SYLLABUS

ADVANCED TORTS Fall 2016
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Required Course Materials:
George C. Christie and Joseph Sanders, ADVANCED TORTS (2d ed. 2012).

This is a two hour course. All of the required reading for this class is contained in the above
source. It is essential that you come to class fully prepared to participate in meaningful discussion.
Failure to do so will result in grades being adjusted downward by one-half grade as discussed in the
Student Handbook.

Course Objectives:

The primary objective of this course is for students to gain an advanced understanding of the tort
system and specific tort claims. In this course, we will conduct in-depth examinations of certain torts
including products liability, intentional infliction of emotional distress, defamation, privacy and
economic torts. These topics were either briefly covered in the first-year torts class, or not at all. I
expect this course to provide you with a comprehensive understanding of these important torts both
individually and within the context of a broader legal system of torts.

PART 1: PRODUCTS LIABILITY

Chapter 4. Products Liability
A. Introduction: Who is a Seller? & What is a Product?, pp. 163-174, 183-193
Thomas v. Winchester
Greenman v. Yubal Power Products
B. Manufacturing Defects, pp. 194-201
Smoot v. Mazda Motors of America, Inc.
C. Design Defects, pp. 202-214, 221-249
Branham v. Ford Motor Co.
Riley v. Becton Dickson Vascular Access, Inc.
Note 4, p. 232.
Grundberg v. Upjohn Co.
D. Warning Defects, pp. 249-257, 266-282, 286-298
Burke v. Spartanics Ltd.
Feldman v. Lederle Laboratories
Uniroyal Goodrich Tire Co. v. Martinez

E. Defenses, pp. 321-331
   Bates v. Dow Agrosciences LLC
   EPA Letter to Dow Accepting Label Changes,
   www.epa.gov/pesticides/chem_search/ppls/062719-00288-20100401.pdf

PART 2: TORTS FOR DIGNITY HARM: IIED, DEFAMATION, AND PRIVACY

Chapter 7. Intentional Infliction of Emotional Distress
   A. Intentional Infliction of Emotional Distress, pp. 441-450, 454-455, 465-480
   B. Korbin v. Berlin, Note 1, p.443
      Womack v. Eldridge
      Meiter v. Cavanaugh
      Hood v. Naeter Brothers Publishing Co.
      Notes 4&5, pp. 451-454
      Star v. Rabello
      Hustler v. Falwell
      Snyder v. Phelps

Chapter 8. Defamation
   A. Defining Defamation, pp. 481-492, 496-499, 512-518
      Standifer v. Val Gene Management Services, Inc.
      Jones v. Jones
      Hinsdale v. Orange County Publications, Inc.
      Burton v. Crowell Publishing Co.
   B. About the Plaintiff & Publication, pp. 502-508, 518-524
      Youssoupooff v. Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Pictures, Ltd.
      Fawcett Publications, Inc. v. Morris
   C. Defenses, pp. 527-543, 559-563
      Crane v. New York World Telegram Corp.
      Lee v. Paulsen
      Watt v. Longsdon
      Barr v. Matteo
   D. Constitutional Developments, pp. 572-585, 592-605, 610-617, 620-625
      New York Times Co. v. Sullivan
      Gertz v. Robert Welch, Inc.
      Time, Inc. v. Firestone
      Dun & Bradstreet, Inc. v. Greenmoss Builders, Inc.

Chapter 9. Privacy
   A. False Light & Intrusion Upon Seclusion, pp. 650-654, 656-673
      Cantrell v. Forest City Publishing Co.
      Nader v. General Motors Corp.
Galella v. Onassis

B. Publication of Private Facts, pp. 675-699
   Sidis v. F-R Publishing Corp.
   The Florida Star v. B.J.F.
   Gates v. Discovery Communications, Inc.

C. Appropriation of Name and Likeness, pp. 731-747.
   Taggart v. Wadleigh-Maurice Ltd.
   Grant v. Esquire, Inc.
   Zacchini v. Scripps-Howard Broadcasting Co

PART 3: TORTS AND ECONOMIC INJURY

Chapter 2. Torts for Economic Injury: The Economic Loss Rule, Breach of
Fiduciary Duty, Fraudulent and Negligent Misrepresentation

A. Economic Loss Rule & Breach of Fiduciary Duty, pp. 46-69, 74-78
   Rardin v. T & D Machine Handling, Inc.
   State of Louisiana, ex rel. Guste v. M/V Testbank

B. Misrepresentation, pp. 81-86, 97-107
   Follo v. Florindo
   Ellis v. Grant Thornton LLP