

United States Court of Appeals
For the Seventh Circuit
215 South Dearborn Street
Chicago, Illinois 60604

Signature of
Richard A. Posner
Chief Judge

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March 3, 1997

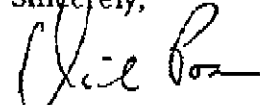
Hon. J. Owen Forrester, Chairman
Automation & Technology Committee
Judicial Conference of the United States
75 Spring Street, S.W.
Room 2367
Atlanta, GA 30303-3361

Dear Judge Forrester:

I am enclosing herewith, with my enthusiastic endorsement, Judge Stephen Williams's response to the ABA resolution on universal citation. I agree with Judge Williams 100 percent that the numbering of paragraphs in judicial opinions would be a mistake. It would disfigure and bureaucratize the opinion-writing process, and, as he explains, is quite unnecessary. I hope that you will give the most serious consideration to his suggestion.

I also wish to raise with you the question of the necessity of a universal citation form, as anyone with the West citation can readily locate the opinion on-line if he prefers that to the book version.

Sincerely,



Richard A. Posner

Enclosure

CC: Appellate Court and Circuit
Administration Division