

Highlights

The instructions and the related discussion have been updated to incorporate all of the relevant legislation and new case law available through June of 2017. Readers are reminded that there was recently a major development. The Supreme Court of Louisiana adopted the proposal of its Committee to Consider Plain Jury Instructions containing standard opening and closing instructions in civil cases, as well as some interim instructions on selected topics. These standard instructions appear as Rule 44 of the Supreme Court Rules and according to the rule “should be used in all civil jury trials in the State.” As a result, this 2017-2018 Supplement again contains notations of those types of instructions that have been superseded by the new Rule 44. In addition, important new developments and changes in the following areas have been addressed:

- Judicial discussion of duty/risk instructions;
- Use of pattern jury instructions drawn from Supreme Court Rule 44;
- Instructions in contract case that were too “simple” to be approved; and
- Instructions relative to duty of highway department to inattentive motorists.