

Principles of Documentation  
Keeping It Simple

**Principle #1 - Entity Compliance and Noncompliance**

- *Use Standard Verbiage for the Explicit Statement of Compliance or Non-Compliance*

**Principle #2 - Using Plain Language**

- *Precise*
- *Succinct*
- *Clear*
- *It's ok to have different Writing styles*

**Principle #3 - Components of a Deficiency Citation**

- *The Regulatory Reference is generated by ASPEN*
- *Teach Deficient Practice Statements and Relevant Findings Separately*

**Principle #4 - Relevance of Onsite Correction of Findings**

- *Facility May Correct*
- *Still Cited!*

**Principle #5 - Interpretive Guidelines**

- *Helps surveyor understand the regulation*
- *Must cite to the regulation*

**Principle #6 - Citation of State or Local Code Violations**

- *Cited only under Specific Conditions*

**Principle #7 - Cross-References**

- *Linking strengthens, however each deficiency must be able to "Stand alone"*

**Principle #8 - Condition of Participation Deficiencies**

- *Findings Must Support*