HOW TO IDENTIFY IMPLICITLY INVALIDATED CASE LAW

Use KeyCite® Overruling Risk to ensure you are citing good law. This KeyCite warning, exclusive to Thomson Reuters Westlaw Edge™, leverages state-of-the-art AI technology and improves the coverage of KeyCite by marking cases with an orange warning icon that may have been implicitly undermined because they relied on an overruled or otherwise invalid prior decision.

What is an Overruling Risk?
Westlaw Edge KeyCite flags identify when a case has been explicitly invalidated by a subsequent ruling. These cases are marked by yellow or red KeyCite flags. However, these flags do not extend to similar cases that may also have been *implicitly overruled or abrogated* by subsequent new developments in the law.

The orange KeyCite Overruling Risk icon alerts you that, based on new developments in the law, the case you are viewing may no longer be good law. The graphic below illustrates the type of implicit overruling that is signaled by the KeyCite Overruling Risk icon.
The Overruling Risk Warning Icon

The Overruling Risk icon appears in several places in Westlaw Edge, namely in a results list or at the top of the case you are viewing. If there is more than one Overruling Risk for a case, the most severe Overruling Risk, based on court level and date, will be highlighted in these areas. To aid in your ability to quickly assess the related case, a link is provided to the decision for your review.

The Negative Treatment Tab

All overruling risks for a case are outlined on the Negative Treatment tab. The Overruling Risk table at the bottom of the page contains links to the overruled or abrogated case along with the overruling or abrogating case. Click into any case to review what impact, if any, the negative treatment would have on your research issue.

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