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NEVADA STATUTES

Introduction

The Nevada Revised Statutes is the updated statutory compilation for Nevada. It includes statutes as well as annotations to cases and other sources. In order to fully comprehend the law on a particular topic it may be necessary to consult cases not annotated in the Nevada Revised Statutes but found in the Pacific Digest, update statutory and case law research, and consult regulations, municipal codes, and Nevada secondary sources. Please consult the other research guides to complete Nevada research. If your situation is governed by federal law, reference librarians can guide you to research guides on federal law.

I. Nevada Revised Statutes vs. Statutes of Nevada

Nevada Revised Statutes (Nev. Rev. Stat. or NRS)

The Nevada Revised Statutes (Nev. Rev. Stat./N.R.S.) is the updated codification of all laws currently in effect, as amended by the Nevada Legislature. This publication is useful for finding current Nevada laws on a variety of topics.

NRS (official) – print	KFN630 1957.A22 / Reading Room, Reserve, Reference
NRS (official) – electronic	http://leg.state.nv.us/law1.cfm
Michie's NRS Annotated	KFN 630 1957.A43 / Reading Room & Reserve
West's NRS Annotated	KFN 630 1957.A45 / Reading Room & Reserve

Statutes of Nevada

The Statutes of Nevada contains the laws enacted in a particular legislative session. This publication is useful for historical research and Nevada legislative histories.

Print version:	KFN625.A23 / Reserve Room
Electronic version:	HeinOnline Session Laws (available only in the Law Library)
	Nevada Legislature's Website (http://leg.state.nv.us/law1.cfm)

For more information about the distinction between the Nevada Revised Statutes and the Statutes of Nevada, please visit the following links:
www.leg.state.nv.us/Division/Research/Library/LegHistory/Tutorial/WhatIsNRS.cfm
www.leg.state.nv.us/Division/Research/Library/LegHistory/Tutorial/WhatAreStatsOfNV.cfm

II. Statutory Citations in Nevada

The Nevada Revised Statutes is a collection of volumes. Within each volume are a select number of titles. Each title contains a select number of chapters. Each chapter has a select number of sections. Each statutory compilation has its own abbreviation. In Nevada, the Nevada Revised Statutes is abbreviated as N.R.S. or Nev. Rev. Stat.

A citation to the N.R.S. may appear as: Nev. Rev. Stat. 78.015 or N.R.S. 78.015

Some citations also indicate the section symbol (§) before the numbers, such as: N.R.S. § 78.015

Example: Nev. Rev. Stat. § 78.015 (2011).
The abbreviation "Nev. Rev. Stat." refers to the statutory compilation – the Nevada Revised Statutes.
The § is the section symbol.
The number following § refers to the chapter number – in this case, chapter 78.
The number after the decimal – in this case 015 – refers to a specific section.
The number in the parenthesis is the year of the statutory compilation's edition. Citations are commonly followed by a year because Nevada statutory compilations are updated every two years.

III. How to Find Laws Using the Nevada Revised Statutes

There are three different print versions of the Nevada Revised Statutes, and they all contain virtually the same information. Each contains annotations to case law. The Nevada Legislative Counsel Bureau publishes the official, loose-leaf version, and

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LexisNexis and Thomson-West publish their own versions. The Wiener-Rogers Law Library has each of these versions, and they can be found in the locations listed in Section I above.

If you already know the citation to a section of the N.R.S. such as § 78.015, you would scan the volumes looking for chapter number ranges on the spine of the books (i.e. 75-100). Find the volume containing the chapter and then find the specific section. Note any citations (called annotations) after the text of the law.

The loose-leaf version of the N.R.S. will be up-to-date unless the Nevada Legislature is in session or recently concluded (see more below about updating recently enacted legislation, or ask a reference librarian). The bound versions of the N.R.S. may have pocket parts in the back of the volumes or soft-bound supplements shelved next to them. Consult the pocket part or supplement to ensure that your section number has not changed.

If you do not have a specific N.R.S. section you will need to use the index or table of contents to find laws by topic. Index volumes are shelved at the end of the N.R.S. volumes. In some sets these will be soft cover volumes and in others they will be loose-leaf binders at the end of the set. The indexes contain subject headings by topic A-Z. Think of words to describe your situation. You may have to try more than one word (i.e. divorce, family, dissolution). Sometimes the term you selected will refer you to another term (i.e. Abduction, see Kidnapping). A sample index entry would look like:

Index Example: ACCIDENTS
Boats
Assistance to be Rendered, 488.550

Once you have found one or several index entries that seem relevant, look them up in the manner described above when you already have an N.R.S. section.

Statutory sections on a particular topic are usually found adjacent to one another. Therefore, to ensure that you have found all the relevant sections, it is sometimes useful to browse the table of contents for a particular chapter to determine if there are other relevant sections. A table of contents for each chapter is at the beginning of each chapter.

You can also search the N.R.S. index and table of contents online using the Nevada Legislature's web site, however, **the text of the N.R.S. on the Internet does not contain the important annotations.** The online versions are available at: http://www.leg.state.nv.us/NRSIndex/ and http://www.leg.state.nv.us/NRS/. The web site also permits you to run a search of the N.R.S. using the following link: http://search.leg.state.nv.us/NRS/NRS.html.

The N.R.S. can also be searched using LexisNexis Academic and Westlaw Patron Access. These online databases are only available for use on the public access computers at the Law Library. Ask a librarian for help if searching N.R.S. using these databases.

IV. When the Nevada Legislature Is in Session or Recently Concluded

Laws are enacted throughout the legislative session. Many have effective dates before **any** version of the N.R.S. is updated including all print editions, the Nevada Legislature's N.R.S. website linked above, LexisNexis Academic and Westlaw Patron Access. In these cases you have to rely on other pages of the Nevada Legislature's website to determine if a law has been amended. During each session (and for archived sessions) the Nevada Legislature website posts links of bills and laws that amend particular chapters of the N.R.S. Since these links change during each legislative session, start with the Legislature's website home page: http://www.leg.state.nv.us/. Ask a reference librarian if you have further questions regarding updates to the N.R.S. sections that you find.

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