

PUBLICATION UPDATE

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STANDARDIZED CIVIL JURY INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Publication 1275

Release 21

June 2022

HIGHLIGHTS

REVISED AND REPLACED Chapters 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, and 17

- Release 21 includes Chapters 1 (Instructions Before Trial), 2 (Evaluating Evidence and Witnesses, 3 (Concluding Instructions), 5 (Negligence), 7 (Automobile Cases), and 17 (Defamation (Libel/Slander)) for which the instructions have been revised, including statutory and case law support, commentary, and related references. The instructions in those chapters have been adjusted for clearer flow as well as to provide more accurate or more comprehensible expressions of the applicable law.

NEW CHAPTER Chapter 28

- Release 21 includes *NEW* Chapter 28 (D.C. Whistleblower Protection Act) that provides instructions, authorities, and commentary on this important area of the law.

Updated and Improved Instructions, Authorities, and / or Commentary

- Preliminary Instruction Before Trial [*see* § 1.02].
- Credibility of Witnesses [*see* § 2.10].
- Specialized Opinion Testimony [*see* § 2.12].
- Failure to Produce Witness or Other Evidence [*see*

§ 2.18].

- Function of the Jury and Considering Instructions as a Whole [*see* § 3.01].
- When Jurors Cannot Agree [*see* § 3.06].
- Contributory Negligence Defined [*see* § 5.15].
- Reciprocal Duties of Drivers and Pedestrians—Ordinary Care Defined [*see* § 7.01].
- Pedestrian’s Duty When Crossing Streets [*see* § 7.13].
- Invasion of Privacy—False Light [*see* § 17.15].

Instructions in NEW Chapter 28

D.C. Whistleblower Protection Act

- Elements of the Claim—Liability [*see* § 28.01].
- Definition Of Protected Disclosure [*see* § 28.02].
- Reasonable Belief [*see* § 28.03].
- Gross Mismanagement [*see*

§ 28.04].

- Gross Misuse or Waste of Public Resources [*see* § 28.05].
- Abuse of Authority [*see* § 28.06].
- Violation of Law [*see* § 28.07].
- Danger To Public Health or Safety [*see* § 28.08].
- Definition of Supervisor [*see* § 28.09].
- Personal Liability [*see* § 28.10].
- Illegal Order [*see* § 28.11].
- Prohibited Personnel Action [*see* § 28.12].
- Contributing Factor [*see* § 28.13].
- Independent Legitimate Reason [*see* § 28.14].

Revised Index

Release 21 also includes a revised comprehensive index to facilitate access to material covered in the text.

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Publication 1275 Release 21

June 2022

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