Term: Legisign

Quote: A Legisign is a law that is a Sign. This law is usually established by men. Every conventional sign is a legisign. It is not a single object, but a general type which, it has been agreed, shall be significant. Every legisign signifies through an instance of its application, which may be termed a Replica of it. Thus, the word “the” will usually occur from fifteen to twenty-five times on a page. It is in all these occurrences one and the same word, the same legisign. Each single instance of it is a replica. The replica is a sinsign. Thus, every legisign requires sinsigns. But these are not ordinary sinsigns, such as are peculiar occurrences that are regarded as significant. Nor would the replica be significant if it were not for the law which renders it so.

Source: Peirce, C. S. (1903). Syllabus: Nomenclature and Division of Triadic Relations, as far as they are determined. MS [R] 540.

References: EP 2:291

Date of Quote: 1903

URL: http://www.commens.org/dictionary/entry/quote-syllabus-nomenclature-and-division-triadic-relations-far-they-are-determine-8