2d	KF730 .A8 1959
Restatement of the law: trusts (prudent investor rule)	KF730 .R4725 1991 Reserve only
Restatement of the law: unfair competition : tentative draft	KF3195 .A84 not on Reserve

Earlier editions, as well as proposed and tentative drafts, may be in the Legal Information Center collection. Consult WebLUIIS for these materials. Suggestion: do a keyword search for "restatement" and a word from the title, e.g. : "contracts."

Features

Each restatement is divided into chapters in which each of the chapters contain a major topic of the field of law.

Chapters are divided into numbered sections in which each section deals with a general principle of law within that topic. Each section begins with a principle of law statement in bold face type (often called "black letter" rule.) This is followed by comments and illustrations of the rule.

The Second Series of Restatements includes these additional features:

- * Reporter notes citing court decisions, statutes and periodical articles which are both supporting and contrary to stated black letter rule.
- * Citations in court decisions to the First Series of Restatements and the published drafts.
- * Cross references to relevant West digest topics and key numbers and to ALR Annotations.
- * Annual updating pocket parts

Access

The First Series of Restatements has a General Index Volume, KF395 A56, covering the contents of all volumes. The Second Series does not have a general index volume. Each of the individual Restatements, both

First and Second Series, has its own index. Additionally, the tables of contents of each Restatement can be used as a broad topical approach to a field of law.

Shepard's, since 1976 has issued a separate citator for the Restatements. Called Restatement of Law Citations it is located at (RES) S525.

Additionally, the publisher of the Restatements provides case citing and digesting for every topic covered by every set of Restatements. The appendix volumes of a Restatements set record each time a court cites a section of that Restatement. Each such case is digested at length under the section it is citing.

The Restatement in the Courts set, KF395.A3 A57 1945, serves the same purpose as the appendix volumes of each Restatement set except that it cites and digests **all** Restatement sets topics.

Tentative Drafts

Tentative Drafts of Restatements are the drafts that are read, reviewed, considered, debated and amended by the Council of the American Law Institute. Tentative Drafts are often treated as a form of legislative history of the Restatements and are frequently cited to explain, support or attack particular Restatement rules.