KeyCite® at a Glance

KeyCite is the powerful citation research service available exclusively on Westlaw. You can use KeyCite to view the history of a case, statute, administrative decision, or regulation to help determine whether it is good law and to retrieve citing references.

KeyCite information is available for every case in West's® National Reporter System®; more than 1 million unpublished cases; federal statutes and regulations; statutes from all 50 states; administrative decisions from selected federal agencies; regulations and administrative decisions from selected states; patents issued by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; *American Law Reports* (ALR®) annotations; articles from hundreds of law reviews; and thousands of briefs.

For assistance using Westlaw, call **1-800-WESTLAW** (1-800-937-8529).

For free reference materials, visit **west.thomson.com /westlaw/guides.**

KeyCite Status Flags

A red flag warns that the case or administrative decision is no longer good law for at least one of the points of law it contains or that the statute or regulation has been amended by a recent session law or rule, repealed, superseded, or held unconstitutional or preempted in whole or in part.

A yellow flag warns that the case or administrative decision has some negative history but has not been reversed or overruled; that the statute has been renumbered or transferred by a recent session law; that an uncodified session law or proposed legislation affecting the statute is available (statutes merely referenced, i.e., mentioned, are not marked with a yellow flag); that a proposed rule affecting the regulation is available; that the regulation has been reinstated, corrected, or confirmed; that the statute or regulation was limited on constitutional or preemption grounds or its validity was otherwise called into doubt; or that a prior version of the statute or regulation received negative treatment by a court.

H A blue H indicates that the case or administrative decision has some history.

C A green C indicates that the case or administrative decision has citing references but no direct history or negative citing references or that the statute or regulation has citing references.

KeyCite Depth of Treatment Stars

★★★★ **Examined**—The citing case, administrative decision, or brief contains an extended discussion of the cited case or administrative decision, usually more than a printed page of text.

★★★ **Discussed**—The citing case, administrative decision, or brief contains a substantial discussion of the cited case or administrative decision, usually more than a paragraph but less than a printed page.

★★ **Cited**—The citing case, administrative decision, or brief contains some discussion of the cited case or administrative decision, usually less than a paragraph.

★ **Mentioned**—The citing case, administrative decision, or brief contains a brief reference to the cited case or administrative decision, usually in a string citation.

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KeyCite Quotation Marks

Quotation marks (❞) indicate that the citing case, administrative decision, or brief directly quotes the cited case or administrative decision.

Accessing KeyCite

Access KeyCite using one of the following methods:

- Type a citation in the *KeyCite this citation* text box in the left frame of a tabbed page and click **Go**.

- Click **KeyCite** at the top of any page to display the KeyCite page. Then type a citation in the *KeyCite this citation* text box and click **Go**.

- Click the KeyCite status flag in a document header or next to a document's citation.

- Click **History**, or **Full History**, or **Citing References** on the Links tab in the left frame while viewing a document.

Viewing a KeyCite Result

When you access KeyCite, the history of the document is displayed in the right frame, as shown in Figure 1. (If you are viewing a case, you can also click **Direct History (Graphical View)** to display the direct history in graphical view, as shown in Figure 2.) Click **Citing References** to display a list of citing references for the document, as shown in Figure 3.
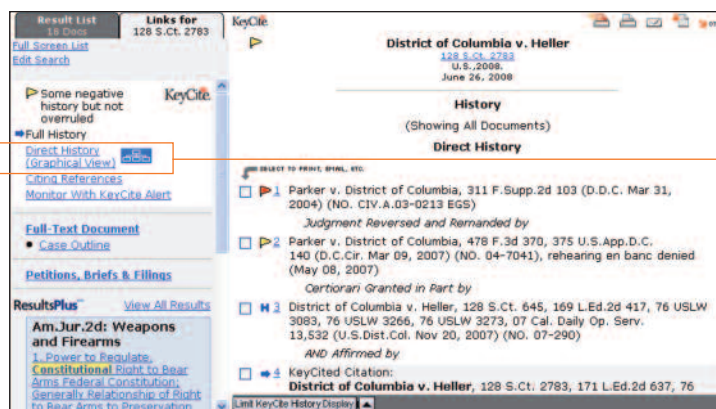

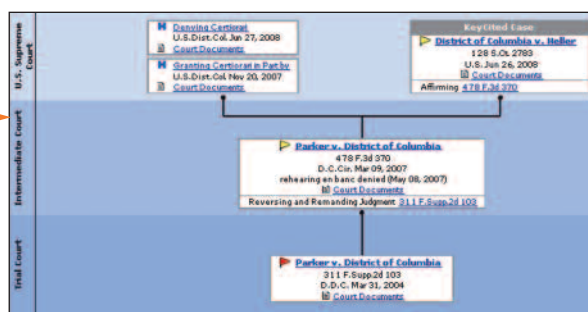**Figure 1. KeyCite history for a case**

Figure 2. KeyCite direct history for a case (graphical view)

Click **Limit KeyCite Display** to restrict the list of citing references for the case by headnote, jurisdiction, date, document type, or depth of treatment, or to documents that contain certain terms.
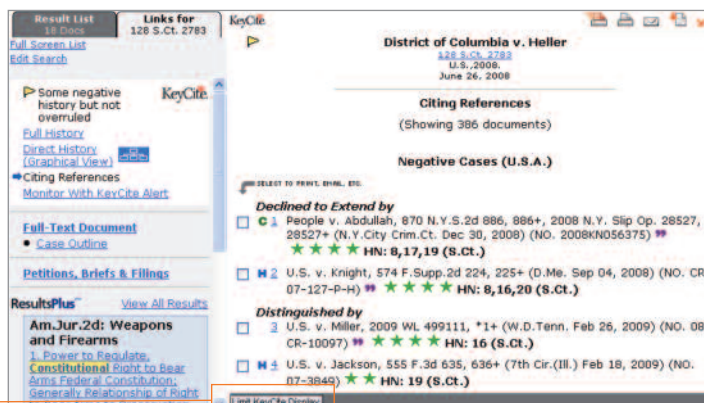

Figure 3. KeyCite citing references for a case

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