1st Rule of Legal Research

Ask for HELP
Local Law Libraries

- Chase Law Library
  - http://chaselaw.nku.edu/library
- Hamilton County Law Library
  - http://lawlibrary.hamiltoncountyohio.gov/
- UC Law Library
  - http://www.law.uc.edu/library/
Two Types of Legal Practice

- **Transactional Practice** (drafting contracts, wills, and other documents; advising clients of compliance with the law; deal making, etc.)
- **Trial Practice** (anything done in contemplation of an actual suit with an actual, live opposing party)
It's Vital that You Understand that most sample Forms are ONLY General, Generic Examples of possible formats & contents. Legal Requirements for Assignments, Leases, Contracts and many other business documents Can and Do Vary Greatly from State to State and can Change Often. To be Valid - and Not Create More Problems than it Solves - it MUST be Properly Drafted and Modified to fit Your Specific Location and Circumstances!
Transactional Practice Materials

- Form Books:
  - West Legal Forms WEST-LF (P & WL)
  - Am Jur Legal Forms AMJUR-LF (P & WL)
  - Fletcher Corporation Forms
  - Nichols Cyclopedia of Legal Forms Annotated (P & WL)
  - Rabkin & Johnson: Current Legal Forms (P & Lexis)
  - Warren’s Forms of Agreements (P & Lexis)
Subject Formbooks

- Forms & Procedures under the UCC (P & Lexis)
- UCC Legal Forms (P & WL)
- Fletcher Corporation Forms Annotated (P & WL)
State Specific Formbooks

- Kentucky Forms & Transactions (P & WL)
- Caldwell’s Kentucky Form Book (P & Lexis)
- Ohio Forms and Transactions (P & WL)
- Ohio Forms: Legal & Business (P & WL)
- Ohio Transaction Guide (Lexis)
Free Online Legal Forms

- Findlaw Forms
  - http://forms.lp.findlaw.com/
- 'Lectric Law Library
- Avvo Legal Forms
  - https://www.avvo.com/legal-forms
What happens when you are asked to work on a case file and you have no idea where to start?
General Trial Practice Tools

- Trials
- Proof of Facts
- Causes of Action
- Am. Jur. Pleading & Practice Forms
- Bender Forms of Discovery
- Pattern Jury Instructions
Proof of Facts

- Commentary and checklists designed to help in the proof of facts at issue in trial
- Each article has two parts:
  - Background article
  - Checklists of elements of proof and elements of damages
- AMJUR-POF (Print & WL)
Causes of Action

- Concise articles on every possible cause of action
- Focus on elements that must be alleged to defeat summary judgment and proved to win at trial
- Case annotations from 50 states
- COA (Print & WL)
Ohio Practice

- Ohio Practice Library
  - Civil Practice
  - Criminal Law
  - Evidence
  - Probate
- Available Print and WL
Am Jur Pleading and Practice

- 36 volumes of sample court documents and checklists covering all phases of trial, post-litigation
- drawn from court records and files of expert practitioners
- Print
- AMJUR-PP (P & WL)
Federal Practice Forms

- West's Federal Forms
  - Print
  - WL

- Federal Procedural Forms
  - Print
  - WL

- Bender's Federal Practice Forms
  - Print
  - Lexis
Bender Forms of Discovery

- Practice forms including requests for production and admission for every type of legal action
- Dozen volumes organized by type of lawsuit Annotated with case decisions
- Checklists for interviews
- Print
- Lexis
Instructions to Juries

- Federal Jury Practice and Instructions: Civil & Criminal
- Pattern Jury Instructions by Circuit
- Subject Specific
  - Damages in Tort Actions
  - Medical Issues
Kentucky Instructions to Juries

- Informally known as “Palmore” or “Cooper”.
- Closest thing to pattern jury instructions for Kentucky courts
- Criminal & Civil
- Print & Lexis
Ohio Jury Instructions

- Published in conjunction with the Ohio Jury Instructions Committee of the Ohio Judicial Conference
- Civil & Criminal
- Available in Print and on OSBA Casemaker online service and on Westlaw/Lexis
NEGLIGENT HIRING.

OSBA Jury Instructions
II. TORT LAW
A. GENERAL TORT LAW
NEGLIGENT HIRING

(Plaintiff's name) claims that (defendant employer's name) caused (him, her) (injury, harm) by negligently hiring (employee's name). In order to find that (defendant employer's name) is legally responsible for any (injury, harm) that (plaintiff's name) sustained, you must find that:

(Defendant employer's name) hired (employee's name) as an employee; and

(Defendant employer's name) hired (employee's name) in a negligent manner when (defendant employer's name) knew, or should have known by exercising reasonable care, that (employee's name) had a (character trait, tendency, propensity) to commit (violent, assaultive, sexually harmful, reckless driving, careless, fraudulent, deceptive, dishonest, or other specific wrongful conduct) acts that risked (injury, harm) to persons whom (employee's name) would contact as part of (his, her) employment activities; and

(Employee's name) committed (a, an) (violent, assaultive, sexually harmful, reckless driving, careless, fraudulent, deceptive, dishonest, or other specific wrongful conduct) (act, acts) that (injured, harmed) (plaintiff's name), during or as a result of (employee's name) contact with (him, her) in those employment activities; and

(Defendant employer's name) hiring of (employee's name) in a negligent manner was a proximate cause of (plaintiff's name) (injury, harm).

If you find that (plaintiff's name) proved by the greater weight of the evidence that (defendant employer's name) (proximately caused) (him, her) any (injury, harm) by hiring (employee's name) when (defendant employer's name) knew or should have known that (employee's name) had a (character trait, tendency, propensity) to commit the type of act which caused the (plaintiff's name) (injury, harm) during or as a result of (employee's name)'s employment activities, then your verdict should be for (plaintiff's name) on this claim.
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