

PUBLICATION UPDATE

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STANDARDIZED CIVIL JURY INSTRUCTIONS for the District of Columbia

Publication 1275

Release 7

June 2008

HIGHLIGHTS

Updated and Improved Civil Jury Instructions

- This supplement updates the case law support and assures the trial lawyer and judge that the Instructions remain accurate statements of the law.

Improved Instructions

Updates were made to the following instructions:

- Function of the Court [*see* Instruction 1-1].
- Function of the Jury [*see* Instruction 1-2].
- Juror's Duty to Deliberate [*see* Instruction 1-4].
- Attitude and Conduct of Jurors [*see* Instruction 1-5].
- Instructions to Be Considered as a Whole [*see* Instruction 1-6].
- Court's Commenting on the Evidence [*see* Instruction 1-7].
- Court's Questions to Witnesses [*see* Instruction 1-8].
- Jury Not to Take Cue from Judge [*see* Instruction 1-9].
- Rulings on Objections [*see* Instruction 1-10].
- Equality of Litigants—Corporations [*see* Instruction 1-11].
- Equality of Litigants—Individuals [*see* Instruction 1-12].
- Evidence in the Case [*see* Instruction 2-1].
- Evidence in the Case—Judicial Notice [*see* Instruction 2-2].
- Inferences [*see* Instruction 2-3].
- Inadmissible and Stricken Evidence [*see* Instruction 2-4].
- Statements of Counsel [*see* Instruction 2-5].
- Jury's Recollection Controls [*see* Instruction 2-6].

- Evidence Admitted Against One Party Only [*see* Instruction 2-7].
- Burden of Proof [*see* Instruction 2-8].
- Evidence Produced by Adversary [*see* Instruction 2-9].
- Direct and Circumstantial Evidence [*see* Instruction 2-10].
- Jury to Determine Credibility of Witnesses [*see* Instruction 3-1].
- Number of Witnesses [*see* Instruction 3-2].
- Expert Opinion [*see* Instruction 3-3].
- Failure to Produce Stronger Available Evidence [*see* Instruction 3-4].
- Depositions as Evidence [*see* Instruction 3-5].
- Missing Witness [*see* Instruction 3-6].
- Child Witness [*see* Instruction 3-7].
- Impeachment by Prior Inconsistent Statements [*see* Instruction 3-8].
- Charts and Summaries [*see* Instruction 3-10].
- Multiple Plaintiffs [*see* Instruction 4-1].
- Defense as to One Plaintiff Only [*see* Instruction 4-2].
- Multiple Defendants [*see* Instruction 4-3].
- Consideration of the Evidence—Corporate Party's Agents and Employees [*see* Instruction 4-5].
- Corporate Entity—Alter Ego [*see* Instruction 4-6].
- No Comparative Negligence [*see* Instruction 5-6].
- Violation of Regulation/Statute—Negligence Per Se [*see* Instruction 5-9].
- Res Ipsa Loquitor [*see* Instruction 5-11].
- Intervening Cause [*see* Instruction 5-14].
- Assumption of Risk [*see* Instruction 5-17].
- Last Clear Chance [*see* Instruction 5-18].
- Fact of Accident Alone [*see* Instruction 5-19].
- Establishing Employer-Employee Relationship [*see* Instruction 6-1].
- Independent Contractor [*see* Instruction 6-6].
- Joint Venture [*see* Instruction 6-8].
- Auto Owner's Liability—Consent Conceded [*see* Instruction 7-8].
- Auto Owner's Liability—Consent Disputed [*see* Instruction 7-9].
- Auto Owner's Liability—Unexplained Operation [*see* Instruction 7-10].
- Auto Owner's Liability—Consent Revoked [*see* Instruction 7-11].
- Common Carrier—Degree of Care [*see* Instruction 8-1].
- Sudden Starts, Stops, Jerks, or Jars [*see* Instruction 8-5].
- Nature of the Medical Malpractice Claim [*see* Instruction 9-1].
- Professional Liability—Elements of Claim [*see* Instruction 9-3].
- Bad Result [*see* Instruction 9-6].
- Standard of Care Determined By

- Expert Testimony [*see* Instruction 9-8].
- Disclosure of Medical Risks—Informed Consent [*see* Instruction 9-9].
- Abandonment of Patient [*see* Instruction 9-10].
- Alternative Theories of Negligence—No Verdict Form/Verdict Form [*see* Instruction 9-12].
- General Standard of Care—Lawyers [*see* Instruction 9-13].
- Patient’s Contributory Negligence [*see* Instruction 9-16].
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- Consideration [*see* Instruction 11-5].
- Past Act Not Consideration [*see* Instruction 11-6].
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- Contract Interpretation—Custom and Usage [*see* Instruction 11-15].
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- Multiple Defendants—Size of Verdict [*see* Instruction 12-4].
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Publication 1275 Release 7

June 2008

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