

## Introduction to the 2025–2026 Edition

This 2025–2026 Edition of Missouri Jury Instruction Companion Handbook is designed to assist in the preparation of jury instructions with authored commentary and tips related to the use of the Missouri Approved Jury Instructions (the “MAI”). This handbook contains actual jury instructions submitted in various types of civil cases in Missouri, including sets of instructions that contain “Not-in-MAI” instructions to show how these instructions are integrated with the approved instructions.

New developments that are relevant to the users of this text include revisions to:

1. The Committee Comment for MAI 39.01, the verdict directing instruction for violation of the Missouri Merchandising Practices Act where SB 591 does not apply;
2. The instruction, Committee Comment, and Notes on Use to MAI 39.02, the verdict director for violation of the Missouri Merchandising Practices Act Violations where SB 591 applies; and
3. The instruction, Committee Comment and Notes on Use to MAI 24.04(B) the verdict directing instruction for the affirmative defense of Contributory Fault.

This updated version of the Missouri Jury Instruction Companion Handbook contains seven new automobile negligence cases, five new medical negligence cases, three new premises cases, one new products liability/breach of warranty case, one new contract case, three new employment cases, and one new general negligence claim.

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