

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Preface	v
Table of Cases	xiii

1. Introduction

1. What is a Tort?	1
2. History of the Law of Torts	1
3. Torts and the Common Law	4
4. The Distinction Between Tort Law and Criminal Law	5
(a) Tortfeasors and Criminals	5
(b) Federal and Provincial Jurisdiction	5
(c) A Criminal Charge	6
(d) A Tort Action in the Superior Court of a Province or Territory	7
(e) A Tort Action in the Small Claims Court of a Province or Territory	9
5. The Distinction Between Tort Law and Remedial Law	10
6. Social Functions of Tort Law	11
7. Elements of a Tort	12
(a) Wrongful conduct of the defendant	12
(b) Causation	13
(c) Harm to the plaintiff	13

2. Levels of Guilty Mentality

1. Introduction	15
2. Subjective Intention	15
(a) Express Intention	15
(b) Recklessness	15
(c) Transferred Intention	16
(d) Implied Intention	16
3. Objective Intention	16
(a) Negligence	16
(b) Strict Liability	17
(c) Absolute Liability	17

Table of Contents

3. Intentional Torts

1. Introduction 19

2. Specific Intentional Torts 19

 (a) Battery 19

 (i) Intention in Battery 19

 (ii) Harmful or Offensive Contact 19

 (iii) Another Person 20

 (b) Assault 20

 (i) Reasonable Apprehension 20

 (ii) Imminent 21

 (iii) Examples of Assault 21

 (iv) The Relationship between Battery and Assault 21

 (c) False Imprisonment 21

 (d) Wrongful Interference with Chattels 22

 (i) Trespass to Chattels 22

 (ii) Conversion 23

 (iii) Detinue 23

 (e) Trespass to Land 23

 (f) Nuisance 23

 (g) Defamation 24

 (i) Libel and Slander 24

 (ii) Defences 25

 (iii) SLAPP 26

 (h) Intentional Infliction of Mental Suffering 27

 (i) Malicious Prosecution 27

 (j) Abuse of Process 28

 (k) Invasion of Privacy 28

 (l) Discrimination and Harassment 29

4. Defences to Intentional Torts

1. Introduction 31

2. Consent 31

 (a) Consent Generally 31

 (b) Consent Must be Freely Given 31

 (c) Medical Treatment and Sports 31

3. Self-Defence and Provocation 32

4. Defence of Others 33

Table of Contents

5. Defence of Property 33
6. Legal Authority 33
7. Necessity 34
8. Limitation Period 34

5. Business Torts

1. Deceit (Civil Fraud; Fraudulent Misrepresentation) 35
2. Inducing Breach of Contract (Interfering with Contractual Relations) 36
3. Unlawful Means 36
4. Injurious Falsehood 36
5. Conspiracy 37
6. Passing-Off 38
7. Intimidation 39
8. Breach of Confidence 39

6. Negligence

1. Introduction 41
2. Wrongful Conduct of the Defendant 41
 (a) Duty of Care 41
 (b) Breach of Duty of Care 43
 (c) The Standard of Care and the Reasonable Person 43
 (d) The Level of the Standard of Care 44
 (e) Meeting the Standard of Care 45
3. Causation 45
 (a) Cause-in-Fact 45
 (b) Proximate Cause or Cause-in-Law 46
 (c) Causation in Difficult Cases 46
4. Harm 48
5. Conclusion 49

7. Proof of Negligence

1. Burden and Standard of Proof 51
2. Kinds of Proof 51

8. Defences to Negligence and Limitations on the Defendant's Liability

1. Introduction 55
2. Limitation Periods 55

Table of Contents

(a) Statutes of Limitation 55
(b) The Discoverability Rule 55
3. Contributory Negligence and Illegality 56
 (a) Contributory Negligence 57
 (b) Illegality, or *ex turpi causa non oritur actio* 57
4. Voluntary Assumption of Risk, or *volenti non fit injuria* 57

9. Special Categories of Negligence

1. Occupiers' Liability 59
 (a) Occupiers' Liability: A Shifting Balance Between the Rights of Occupiers and Entrants 59
 (b) Occupiers' Liability at Common Law 60
 (i) Definition of Occupier 60
 (ii) Classes of Entrants 60
 (c) Duties of Occupiers 61
 (i) Duties Owed to Trespassers 61
 (ii) Duties Owed to Licensees 63
 (iii) Duties Owed to Invitees 63
 (iv) Duties Owed to Contractual Entrants 63
 (d) Occupier Liability Legislation 63
 (i) Definition of Occupier 64
 (ii) Duty of Care Owed to Entrants 64
 (iii) Entrants' Acceptance of Risk 65
 (iv) Restrictions on Occupiers' Duties 65
 (v) Miscellaneous Provisions 66
2. Product Liability 66
 (a) Duty of Care for Product Liability 67
 (b) Standard of Care in the Design, Manufacture and Marketing of Products 67
 (c) Problems of Proof and the Doctrine of *Res Ipsa Loquitur* 69
3. Professional Liability and Negligent Misrepresentation 69
 (a) Professional Liability 69
 (i) Standard of Care 70
 (ii) Liability for Medical Negligence 72
 (iii) Liability for Lawyer's Negligence 73
 (iv) Liability for Other Professional Negligence 76
 (b) Negligent Misrepresentation 76

Table of Contents

(i) The Principle in *Hedley Byrne & Co. v. Heller & Partners Ltd.* 77

(ii) The Requirements for a Successful Claim for Negligent Misrepresentation 77

(iii) Recent Developments in Liability for Negligence Misrepresentation 79

4. Crown Liability 80

(a) Statutory Aspects of Actions against the Crown 80

(i) Crown Liability Legislation 80

(ii) Express Statutory Liability 81

(b) The Duty of Care Owed by the State 82

(i) The Policy/Operation Distinction 82

(ii) Legislative and Judicial Immunity 84

10. Strict Liability

1. Strict Liability 85

(a) The Doctrine in *Rylands v. Fletcher* 85

(i) Dangerous Objects 86

(ii) Non-Natural User and Use 86

(iii) Accumulation and Escape 87

(iv) Damages Flowing from Breach of Duty 88

2. Defences 88

(a) The Plaintiff's Conduct 89

(i) Consent 89

(ii) Acts of the Plaintiff 89

(b) Act of God or Third Parties 89

(c) Statutory Authority 90

11. Vicarious Liability

1. Vicarious Liability, The Law of Agency and the Doctrine of Respondeat Superior 93

2. Vicarious Liability and Employment Law 94

(a) Definition of an Employee 95

(b) Acting in the Course of Employment 97

(c) Non-Delegable Duties 98

3. Statutory-Based Vicarious Liability 99

Table of Contents

12. Damages in Tort

1. Damages — Introduction 101

 (a) Compensatory Damages 101

 (i) Special Damages 101

 (ii) General Damages 102

 (b) Exemplary or Punitive Damages 102

 (c) Aggravated Damages 103

 (d) Injunctions 103

2. Damages in Intentional Tort Actions 103

 (a) Trespass to Persons 103

 (b) Trespass to Chattels 104

 (i) Conversion 104

 (ii) Detinue 105

 (c) Trespass to Land and Nuisance 105

3. Damages in Negligence Actions 107

 (a) Personal Injury 107

 (i) Determination and Structure of Damage Awards 107

 (ii) Loss of Income and Employment Benefits 108

 (iii) Pre-Trial Care 109

 (iv) Future Care 109

 (v) Compensation for Pain and Suffering 110

 (b) Fatal Injury 111

 (i) Claims by the Estate of the Victim 111

 (ii) Claims by Dependents of the Victim 112

 (c) Damage to Property 113

 (i) Real Property 113

 (ii) Chattels: Repair, Value and Use 114

4. Special Issues Concerning Damages 114

 (a) Damages for Pure Economic Loss 114

 (b) Apportionment of Liability Among Tortfeasors 115

 (i) At Common Law 115

 (ii) Under Contributory Liability Legislation 116

Index 119