

# IRAC

1 of 2 Handouts on IRAC

## IRAC Cheat Sheet

Issue – the question to be answered

Rule – lays groundwork for your analysis; lay out rules from most broad to more narrow (may be more than one paragraph)

- Rules from statutes, restatements first
- Rules from regulations and guiding information from committee notes second
- Rules from cases last
- NO CASE SUMMARIES in IRAC for final exam or on the bar exam

A – mirror of your rule section (may be more than one paragraph)

- Analysis of the rules from your Rule section above
  - [LEGAL CONCLUSION] because [FACTS] {OPTIONAL: so [EXPLANATION] – only when an inference from the facts needs to be made to fully support the conclusion – usually needed}
    - Jackson is [not readily identifiable] because [the photo showed Jackson's back with only the last zero showing and his bare arm and there were three other players of his same race with an ending number in zero] so [people couldn't recognize the player as Jackson as opposed to any one of these players].
- Case comparisons
  - Just as/Unlike [character] in [case] who [legal conclusion] because [facts], our [character] is [legal conclusion] because [facts].
    - Just as the [swimmer] in [Brandt] was not [readily identifiable] because [only her bare legs and generic swimsuit were showing], [Jackson] is also [not readily identifiable] because [only his bare arm and generic uniform was showing].

Conclusion – direct answer to the issue

\*Decide how many IRACS you need based on the issues you need to address and how intertwined those issues are.

\*Decide how many paragraphs you need within each part of IRAC by grouping ideas together and using common sense as to how long a paragraph should be.