PUBLICATION UPDATE

Route to:		

California Forms of Jury Instruction

Publication 138 Release 82 October 2024

HIGHLIGHTS

- Conflict Between Statute and Instruction. In Applied Medical Distribution Corp. Jarrells (2024)100 Cal.App.5th 556, 570, 319 Cal.Rptr.3d 205, the court of appeal held that a CACI instruction is not itself authority for a legal proposition; if an instruction conflicts with a statute, the statute necessarily controls. See Ch. 1A, Introduction to California Instructions, MB100A.02[3].
- Agency—Health Care Decisions. In Harrod v. Country Oaks Partners, LLC (2024) 15 Cal. 5th 939, the California Supreme Court examined the state's law of agency, holding that a health care agent's execution of a separate, optional contract for arbitration with a skilled nursing facility was not a "health care decision" within

- the agent's authority. See Ch. 3C, *Matthew Bender Contract Party Instructions*, § 300C.53[3][a].
- Contracts—Disaffirmance by Minor. In J.R. v. Electronic Arts Inc. (2024) 98 Cal.App.5th 1107, the court of appeal held the trial court did not err in denying a motion to compel arbitration of claims brought by a minor, who disaffirmed the contracts at issue under Fam. Code § 6710. See Ch. 3C, Matthew Bender Contract Party Instructions, § 300C.71.
- Inverse Condemnation; "Substantial Causation."

 A master complaint that alleged that the defendant, a privately-owned public utility, knew its infrastructure was old and improperly maintained for safety, yet failed to properly assess and remediate these known risks, resulting in building and

wildfires, sufficiently alleged "substantial causation" [Simple Avo Paradise Ranch, LLC v. Southern California Edison Co. (2024) 102 Cal.App.5th 281, 306]. See Ch. 35A, Matthew Bender Inverse Condemnation Instructions, § 35A.31

- Payment Bonds; Attorney's Fees. A court of appeals has held that general payment bond requirements public works improvement—including the attorney fee provision in Civ. Code § 9564—apply both to state projects that require a bond under Pub Contract Code § 7103 and other "public entity" projects that require a bond under Civ. Code § 9550 [K & S Staffing Solutions, Inc. v. The Western Surety Co. (2024) 98 Cal.App.5th 647, 658, 316 Cal.Rptr.3d 834]. See Ch. 45A, Matthew Bender Construction Contract Instructions, § 45A.09.
- Implied Easements. The California Supreme Court examined the law of implied easements. It held that the evidentiary standard for recognizing an implied easement is a high one, and that standard will naturally be more difficult to meet where the nature of the easement in question effectively cludes the property owners from making most practical uses of the easement area. But if there is clear evidence that the parties to a sale intended for a neighboring parcel's preexisting use of the area to continue after separation of title, the law obligates courts to give effect to that intent [see Romero v. Shih (2024) 15 Cal.

5th 680, 687, 317 Cal. Rptr. 3d 478]. See Ch 77A, *Matthew Bender Easement Instructions*, § 77A.02.

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VF-408. Strict Liability for Domestic Animal With Dangerous Propensities (*revised*)

VF-409. Dog Bite Statute (Civ. Code, § 3342) (*revised*)

VF-410. Statute of Limitations— Delayed Discovery—Reasonable Investigation Would Not Have Disclosed Pertinent Facts (*revised*)

VF-411. Parental Liability (Non-statutory) (*revised*)

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VF-501. Medical Negligence— Informed Consent—Affirmative Defense—Plaintiff Would Have Consented Even If Informed (revised)

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VF-1002. Premises Liability—Comparative Fault of Plaintiff at Issue (*revised*)

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VF-1101. Dangerous Condition of Public Property—Affirmative Defense—Reasonable Act or Omission (Gov. Code, § 835.4) (revised)

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VF-1204. Products Liability— Negligence—Comparative Fault of Plaintiff at Issue (*revised*)

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VF-1207. Products Liability— Implied Warranty of Merchantability—Affirmative Defense—Exclusion of Implied Warranties (revised)

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VF-1803. Privacy—Appropriation of Name or Likeness (*revised*)

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VF-2003. Trespass to Timber (Civ. Code, § 3346) (*revised*)

VF-2004. Trespass to Timber—Willful and Malicious Conduct (Civ. Code, § 3346; Code Civ. Proc., § 733) (revised)

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2540. Disability Discrimination—Disparate Treatment—Essential Factual Elements (*revised*)

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2561. Religious Creed Discrimination—Reasonable Accommodation—Affirmative Defense—Undue Hardship (Gov. Code, §§ 12940(1)(1), 12926(u)) (sources and authorities)

2743. Equal Pay Act—Retaliation—Essential Factual Elements (Lab. Code, § 1197.5(k)) (revised)

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VF-2901. Federal Safety Appliance Act or Boiler Inspection Act (revised)

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3066. Bane Act—Essential Factual Elements (Civ. Code, § 52.1) (*revised*)

3071. Retaliation for Refusing to Authorize Disclosure of Medical Information—Essential Factual Elements (Civ. Code, § 56.20(b)) (sources and authorities)

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VF-3033. Ralph Act (Civ. Code, § 51.7) (revised)

VF-3034. Sexual Harassment in Defined Relationship (Civ. Code, § 51.9) (revised)

VF-3035. Bane Act (Civ. Code, § 52.1) (*revised*)

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VF-3101. Financial Abuse— Employer Defendant Only (Welf. & Inst. Code, §§ 15610.30, 15657.5(b)) (revised)

VF-3102. Neglect—Individual or Individual and Employer Defendants (Welf. & Inst. Code, §§ 15610.57, 15657; Civ. Code, § 3294(b)) (revised)

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VF-4301. Termination Due to Failure to Pay Rent—Affirmative Defense—Breach of Implied Warranty of Habitability (*revised*)

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5012. Introduction to Special Verdict Form (*revised*)

VF-5000. General Verdict Form— Single Plaintiff—Single Defendant— Single Cause of Action (*revised*)

VF-5001 General Verdict Form— Single Plaintiff—Single Defendant— Multiple Causes of Action (*revised*) Matthew Bender provides continuing customer support for all its products:

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