

Shepard's® Signal indicators and treatments



Valuable tools help you reach a decision point quickly and easily

Rely on *Shepard's*® Citations Service for critical information that could either support or negatively affect your case. Validate your citing references quickly and efficiently, and be confident the cases and statutes you want to cite are still good law.

Only *Shepard's*® Citations Service includes positive treatments

With comprehensive editorial analysis, you can easily identify not only negative treatments, but also neutral and exclusive positive treatments. This approach helps identify splits in authority and can lead to additional support for your case.

Gain insight at a glance








Shepard's Signal™ indicators help you produce high-quality work in less time. Using these visual representations, you can assess the impact of treatments of your case. *Shepard's* Signal indicators are integrated into case-law documents and provide an immediate indication of subsequent history and treatment of a particular case. (See list with visuals on page 2.)

Use *Shepard's* Signal indicators to quickly focus on pertinent sources, access information you might not otherwise notice and determine what's most important to you—including both neutral and positive analysis needed to identify splits in authority.

Understand the status of your case over time

Shepard's analysis phrases are indicators of the status of your law over time. They are assessed by attorney-editors according to strict standards and guidelines, and each phrase is assigned a *Shepard's* Signal indicator. This shortcut helps you reach a decision point quickly and easily.

Listed below are *Shepard's* Signal indicators along with the most common analysis phrases tied to them.

SHEPARD'S SIGNAL INDICATORS	COMMON ANALYSIS PHRASES
 <p>Positive treatment indicated The green signal indicates that citing references in the <i>Shepard's</i> Citations Service contain history or treatment that has a positive impact on your case (for example, affirmed or followed by).</p>	<p>Followed by—The citing opinion relies on the case you are <i>Shepardizing</i>[™] as controlling or persuasive authority.</p>
 <p>Warning: Negative treatment is indicated for statute The red exclamation point signal indicates that citing references in the <i>Shepard's</i> Citations Service contain strong negative treatment of the <i>Shepardized</i>[™] section (for example, the section may have been found to be unconstitutional or void).</p>	<p>Unconstitutional by—The citing case declares unconstitutional the statute, rule or regulation you are <i>Shepardizing</i>.</p> <p>Void or invalid by—The citing case declares void or invalid the statute, rule, regulation or order you are <i>Shepardizing</i> because it conflicts with an authority that takes priority.</p>
 <p>Warning: Negative treatment is indicated The red signal indicates that citing references in the <i>Shepard's</i> Citations Service contain strong negative history or treatment of your case (for example, overruled by or reversed).</p>	<p>Overruled by—The citing case expressly overrules or disapproves all or part of the case you are <i>Shepardizing</i>.</p> <p>Abrogated by—The citing case effectively, but not explicitly, overrules or departs from the case you are <i>Shepardizing</i>.</p> <p>Superseded by—The citing reference—typically a session law, other record of legislative action or a record of administrative action—supersedes the statute, regulation or order you are <i>Shepardizing</i>.</p>
 <p>Questioned: Validity questioned by citing references The orange signal indicates that the citing references in the <i>Shepard's</i> Citations Service contain treatment that questions the continuing validity or precedential value of your case.</p>	<p>Questioned by—The citing opinion questions the continuing validity or precedential value of the case you are <i>Shepardizing</i> because of intervening circumstances, including judicial or legislative overruling.</p>
 <p>Caution: Possible negative treatment indicated The yellow signal indicates that citing references in the <i>Shepard's</i> Citations Service contain history or treatment that may have a significant negative impact on your case (for example, limited or criticized by).</p>	<p>Criticized by—The citing opinion disagrees with the reasoning/result of the case you are <i>Shepardizing</i>, although the citing court may not have the authority to materially affect its precedential value.</p> <p>Distinguished by—The citing case differs from the case you are <i>Shepardizing</i>, either involving dissimilar facts or requiring a different application of the law.</p>
 <p>Neutral: Citing references with analysis available The blue "A" signal indicates that citing references in the <i>Shepard's</i> Citations Service contain treatment of your case that is neither positive nor negative (for example, explained by).</p>	<p>Explained by—The citing opinion interprets or clarifies the case you are <i>Shepardizing</i> in a significant way.</p> <p>Cited in Dissenting Opinion at—A dissenting opinion cites the case you are <i>Shepardizing</i>.</p> <p>Interpreted or construed by—The citing opinion interprets the statute, rule or regulation you are <i>Shepardizing</i> in some significant way, often including a discussion of the statute's legislative history.</p>
 <p>Cited by: Citation information available The blue "I" signal indicates that citing references are available in the <i>Shepard's</i> Citations Service for your case, but the references do not have history or treatment analysis (for example, the references are law review citations).</p>	<p>Cited by—The citing document references the <i>Shepardized</i> cite.</p>

How to Shepardize a case and use Shepard's Signal indicators.

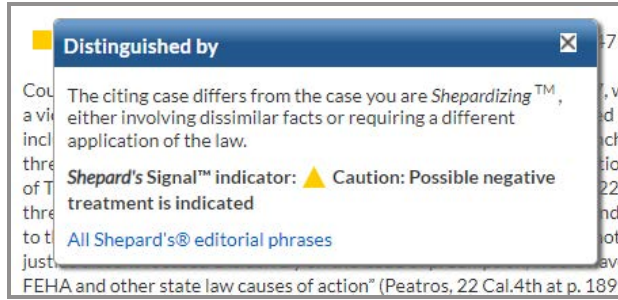
First, when you are looking at a case you can detect possible issues using the *Shepard's* Preview before you *Shepardize*.

Shepard's Preview

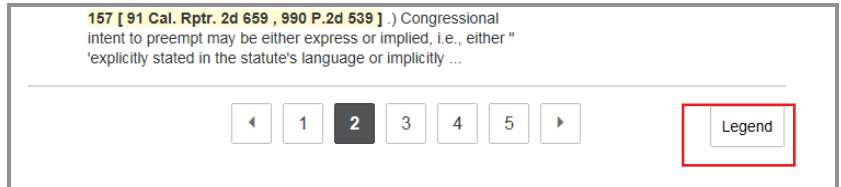
After you *Shepardize*, you'll see a full *Shepard's* report with details on each citing decision.

You can easily view explanations of the *Shepard's* Signal indicators.

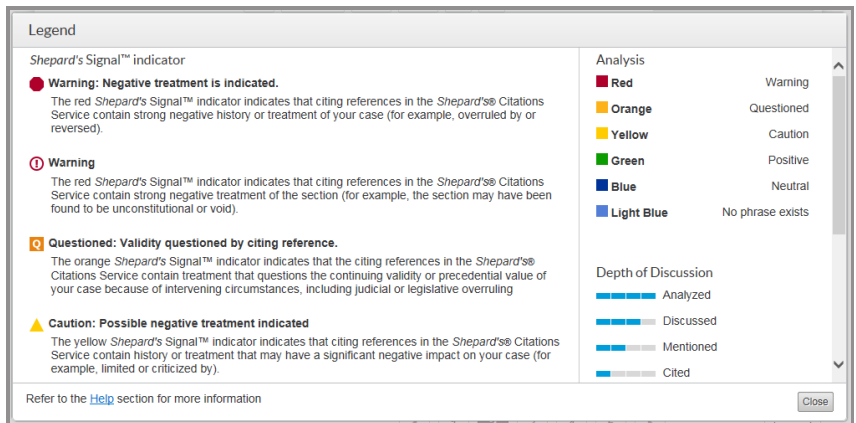
Click any *Shepard's* Signal (e.g., distinguished by, questioned by) to view its short definition.



View a full list of definitions, if desired, by clicking the **Legend** button.



You will then see the legend, which scrolls to list all *Shepard's* Signal indicators, along with treatment icons and analysis definitions.



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