



Australian Capital Territory

Civil Law (Wrongs) Act 2002

A2002-40

Republication No 12

Effective: 3 March 2004 – 7 March 2004

Republication date: 3 March 2004

Last amendment made by A2003-41
(republication for modification by SL2004-8)

Not all amendments are in force: see last endnote

About this republication

The republished law

This is a republication of the *Civil Law (Wrongs) Act 2002* (including any amendment made under the *Legislation Act 2001*, part 11.3 (Editorial changes)) as in force on 3 March 2004. It also includes any amendment, repeal or expiry affecting the republished law to 3 March 2004.

The legislation history and amendment history of the republished law are set out in endnotes 3 and 4.

Kinds of republications

The Parliamentary Counsel's Office prepares 2 kinds of republications of ACT laws (see the ACT legislation register at www.legislation.act.gov.au):

- authorised republications to which the *Legislation Act 2001* applies
- unauthorised republications.

The status of this republication appears on the bottom of each page.

Editorial changes

The *Legislation Act 2001*, part 11.3 authorises the Parliamentary Counsel to make editorial amendments and other changes of a formal nature when preparing a law for republication. Editorial changes do not change the effect of the law, but have effect as if they had been made by an Act commencing on the republication date (see *Legislation Act 2001*, s 115 and s 117). The changes are made if the Parliamentary Counsel considers they are desirable to bring the law into line, or more closely into line, with current legislative drafting practice.

This republication includes amendments made under part 11.3 (see endnote 1).

Uncommenced provisions and amendments

If a provision of the republished law has not commenced or is affected by an uncommenced amendment, the symbol **U** appears immediately before the provision heading. The text of the uncommenced provision or amendment appears only in the last endnote.

Modifications

If a provision of the republished law is affected by a current modification, the symbol **M** appears immediately before the provision heading. The text of the modifying provision appears in the endnotes. For the legal status of modifications, see *Legislation Act 2001*, section 95.

Penalties

The value of a penalty unit for an offence against this republished law at the republication date is—

- (a) if the person charged is an individual—\$100; or
- (b) if the person charged is a corporation—\$500.



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Australian Capital Territory

Civil Law (Wrongs) Act 2002

An Act to consolidate and reform the statute law relating to wrongs, and for other purposes

Chapter 1 Preliminary

1 Name of Act

This Act is the *Civil Law (Wrongs) Act 2002*.

2 Dictionary

The dictionary at the end of this Act is part of this Act.

Note 1 The dictionary at the end of this Act defines certain terms used in this Act, and includes references (*signpost definitions*) to other terms defined elsewhere in this Act.

For example, the signpost definition '*accommodation provider*—see section 146.' means that the term 'accommodation provider' is defined in that section.

Note 2 A definition in the dictionary (including a signpost definition) applies to the entire Act unless the definition, or another provision of the Act, provides otherwise or the contrary intention otherwise appears (see Legislation Act, s 155 and s 156 (1)).

3 Notes

A note included in this Act is explanatory and is not part of this Act.

Note See Legislation Act, s 127 (1), (4) and (5) for the legal status of notes.

4 Offences against Act—application of Criminal Code etc

Other legislation applies in relation to offences against this Act.

Note 1 Criminal Code

The Criminal Code, ch 2 applies to the following offences against this Act (see Code, pt 2.1):

- section 74 (Offence not to disclose particular material)
- section 80 (False or misleading statements)

The chapter sets out the general principles of criminal responsibility (including burdens of proof and general defences), and defines terms used for offences to which the Code applies (eg *conduct*, *intention*, *recklessness* and *strict liability*).

Note 2 Penalty units

The Legislation Act, s 133 deals with the meaning of offence penalties that are expressed in penalty units.

Chapter 2 **Provisions applying to wrongs generally**

Part 2.1 **Good samaritans**

5 **Protection of good samaritans from liability**

- (1) A good samaritan does not incur personal civil liability for an act done or omission made honestly and without recklessness in assisting, or giving advice about the assistance to be given to, a person who is apparently—
 - (a) injured or at risk of being injured; or
 - (b) in need of emergency medical assistance.
- (2) However, the protection does not apply if—
 - (a) the liability falls within the ambit of a scheme of compulsory third-party motor vehicle insurance; or
 - (b) the good samaritan's capacity to exercise appropriate care and skill was, at the relevant time, significantly impaired by a recreational drug.

Example of scheme of compulsory third-party motor vehicle insurance

Road Transport (General) Act 1999, part 10 (Compulsory vehicle insurance)

Note An example is part of the Act, is not exhaustive and may extend, but does not limit, the meaning of the provision in which it appears (see Legislation Act, s 126 and s 132).

(3) In this section:

good samaritan means—

- (a) a person who, acting without expectation of payment or other consideration, comes to the aid of a person who is apparently—
 - (i) injured or at risk of being injured; or
 - (ii) in need of emergency medical assistance; or
- (b) a medically qualified person who, acting without expectation of payment or other consideration, gives advice by telephone or another form of telecommunication about the treatment of a person who is apparently—
 - (i) injured or at risk of being injured; or
 - (ii) in need of emergency medical assistance.

medically qualified—a person is ***medically qualified*** if the person—

- (a) is a doctor; or
- (b) has professional qualifications in a field of health care that are recognised under an Act; or
- (c) works, or has worked, as an ambulance officer or in another paramedical capacity.

Part 2.2 Volunteers

6 Definitions for pt 2.2

In this part:

community organisation means a corporation that directs or coordinates the carrying out of community work by volunteers.

voluntary basis—a person works on a *voluntary basis* if the person—

- (a) receives no remuneration for the work; or
- (b) is remunerated for the work but within limits prescribed under the regulations for this definition.

volunteer means a person who carries out community work on a voluntary basis.

7 Meaning of *community work*

(1) In this part:

community work means—

- (a) work for any 1 or more of the following purposes:
 - (i) a religious, educational, charitable or benevolent purpose;
 - (ii) promoting or encouraging literature, science or the arts;
 - (iii) looking after, or giving attention to, people who need care because of a physical or mental disability or condition;
 - (iv) sport, recreation or amusement;

- (v) conserving resources or protecting the natural environment from harm;
 - (vi) preserving historical or cultural heritage;
 - (vii) a political purpose;
 - (viii) protecting or promoting the common interests of the community generally or a particular section of the community; or
- (b) work declared under the regulations to be community work.
- (2) However, work is not *community work* if it—
- (a) involves acts or threats of violence; or
 - (b) creates a serious risk to the health or safety of the public or a section of the public; or
 - (c) is declared under the regulations not to be community work.

8 Protection of volunteers from liability

- (1) A volunteer does not incur personal civil liability for an act done or omission made honestly and without recklessness while carrying out community work for a community organisation on a voluntary basis.
- (2) However, the protection does not apply if—
- (a) the liability falls within the ambit of a scheme of compulsory third-party motor vehicle insurance; or
 - (b) the liability is for defamation; or
 - (c) the volunteer's capacity to carry out the work properly was, at the relevant time, significantly impaired by a recreational drug; or

- (d) the volunteer was acting, and knew or ought to have known that he or she was acting—
 - (i) outside the scope of the activities authorised by the community organisation; or
 - (ii) contrary to instructions given by the community organisation.

9 Liability of community organisations for volunteers

- (1) A liability that would, apart from this part, attach to a volunteer, attaches instead to the community organisation for which the volunteer was carrying out the relevant community work.
- (2) A person (the *injured person*) who suffers death, injury, loss or damage because of the act or omission of a volunteer may sue the volunteer personally only if—
 - (a) it is clear from the circumstances of the case that the protection given under section 8 does not apply to the case; or
 - (b) the injured person brings an action against the community organisation and the community organisation disputes, in a defence filed to the action, that it is liable for the act or omission of the volunteer.

10 Territory may assume liability of community organisations for volunteers

- (1) This section applies if a community organisation carries out a function that is a recognised government responsibility.
- (2) The Minister may, by agreement with the community organisation, assume on behalf of the Territory liabilities of the organisation that arise under section 9 in carrying out the function.

- (3) The agreement may be subject to the conditions and limitations the Minister considers appropriate.
- (4) While the agreement is in force, a liability that would, apart from this section, attach to the community organisation in relation to the function, attaches instead (subject to the conditions and limitations of the agreement) to the Territory.
- (5) In this section:
recognised government responsibility means a responsibility prescribed under the regulations as a recognised government responsibility.

11 Directions to community organisations about insurance etc

- (1) The Minister may give written directions to community organisations about the taking out of insurance, or the adoption of risk management plans, in relation to liabilities to which this part applies.
- (2) A direction is a disallowable instrument.

Note A disallowable instrument must be notified, and presented to the Legislative Assembly, under the Legislation Act.

Part 2.3 Apologies

12 Application of pt 2.3

- (1) This part applies to civil liability of any kind.
- (2) However, this part does not apply to civil liability for an award of damages or compensation—
 - (a) for defamation; or
 - (b) under any of the following:
 - (i) the *Discrimination Act 1991*;
 - (ii) the *Victims of Crime (Financial Assistance) Act 1983*;
 - (iii) the *Workers Compensation Act 1951*.

13 Meaning of *apology* in pt 2.3

In this part:

apology means an oral or written expression of sympathy or regret, or of a general sense of benevolence or compassion, in relation to an incident, whether or not the expression admits or implies fault or liability in relation to the incident.

14 Effect of apology on liability etc

- (1) An apology made by or on behalf of a person in relation to an incident claimed to have been caused by the person—
 - (a) is not (and must not be taken to be) an express or implied admission of fault or liability by the person in relation to the incident; and
 - (b) is not relevant to deciding fault or liability in relation to the incident.

- (2) Evidence of an apology made by or on behalf of a person in relation to an incident claimed to have been caused by the person is not admissible in any civil proceeding as evidence of the fault or liability of the person in relation to the incident.

Part 2.4 **Survival of actions on death**

15 **Effect of death on certain causes of action**

- (1) When a person dies—
 - (a) all causes of action vested in the person survive for the benefit of the person's estate; and
 - (b) all causes of action existing against the person survive against the person's estate.
- (2) This section does not apply to causes of action for defamation.

16 **Damages in surviving cause of action**

- (1) This section applies to a cause of action that survives under this part for the benefit of a dead person's estate.
- (2) The damages recoverable do not include exemplary damages.
- (3) If the act or omission that gave rise to the cause of action caused the person's death, the damages recoverable—
 - (a) must be calculated without regard to any loss or gain to the estate resulting from the death; and
 - (b) do not include damages for—
 - (i) the person's pain or suffering or for any bodily or mental harm suffered by the person or for the loss of the person's expectation of life; or
 - (ii) the person's loss of capacity to earn or loss of future probable earnings; and
 - (c) do not include damages of the kind mentioned in section 100 (Damages for loss of capacity to perform domestic services).

- (4) The damages may include an amount to compensate for any reasonable funeral expenses paid or payable by the estate.
- (5) An amount to compensate for any reasonable funeral expenses may be reduced to the extent (if any) that the court considers just and equitable having regard to the age and health of the dead person immediately before the act or omission that gave rise to the cause of action.
- (6) In deciding whether an expense is reasonable for subsection (4), regard must be had to the religious and cultural circumstances of the dead person and the members of the dead person's family.
- (7) In this section:
member, of a dead person's family—see section 23.

17 If person liable dies before or at time of damage

- (1) This section applies if—
 - (a) damage was suffered because of an act or omission; and
 - (b) a person against whom there would have been a cause of action for the act or omission died before or at the same time as the damage was suffered.
- (2) For this part, the cause of action is taken to have existed against the person before his or her death.

18 Saving of rights additional to pt 2.4

- (1) The rights given by this part for the benefit of estates of dead people are additional to, and do not limit, rights given by part 3.1 (Wrongful act or omission causing death).
- (2) This part as it relates to causes of action against estates of dead people applies in relation to causes of action under part 3.1 in the same way as it applies in relation to other causes of action that survive under this part.
- (3) The rights given by this part for the benefit of estates of dead people, and the obligations under this part against estates of dead people, are additional to, and do not limit, rights or obligations under the *Road Transport (General) Act 1999*, part 10 (Compulsory vehicle insurance).

Part 2.5 Proceedings against and contributions between wrongdoers

19 Definitions for pt 2.5

In this part:

court includes arbitrator.

damage means loss of any kind (including loss of life, personal injury, damage to property and economic loss).

wrong means an act or omission (whether or not an offence)—

- (a) that gives rise to a liability in tort in relation to which a defence of contributory negligence is available at common law; or
- (b) that amounts to a breach of a contractual duty of care that is concurrent and coextensive with a duty of care in tort.

20 Each of several wrongdoers can be sued

- (1) A judgment or decision against a person for damage caused by a wrong does not bar an action against someone else who is also liable for the same damage.
- (2) However, if separate actions are brought in relation to the same damage—
 - (a) the total amount recovered in the actions cannot exceed the amount of damages awarded in the judgment or decision given first or, if that amount is amended on appeal, the amount as amended; and

- (b) the plaintiff is only entitled to costs in the action for which judgment or decision is given first (including costs on appeal from the judgment or decision), unless the court considers there were reasonable grounds for bringing the actions separately.

21 Right of contribution

- (1) A person (the *first person*) who is liable for damage caused by a wrong can recover contribution from someone else (a *contributory*) who is also liable for the same damage.
- (2) The contribution must be an amount that the court considers just and equitable having regard to the extent of the contributory's responsibility for the damage.
- (3) However, the first person is not entitled to contribution under this section if—
 - (a) the first person is liable to indemnify the contributory against the contributory's liability for the damage; or
 - (b) the court exempts the contributory from liability to make contribution; or
 - (c) the court has directed that contribution to be recovered from a person for the damage is a complete indemnity for the damage.

22 **Effect of pt 2.5**

- (1) This part does not—
 - (a) affect any criminal proceeding against a person in relation to an act or omission; or
 - (b) make enforceable an agreement for indemnity that would not have been enforceable if this part had not been enacted.
- (2) This part has effect subject to the *Construction Practitioners Registration Act 1998*, part 4 (Limitation of liability).

Chapter 3 Liability for death or injury

Part 3.1 Wrongful act or omission causing death

Division 3.1.1 Preliminary—liability for death

23 Definitions for pt 3.1

In this part:

child includes a grandchild and a stepchild.

member, of a dead person's family—each of the following people is a *member* of a dead person's family:

- (a) a domestic partner; or
- (b) a child of the person (including a child born alive after the death);
- (c) a person to whom the dead person acted, immediately before his or her death, in place of a parent;
- (d) a parent of the person;
- (e) a person who acted, immediately before the dead person's death, in place of a parent to the dead person;
- (f) a brother, a sister, a half-brother and a half-sister of the person;
- (g) a former spouse of the person.

parent includes a stepfather, a stepmother, a grandfather and a grandmother.

Division 3.1.2 Liability and damages for death

24 Liability for a person's death

If—

- (a) a person's death is caused by a wrongful act or omission (whether or not an offence); and
- (b) the act or omission would, if death had not resulted, have entitled the person to recover damages in an action for personal injury;

the person who would have been liable if the death had not resulted is liable to an action for damages despite the death and whether or not the death was caused by circumstances that were an offence.

25 Damages for a person's death

- (1) In an action under this part, the court may award, to the people for whose benefit the action is brought (the *beneficiaries*), the damages that it considers to be proportional to the damage to them resulting from the death.
- (2) Subsection (1) has effect subject to part 7.1 (Damages for personal injuries—exclusions and limitations).
- (3) The amount of damages awarded must, after deducting the costs not recovered from the defendant, be divided between the beneficiaries in the shares the court decides.
- (4) The damages may include an amount to compensate for any of the following expenses paid or payable by a beneficiary:
 - (a) reasonable funeral expenses;
 - (b) reasonable medical or hospital expenses related to the injury that resulted in the death.

- (5) An amount to compensate for any reasonable funeral expenses may be reduced to the extent (if any) that the court considers just and equitable having regard to the age or health of the dead person immediately before the wrongful act or omission that caused the death.
- (6) In deciding whether an expense is reasonable for subsection (4) (a), regard must be had to the religious and cultural circumstances of the dead person and the members of the dead person's family.

26 Amounts not to be taken into account in assessing damages for death

In assessing damages in relation to liability under this part, the following must not be taken into account to reduce the damages:

- (a) an amount paid or payable on the death of, or personal injury to, the dead person under a contract of insurance;
- (b) an amount paid or payable out of a superannuation, provident or similar fund, or as a benefit from a friendly society, benefit society, lodge or trade union;
- (c) an amount paid or payable because of the death or injury of the dead person that is—
 - (i) a payment instead of leave; or
 - (ii) a payment of a pension or another social security or veterans benefit;
- (d) an amount paid or payable as a gratuity on the death of the dead person;
- (e) an amount in relation to the acquisition by a member of the dead person's family, after the death, of—
 - (i) a house, or an interest in a house, used at any time as the member's home; or

- (ii) the household contents, or an interest in the household contents, of the house;
- (f) a premium that would have become payable under a contract of insurance on the life of the dead person if the person had lived beyond the time when he or she died.

27 Contributory negligence not defence in relation to death

- (1) If a person has died partly because of the person's failure to take reasonable care (*contributory negligence*) and partly because of someone else's wrong, the damages recoverable in an action under this part for the wrong must not be reduced because of the contributory negligence.
- (2) Subsection (1) has effect subject to part 7.1 (Damages for personal injuries—exclusions and limitations).
- (3) In this section:
wrong means an act or omission (whether or not an offence)—
 - (a) that gives rise to a liability in tort; or
 - (b) that amounts to a breach of a contractual duty of care that is concurrent and coextensive with a duty of care in tort.

Division 3.1.3 Procedural matters—action for death

28 One action for benefit of members of dead person's family

- (1) Not more than 1 action under this part may be brought against a person in relation to a death.
- (2) The action must be brought by the personal representative of the dead person for the benefit of the members of the person's

family (the *beneficiaries*) who suffered damage because of the death.

- (3) However, if the action has not been begun by the personal representative within 6 months after the day of the death, any 1 or more of the beneficiaries may bring the action.
- (4) The action must be for the benefit of the same people and subject to the same provisions and procedures (with the necessary changes) as if it were brought by the personal representative of the dead person on behalf of the beneficiaries.

29 Payment into court

- (1) If an action is brought in the Magistrates Court under this part, the defendant may pay an amount into the Magistrates Court as compensation for the benefit of the people for whose benefit the action is brought, and who are entitled to compensation under this part, without stating the shares into which the amount is to be divided by the court.
- (2) If an amount is paid into the Magistrates Court under subsection (1), no part of the amount can be paid out of court except under an order of the court.

30 Special endorsement on originating process

The originating process by which an action under this part is begun in the Magistrates Court must, in addition to any other endorsements required or permitted to be made, be endorsed with a statement of the names of each of the people for whose benefit the action is brought and the relationship of each of them to the dead person.

31 Powers of court to make orders in relation to actions

- (1) If—
- (a) an action under this part is begun in a court; and
 - (b) the court is satisfied that a person whose name is not included in the names of the people for whose benefit the action is stated to have been brought is a person whose name should have been included;

the court may (on its own initiative or on application by or on behalf of that person) order that the action must proceed as if the name of that person had been included.

- (2) In an action under this part, the court may order that any 1 or more of the people for whose benefit the action has been brought must be separately represented by a lawyer.
- (3) If the court makes an order under this section, the court may, at the same time or later, make the orders about procedure in the action that it considers appropriate.
- (4) The powers of the court under this section are additional to any other powers of the court.

Part 3.2 Mental harm

32 Definitions for pt 3.2

In this part:

child, of a person, means the son, daughter, grandson, granddaughter, stepson or stepdaughter of the person, or someone to whom the person is acting in place of a parent.

consequential mental harm, to a person, means mental harm to the person that is a consequence of bodily injury to the person.

family member, of a person, means—

- (a) a domestic partner;
- (b) a parent or child of the person; or
- (c) a brother, sister, half-brother or half-sister of the person.

mental harm, to a person, means impairment of the person's mental condition.

negligence means failure to exercise reasonable care and skill.

parent, of a person, means the father, mother, grandfather, grandmother, stepfather or stepmother of the person, or someone acting in place of a parent to the person.

pure mental harm, to a person, means mental harm to the person other than consequential mental harm.

33 Personal injury arising from mental or nervous shock

In an action for personal injury, the plaintiff is not prevented from recovering damages only because the injury arose completely or partly from mental or nervous shock.

34 Mental harm—duty of care

- (1) A person (the *defendant*) does not owe a duty to another person (the *plaintiff*) to take care not to cause the plaintiff mental harm unless a reasonable person in the defendant's position would have foreseen that a person of normal fortitude in the plaintiff's position might, in the circumstances of the case, suffer a recognised psychiatric illness if reasonable care were not taken.
- (2) For the application of this section in relation to pure mental harm to a person, the circumstances of the case to which the court must have regard include—
 - (a) whether or not the mental harm was suffered as the result of a sudden shock; and
 - (b) whether the plaintiff witnessed, at the scene, a person being killed, injured or put in danger; and
 - (c) the nature of the relationship between the plaintiff and anyone killed, injured or put in danger; and
 - (d) whether or not there was a pre-existing relationship between the plaintiff and the defendant.
- (3) For the application of this section in relation to consequential mental harm to a person, the circumstances of the case to which the court must have regard include the nature of the bodily injury out of which the mental harm arose.
- (4) This section does not affect the duty of care a person (the *defendant*) has to another person (the *plaintiff*) if the defendant knows, or ought reasonably to know, that the plaintiff is a person of less than normal fortitude.

35 Mental harm—damages

- (1) Damages must not be awarded for pure mental harm to a person resulting from negligence unless the harm consists of a recognised psychiatric illness.
- (2) Damages must not be awarded for economic loss for consequential mental harm to a person resulting from negligence unless the harm consists of a recognised psychiatric illness.

36 Extensions of liability under pt 3.2 in certain cases

- (1) A person's liability in relation to an injury caused by a wrongful act or omission by which someone else (A) is killed, injured or put in danger includes liability for injury arising completely or partly from mental or nervous shock received by—
 - (a) a parent of A; or
 - (b) a domestic partner of A; or
 - (c) another family member of A, if A was killed, injured or put in danger within the sight or hearing of the other family member.
- (2) If 2 or more family members bring, or may bring, actions in relation to liability arising under subsection (1) out of the same act or omission, the court may proceed in the way the court considers appropriate and may make the orders the court considers appropriate about—
 - (a) which family members are parties to the action; and
 - (b) who is to have the conduct of the action.
- (3) The action is for the benefit of all family members who are parties to the action.

- (4) The court may award the damages that it considers to be proportional to the damage to the plaintiffs resulting from the wrongful act or omission.
- (5) Subsection (4) has effect subject to part 7.1 (Damages for personal injuries—exclusions and limitations).
- (6) The amount of damages awarded must, after deducting the costs not recovered from the defendant, be divided between the plaintiffs in the shares the court decides.

Part 3.3 Temporary exclusion of liability for terrorism- associated risks

37 Meaning of *act of terrorism* for pt 3.3

(1) In this part:

act of terrorism means the use or threat of action if—

- (a) the action falls within subsection (2); and
- (b) the use or threat is designed to influence a government or to intimidate the public or a section of the public; and
- (c) the use or threat is made for the purpose of advancing a political, religious or ideological cause.

(2) Action falls within this subsection if it—

- (a) involves serious violence against a person; or
- (b) involves serious damage to property; or
- (c) endangers a person's life, other than that of the person committing the action; or
- (d) creates a serious risk to the health or safety of the public or a section of the public; or
- (e) is designed seriously to interfere with or seriously to disrupt an electronic system.

(3) The use or threat of action falling within subsection (2) that involves the use of firearms or explosives is terrorism whether or not subsection (1) (b) is satisfied.

(4) In this section:

action includes action outside the ACT or Australia.

government includes the government of another Australian jurisdiction or a foreign country.

person means a person anywhere, whether in or outside the ACT or Australia.

property means property located anywhere, whether in or outside the ACT or Australia.

public includes the public of a place outside the ACT or Australia.

38 Limitation of liability for acts of terrorism

- (1) There is no right of action for death or injury (or both) arising out of the use of a motor vehicle if the death or injury (or both) are caused by an act of terrorism committed before 1 October 2004.
- (2) Subsection (1) does not remove the liability—
 - (a) of someone who commits or promotes the act of terrorism;
or
 - (b) of an employer to pay compensation under the *Workers Compensation Act 1951* (or any corresponding law of the Commonwealth, a State or another Territory) to a worker.
- (3) This section applies despite the *Road Transport (General) Act 1999*, section 169 (1) (Indemnification of insured persons).

39 Expiry of pt 3.3

This part expires on 31 December 2004.

Chapter 4 Negligence

Part 4.1 Preliminary

40 Definitions for ch 4

In this chapter:

harm means harm of any kind, and includes—

- (a) personal injury; and
- (b) damage to property; and
- (c) economic loss.

negligence means failure to exercise reasonable care and skill.

41 Application of ch 4

- (1) This chapter applies to all claims for damages for harm resulting from negligence, whether the claim is brought in tort, in contract, under statute or otherwise.
- (2) However, this chapter does not apply to a claim under the *Workers Compensation Act 1951*.

Part 4.2 Duty of care

42 Standard of care

For deciding whether a person (the *defendant*) was negligent, the standard of care required of the defendant is that of a reasonable person in the defendant's position who was in possession of all the information that the defendant either had, or ought reasonably to have had, at the time of the incident out of which the harm arose.

43 Precautions against risk—general principles

- (1) A person is not negligent in failing to take precautions against a risk of harm unless—
 - (a) the risk was foreseeable (that is, it is a risk of which the person knew or ought to have known); and
 - (b) the risk was not insignificant; and
 - (c) in the circumstances, a reasonable person in the person's position would have taken those precautions.
- (2) In deciding whether a reasonable person would have taken precautions against a risk of harm, the court must consider the following (among other relevant things):
 - (a) the probability that the harm would happen if precautions were not taken;
 - (b) the likely seriousness of the harm;
 - (c) the burden of taking precautions to avoid the risk of harm;
 - (d) the social utility of the activity creating the risk of harm.

44 Precautions against risk—other principles

In a proceeding in relation to liability for negligence—

- (a) the burden of taking precautions to avoid a risk of harm includes the burden of taking precautions to avoid similar risks of harm for which the person may be responsible; and
- (b) the fact that a risk of harm could have been avoided by doing something in a different way does not of itself give rise to or affect liability for the way in which it was done; and
- (c) the subsequent taking of action that would (had the action been taken earlier) have avoided a risk of harm does not of itself give rise to or affect liability in relation to the risk and is not of itself an admission of liability in relation to the risk.

Part 4.3 Causation

45 General principles

- (1) A decision that negligence caused particular harm comprises the following elements:
 - (a) that the negligence was a necessary condition of the happening of the harm ('factual causation');
 - (b) that it is appropriate for the scope of the negligent person's liability to extend to the harm so caused (*scope of liability*).
- (2) However, if a person (the *plaintiff*) has been negligently exposed to a similar risk of harm by a number of different people (the *defendants*) and it is not possible to assign responsibility for causing the harm to any 1 or more of them—
 - (a) the court may continue to apply the established common law principle under which responsibility may be assigned to the defendants for causing the harm; but
 - (b) the court must consider the position of each defendant individually and state the reasons for bringing the defendant within the scope of liability.
- (3) In deciding the scope of liability, the court must consider (among other relevant things) whether or not, and why, responsibility for the harm should be imposed on the negligent party.

46 Burden of proof

In deciding liability for negligence, the plaintiff always bears the burden of proving, on the balance of probabilities, any fact relevant to the issue of causation.

Part 4.4 Other provisions—negligence

47 Contributory negligence can defeat claim

In deciding the extent of a reduction of damages because of contributory negligence, a court may decide on a reduction of 100% if the court considers it is just and equitable to do so, with the result that the claim for damages is defeated.

48 Remedy available if claim fraudulent

- (1) This section applies to a person if—
 - (a) the person did, or omitted to do, something in relation to a claim; and
 - (b) the person did, or omitted to do, the thing—
 - (i) for the purpose of obtaining a financial benefit; or
 - (ii) knowing that the thing (or something else resulting from doing or omitting to do the thing) is false or misleading.

Example of something done in relation to claim

the making of a statement

Example of something resulting from the doing of the thing

the statement

Note An example is part of the Act, is not exhaustive and may extend, but does not limit, the meaning of the provision in which it appears (see Legislation Act, s 126 and s 132).

- (2) If this section applies to a claimant in relation to a claim—
- (a) a person who has a liability in relation to a payment, settlement, compromise or judgment relating to the claim is relieved from the liability to the extent of the financial benefit obtained by the claimant; and
 - (b) a person who has paid an amount to the claimant in relation to the claim (whether under a settlement, compromise, judgment or otherwise) is entitled to recover from the claimant the amount of the financial benefit obtained by the claimant and any costs incurred in relation to the claim.
- (3) If this section applies to a person other than a claimant in relation to a claim, the claimant is entitled to recover from the person as a debt the amount of the financial benefit obtained by the person and any costs incurred by the claimant in relation to the claim.

**U Chapter 5 Personal injuries claims—
pre-court procedures**

Chapter 6 Expert medical evidence

81 Purpose of ch 6

The purpose of this chapter is to define the role, and limit the number, of witnesses who may give expert medical evidence in a proceeding based on a claim.

82 Definitions for ch 6

In this chapter:

agreed expert—see section 84.

appointed expert—see section 84.

claim means a claim (however described) for damages based on a liability for personal injury, whether the liability is based in tort or contract or on another form of action (including breach of statutory duty), and, for a fatal injury, includes a claim for the dead person's dependants or estate.

evidence means evidence given orally or in writing.

expert, in relation to an issue, means a person who has specialised knowledge about matters relevant to the issue based on the person's training, study or experience.

expert medical evidence means opinion evidence on a medical issue given by an expert in relation to the issue.

medical issue—an issue is a *medical issue* if it relates to—

- (a) the medical condition or prospects of rehabilitation of a person; or
- (b) the cognitive, functional or vocational capacity of a person; or

- (c) the question whether particular medical treatment amounts to professional negligence.

83 Application of ch 6

- (1) This chapter applies to all claims for damages for personal injury, including claims to which the *Road Transport (General) Act 1999*, part 10 (Compulsory vehicle insurance) applies.
- (2) However, this chapter does not apply to a claim under the *Workers Compensation Act 1951*.

84 Limitation on expert medical evidence

Expert medical evidence may be given in a proceeding in a court based on a claim only by—

- (a) an expert appointed by the parties under section 85 or section 89 (1) (an *agreed expert*); or
- (b) an expert appointed by the court under section 86 or section 89 (2) (an *appointed expert*).

85 Agreed expert

- (1) The parties to the proceeding may agree, in writing, to appoint 1 stated person to give expert medical evidence in the proceeding.
- (2) The agreed expert may be (but need not be)—
 - (a) a person who prepared an expert report for the parties under section 65 (Respondent and claimant may jointly arrange for expert report); or
 - (b) a person on a panel mentioned in section 67 (Examination by expert if no agreement).

- (3) The agreed expert may give evidence in the proceeding as an expert on any issue on which the expert is qualified to give evidence based on the expert's specialised knowledge.

86 Appointed expert

- (1) If the parties do not appoint an agreed expert, the court may, on application by 1 or more of the parties or on its own initiative, appoint a stated person to give expert medical evidence in the proceeding.
- (2) The court may appoint an additional expert, or additional experts, to give expert medical evidence in the proceeding if—
- (a) expert medical evidence is required on 2 or more issues in the proceeding and the agreed or appointed expert is not qualified to give evidence on all the issues based on the expert's specialised knowledge; or
 - (b) the court considers that the interests of justice otherwise require it.
- (3) The court must not appoint more than 1 expert to give expert medical evidence on any particular issue unless the court considers that the interests of justice require it.
- (4) The court must not appoint a person to give expert medical evidence on an issue unless the court is satisfied the person is an expert in relation to the issue.
- (5) An appointed expert may be (but need not be)—
- (a) a person who prepared an expert report for the parties under section 65 (Respondent and claimant may jointly arrange for expert report); or
 - (b) a person on a panel mentioned in section 67 (Examination by expert if no agreement).

- (6) An appointed expert may give evidence in the proceeding as an expert on any issue on which the expert is qualified to give evidence based on the expert's specialised knowledge.

87 Role of expert

- (1) The role of an agreed or appointed expert is to assist the court impartially on the issue or issues on which the expert is giving expert medical evidence.
- (2) The expert's primary duty is to the court.
- (3) The expert is not an advocate for a party to the proceeding.
- (4) In giving evidence in relation to the question whether particular medical treatment amounts to professional negligence, the expert must have regard to whether the treatment was in accordance with an opinion widely held by a significant number of respected practitioners in Australia in the relevant field.

88 Documents etc to be given to expert

The parties to a proceeding must ensure that—

- (a) all reports and other documents or information relevant to the issue or issues on which an agreed or appointed expert is to give evidence are made available to the expert; and
- (b) the expert is jointly briefed by the parties or the parties have equal opportunity to brief the expert.

89 If agreed or appointed expert unavailable

- (1) If an agreed expert is not available to give evidence on an issue when required, the court may, on application by the parties, allow the parties to appoint another agreed expert to give evidence on the issue.

- (2) If an appointed expert is not available to give evidence on an issue when required the court may appoint another expert to give evidence on the issue.

90 Costs of experts

The costs and expenses of an agreed or appointed expert must be paid by the parties in equal shares or as otherwise agreed by them or ordered by the court.

91 Rules etc to make further provision

- (1) For a proceeding in the Supreme Court, rules under the *Supreme Court Act 1933* may make provision in relation to—
- (a) how the court is to choose an expert; and
 - (b) how experts may give evidence and be questioned.
- (2) For a proceeding in the Magistrates Court, the regulations may make provision in relation to—
- (a) how the court is to choose an expert; and
 - (b) how the expert may give evidence and be questioned.

Chapter 7 Damages

Part 7.1 Damages for personal injuries—exclusions and limitations

92 Definitions for pt 7.1

In this part:

claim means a claim (however described) for damages based on a liability for personal injury, whether the liability is based in tort or contract or on another form of action (including breach of statutory duty), and, for a fatal injury, includes a claim for the dead person's dependants or estate.

court includes arbitrator.

intoxicated—a person is *intoxicated* if under the influence of alcohol or a drug to the extent that the person's capacity to exercise appropriate care and skill is impaired.

93 Application of pt 7.1

- (1) This part applies to all claims for damages for personal injury, including claims to which the *Road Transport (General) Act 1999*, part 10 (Compulsory vehicle insurance) applies.
- (2) However, this part does not apply to claims under the *Workers Compensation Act 1951*.

94 Exclusion of liability if conduct an offence

- (1) Liability for damages is excluded if the court—
 - (a) is satisfied on the balance of probabilities that the accident happened while the injured person was engaged in conduct that is an indictable offence; and
 - (b) is satisfied on the balance of probabilities that the injured person's conduct contributed materially to the risk of injury.
- (2) Despite this exclusion, the court may award damages in a particular case if satisfied that—
 - (a) the circumstances of the case are exceptional; and
 - (b) in the circumstances of the case, the exclusion would operate harshly and unjustly.

95 Presumption of contributory negligence—injured person intoxicated

- (1) Contributory negligence must be presumed if the injured person was intoxicated at the time of the accident and the defendant claims contributory negligence.
- (2) The presumption can be rebutted only if the injured person establishes, on the balance of probabilities, that—
 - (a) the intoxication did not contribute to the accident; or
 - (b) the intoxication was not self-induced.
- (3) If the presumption is not rebutted, the damages the injured person would be entitled to, apart from the contributory negligence, must be reduced to the extent that the court considers just and equitable having regard to the injured person's share in the responsibility for the injury.

96 Presumption of contributory negligence—injured person relying on intoxicated person

- (1) Contributory negligence must be presumed if—
 - (a) the injured person—
 - (i) was at least 16 years old at the time of the accident; and
 - (ii) relied on the care and skill of a person (*A*) who was intoxicated at the time of the accident; and
 - (iii) knew, or ought to have known, that *A* was intoxicated; and
 - (b) the accident was caused by *A*'s negligence; and
 - (c) the defendant claims contributory negligence by the injured person.
- (2) The presumption can be rebutted only if the injured person establishes, on the balance of probabilities, that—
 - (a) the intoxication did not contribute to the accident; or
 - (b) the injured person could not reasonably be expected to have avoided the risk.
- (3) If the presumption is not rebutted, the damages the injured person would be entitled to, apart from the contributory negligence, must be reduced to the extent that the court considers just and equitable having regard to the injured person's share in the responsibility for the injury.
- (4) For this section, a passenger in a motor vehicle is taken to rely on the care and skill of the driver.
- (5) The common law defence of voluntary assumption of risk does not apply to a matter to which this section applies.

97 Presumption of contributory negligence—injured person not wearing seatbelt etc

- (1) Contributory negligence must be presumed if the injured person was injured in a motor accident and was at least 16 years old at the time of the accident and—
 - (a) was not wearing a seatbelt at the time of the accident as required under the *Road Transport (Safety and Traffic Management) Act 1999*; or
 - (b) 1 of the following factors contributed to the accident or the extent of the injury:
 - (i) the injured person was not wearing a helmet at the time of the accident as required under the *Road Transport (Safety and Traffic Management) Act 1999*;
 - (ii) the injured person was a passenger in or on a motor vehicle with a passenger compartment but was not in the compartment at the time of the accident.
- (2) The presumption can be rebutted only as provided in subsections (3) and (4).
- (3) For subsection (1) (a), the presumption can be rebutted if the injured person establishes, on the balance of probabilities, that the injury suffered by the injured person was less serious than it would have been if the injured person had been wearing a seatbelt at the time of the accident.
- (4) For subsection (1) (b) (ii), the presumption can be rebutted if the injured person establishes, on the balance of probabilities, that the injured person could not reasonably be expected to have avoided the risk.

- (5) If the presumption is not rebutted, the damages the injured person would be entitled to, apart from the contributory negligence, must be reduced to the extent that the court considers just and equitable having regard to the injured person's share in the responsibility for the injury.

98 Damages for loss of earnings

- (1) In assessing damages for loss of earnings in relation to a claim, the court must disregard earnings above the limit mentioned in subsection (2).
- (2) The limit is 3 times average weekly earnings a week.
- (3) In this section:

average weekly earnings means—

- (a) the average weekly earnings, States and Territories, seasonally adjusted for the ACT (all males total earnings) contained in *Average Weekly Earnings, Australia* issued by the Australian Statistician; or
- (b) if the Australian Statistician issues a publication (however described) containing average weekly earnings in substitution for, or instead of, the average weekly earnings mentioned in paragraph (a)—the substituted average weekly earnings.

loss of earnings means—

- (a) past economic loss because of loss of earnings or the deprivation or impairment of earning capacity; and
- (b) future economic loss because of loss of prospective earnings or the deprivation or impairment of prospective earning capacity.

99 Tariffs for damages for non-economic loss

- (1) In deciding damages for non-economic loss, a court may refer to earlier decisions of that or other courts for the purpose of establishing the appropriate award in the proceeding.
- (2) For that purpose, the parties to the proceeding or their lawyers may bring the court's attention to awards of damages for non-economic loss in those earlier decisions.
- (3) This section does not change the rules for deciding other damages.
- (4) In this section:
non-economic loss includes the following:
 - (a) pain and suffering;
 - (b) loss of amenities of life;
 - (c) loss of expectation of life;
 - (d) disfigurement.

Part 7.2 Loss of capacity to perform domestic services

100 Damages for loss of capacity to perform domestic services

- (1) A person's liability for an injury suffered by someone else because of a wrong includes liability for damages for any resulting impairment or loss of the injured person's capacity to perform domestic services that the injured person might reasonably have been expected to perform for his or her household if he or she had not been injured.
- (2) In an action for the recovery of damages mentioned in subsection (1), it does not matter—
 - (a) whether the injured person performed the domestic services for the benefit of other members of the household or solely for his or her own benefit; or
 - (b) that the injured person was not paid to perform the services; or
 - (c) that the injured person has not been, and will not be, obliged to pay someone else to perform the services; or
 - (d) that the services have been, or are likely to be, performed (gratuitously or otherwise) by other people (whether members of the household or not).
- (3) In this section:
wrong means an act or omission (whether or not an offence)—
 - (a) that gives rise to a liability in tort; or
 - (b) that amounts to a breach of a contractual duty of care that is concurrent and coextensive with a duty of care in tort.

Part 7.3 Contributory negligence

101 Definitions for pt 7.3

In this part:

court includes arbitrator.

damage means loss of any kind (including loss of life, personal injury, damage to property and economic loss).

wrong means an act or omission (whether or not an offence)—

- (a) that gives rise to a liability in tort in relation to which a defence of contributory negligence is available at common law; or
- (b) that amounts to a breach of a contractual duty of care that is concurrent and coextensive with a duty of care in tort.

102 Apportionment of liability—contributory negligence

- (1) If a person (the *claimant*) suffers damage partly because of the claimant's failure to take reasonable care (*contributory negligence*) and partly because of someone else's wrong—
 - (a) a claim for the damage is not defeated because of the claimant's contributory negligence; and
 - (b) the damages recoverable for the wrong are to be reduced to the extent the court deciding the claim considers just and equitable having regard to the claimant's share in the responsibility for the damage.
- (2) However, if the claimant suffered personal injury and the wrong was a breach of statutory duty, the damages recoverable by the claimant for the personal injury must not be reduced because of the claimant's contributory negligence.

- (3) If an Act or contract providing for the limitation of liability applies to the claim, the amount of damages awarded to the claimant because of subsection (1) must not exceed the maximum limit applying to the claim.
- (4) This section does not defeat any defence arising under a contract.
- (5) This section has effect subject to part 7.1 (Damages for personal injuries—exclusions and limitations).

103 Joint wrongdoers

Part 2.5 (Proceedings against and contributions between wrongdoers) applies if 2 or more people are liable (or, if they had all been sued, would have been liable) under section 102 for the damage suffered by a person.

104 Claims by third parties—contributory negligence

- (1) This section applies if—
 - (a) a person (the *first person*) suffers damage partly because of the first person's failure to take reasonable care (*contributory negligence*) and partly because of someone else's wrong; and
 - (b) because of the damage to the first person a third person suffers damage.
- (2) In an action by the third person, the contributory negligence of the first person must be taken into account under section 102 (Apportionment of liability—contributory negligence) in reducing the damages recoverable by the third person for the damage as if the contributory negligence were a failure by the third person to take reasonable care.

105 Pleading of statutory limitation period—contributory negligence

- (1) This section applies to a case to which section 102 (Apportionment of liability—contributory negligence) applies if—
 - (a) the claimant suffered damage partly because of the wrong of 2 or more people; and
 - (b) 1 of those people avoids liability to another of those people (or his or her personal representative) by pleading a statutory limitation period on the time within which proceedings can be taken.
- (2) The person who avoids liability is not entitled to recover damages or contribution from the other person (or his or her personal representative) because of section 102.

Part 7.4 Other provisions—damages

106 Court may make consent order for structured settlement

- (1) This section applies if the parties to an action for personal injury damages agree to settle the action by making a structured settlement and apply to the court for an order approving of, or in the terms of, the structured settlement.
- (2) The court may make the order even though the payment of damages is not in the form of a lump sum award of damages.
- (3) In this section:

personal injury damages means damages that relate to the death of, or injury to, a person caused by someone else's wrongful act or omission (whether or not an offence).

structured settlement means an agreement providing for the payment of all or part of an award of damages in the form of periodic payments funded by an annuity or other agreed means.

107 Independent finding of liability and award of damages

To remove any doubt—

- (a) a court may make a finding of liability on any claim for damages independently of making an award or interim award of damages on the claim; and
- (b) a court may make an award or interim award of damages on any claim independently, but after, making a finding of liability on the claim.

Chapter 8 Liability of public and other authorities

108 Application of ch 8

- (1) This chapter applies in relation to civil liability in tort.
- (2) This chapter extends to any such liability even if the damages are sought in an action for breach of contract or any other action.
- (3) However, this chapter does not apply to—
 - (a) a claim to which the *Road Transport (General) Act 1999*, part 10 (Compulsory vehicle insurance) applies; or
 - (b) a claim under the *Workers Compensation Act 1951*.

109 Definitions for ch 8

In this chapter:

duty of care means a duty to take reasonable care or to exercise reasonable skill (or both).

public or other authority means any of the following:

- (a) the Territory;
- (b) an administrative unit;
- (c) a Territory authority;
- (d) an entity prescribed under the regulations for this paragraph;
- (e) any entity so far as the entity exercises a function prescribed under the regulations for this paragraph.

110 Principles about resources, responsibilities etc of public or other authorities

The following principles apply in deciding in a proceeding whether a public or other authority has a duty of care or has breached a duty of care:

- (a) the functions required to be exercised by the authority are limited by the financial and other resources reasonably available to the authority for exercising the functions;
- (b) the general allocation of the resources by the authority is not open to challenge;
- (c) the functions required to be exercised by the authority are to be decided by reference to the broad range of its activities (and not only by reference to the matter to which the proceeding relates);
- (d) the authority may rely on evidence of its compliance with the general procedures and applicable standards for the exercise of its functions as evidence of the proper exercise of its functions in the matter to which the proceeding relates.

111 Proceedings against public or other authorities based on breach of statutory duty

- (1) This section applies to a proceeding based on a claimed breach of a statutory duty by a public or other authority (the *defendant authority*) in relation to the exercise of, or a failure to exercise, a function of the defendant authority.

- (2) For the proceeding, an act or omission of the defendant authority is a breach of statutory duty only if the act or omission was in the circumstances so unreasonable that no authority having the functions of the defendant authority could properly consider the act or omission to be a reasonable exercise of its functions.
- (3) For a function of a public or other authority to prohibit or regulate an activity, this section applies in addition to section 112.

112 When public or other authority not liable for failure to exercise regulatory functions

- (1) A public or other authority is not liable in a proceeding so far as the claim in the proceeding is based on the failure of the authority to exercise, or to consider exercising, a function of the authority to prohibit or regulate an activity if the authority could not have been required to exercise the function in a proceeding begun by the claimant.
- (2) Without limiting what is a function to regulate an activity for this section, a function to issue a licence, permit or other authority in relation to an activity, or to register or otherwise authorise a person in relation to an activity, is a function to regulate the activity.

113 Special nonfeasance protection in relation to roads etc

- (1) A public or other authority is not liable in a proceeding for harm arising from a failure of the authority to maintain, repair or renew a road, or to consider maintaining, repairing or renewing a road, unless at the time of the claimed failure the authority knew, or ought reasonably to have had known, of the particular risk the materialisation of which resulted in the harm.

- (2) This section does not operate—
- (a) to create a duty of care in relation to a risk only because the authority has actual knowledge of the risk; or
 - (b) to affect any standard of care that would otherwise apply in relation to a risk.

- (3) In this section:

road means a street, road, lane, cyclepath, footpath or paved area that is open to, or used by, the public.

114 Exercise of function or decision to exercise does not create duty

The fact that a public or other authority exercises or decides to exercise a function does not of itself indicate that the authority is under a duty to exercise the function or that the function should be exercised in particular circumstances or in a particular way.

Chapter 9 Defamation

Part 9.1 Preliminary—defamation

115 Definitions for ch 9

In this chapter:

action means an action for defamation.

aggrieved person, for part 9.2 (Resolution of disputes without litigation—defamation)—see section 116.

amends agreement, for part 9.2 (Resolution of disputes without litigation—defamation)—see section 119 (1).

country includes a federation, and a state, territory, province or other part of a federation.

court, in relation to an action for defamation, means a court of competent jurisdiction.

defamation means libel or slander.

matter in question, for part 9.2 (Resolution of disputes without litigation—defamation)—see section 116.

offer to make amends means an offer under section 117.

parliamentary body means any of the following:

- (a) a parliament or legislature of any country;
- (b) a house of a parliament or legislature of any country;
- (c) a committee of a parliament or legislature of any country;
- (d) a committee of a house or houses of a parliament or legislature of any country.

published matter, for part 9.3 (Rules governing litigation of civil claims—defamation)—see section 124.

publisher, for part 9.2 (Resolution of disputes without litigation—defamation)—see section 116.

qualified offer, for part 9.2 (Resolution of disputes without litigation—defamation)—see section 117 (2).

tribunal means a tribunal of any country.

Part 9.2 Resolution of disputes without litigation—defamation

116 Application of pt 9.2

This part applies if a person (the *publisher*) publishes matter (the *matter in question*) that is or may be defamatory of someone else (the *aggrieved person*).

117 Offer to make amends—defamation

- (1) The publisher may offer to make amends to the aggrieved person.
- (2) The offer may be in relation to—
 - (a) the matter in question generally; or
 - (b) a particular defamatory meaning that the publisher accepts that the matter in question has (a *qualified offer*).
- (3) The offer to make amends—
 - (a) must be in writing; and
 - (b) must be readily identifiable as an offer to make amends under this part; and
 - (c) must include an offer to publish, or join in publishing, a reasonable correction (if any) of the matter in question; and
 - (d) must include an offer to publish, or join in publishing, a reasonable apology (if any) in relation to the matter; and

- (e) if material containing the matter has been given to someone else by the publisher or with the publisher's knowledge—must include an offer to take, or join in taking, reasonable steps to tell the other person that the matter is or may be defamatory of the aggrieved person; and
 - (f) must state whether it is a qualified offer and, if so, set out the defamatory meaning in relation to which it is made; and
 - (g) must include an offer to pay the expenses incurred by the aggrieved person; and
 - (h) may include particulars of any correction or apology made, or action taken, before the date of offer; and
 - (i) may include an offer to pay compensation for any economic loss of the aggrieved person; and
 - (j) may include an offer to pay compensation for the harm to the aggrieved person's reputation only if the matter in question imputes criminal behaviour by the aggrieved person.
- (4) For subsection (3) (i) or (j), an offer to pay compensation may be in any of the following forms:
- (a) an offer to pay a stated amount;
 - (b) an offer to pay an amount to be agreed between the publisher and the aggrieved person or, if an agreement is not made, the amount decided by a court;
 - (c) an offer to pay the amount decided by a court;

- (d) an offer to—
 - (i) enter into an arbitration agreement within the meaning of the *Commercial Arbitration Act 1986*; and
 - (ii) pay the amount decided by the arbitrator or, if an arbitration agreement is not made, the amount decided by a court.
- (5) The publisher may not make an offer to make amends after the earlier of—
 - (a) the end of 14 days after the day the aggrieved person tells the publisher that the matter in question is or may be defamatory of the person; and
 - (b) the service by the publisher of a defence in an action brought against the publisher by the aggrieved person in relation to the matter in question.
- (6) If 2 or more people published the matter in question, an offer to make amends by 1 or more of them does not affect the liability of the other or others.
- (7) An offer to make amends may be withdrawn before it is accepted and the renewal of a withdrawn offer is to be regarded as a new offer.

118 Reasonable offer to make amends—defamation

- (1) In deciding whether an offer to make amends is reasonable, a court must have regard to any correction or apology published before any trial arising out of the matter in question, including the extent to which the correction or apology is brought to the attention of the audience of the matter in question having regard to—
 - (a) the prominence given to the correction or apology as published in comparison to the prominence given to the matter in question as published; and
 - (b) the period between publication of the matter in question and publication of the correction or apology.
- (2) However, subsection (1) does not limit the matters that the court may take into account in deciding whether an offer to make amends is reasonable.

119 Acceptance of offer to make amends—defamation

- (1) If an offer to make amends is accepted, a court may—
 - (a) order the publisher to pay the aggrieved person the expenses incurred by the aggrieved person in accepting and performing the agreement made by acceptance of the offer (the *amends agreement*); and
 - (b) on the application of a party to the amends agreement, decide the amount of compensation mentioned in section 117 (4) (b), (c) or (d).
- (2) If a question arises about what must be done to perform the amends agreement, the court may decide the question on the application of either party.

- (3) If the publisher performs the amends agreement (including paying any compensation under the agreement), the aggrieved person must not begin or continue an action against the publisher in relation to the matter in question.

120 False or misleading statement in correction

The publisher must not knowingly make a statement in a correction published in purported compliance with the amends agreement that is false or misleading in a material particular.

Maximum penalty: 200 penalty units.

121 Offer to make amends not accepted—defamation

If an offer to make amends is not accepted, it is a defence to an action against the publisher in relation to the matter if—

- (a) the publisher made the offer as soon as practicable after becoming aware that the matter is or may be defamatory; and
- (b) at any time before the trial the publisher was ready and willing, on acceptance of the offer by the aggrieved person, to perform the terms of the offer; and
- (c) in all the circumstances the offer was reasonable.

122 Order to vindicate reputation if offer not made

- (1) If an offer to make amends is not made, or no reasonable offer of amends is made, the aggrieved person may apply to the Supreme Court for an order to vindicate his or her reputation.
- (2) The order may only be sought if the aggrieved person has given the publisher at least 7 days written notice of intention to apply to the Supreme Court for an order to vindicate his or her reputation.

- (3) The notice must contain sufficient information to identify the matter in question.
- (4) An order under subsection (1) does not prevent the aggrieved person bringing an action.

Part 9.3 Rules governing litigation of civil claims—defamation

123 Application of pt 9.3

This part applies in relation to an action for defamation.

124 Meaning of *published matter* in pt 9.3

In this part:

published matter, in relation to an action against a defendant for the publication of matter that is or may be defamatory, means the matter so published.

125 Slander actionable without special damage

Slander is actionable without special damage in the same way and to the same extent as libel is actionable without special damage.

126 Plaintiff's character not likely to be injured

It is a defence if the defendant establishes that the circumstances of publication were such that the plaintiff was unlikely to suffer harm.

127 Defence of truth and public benefit

It is a defence if the defendant establishes—

- (a) the truth of the published matter in accordance with the common law; and
- (b) that it was for the public benefit that the matter should be published.

128 Publication of a proceeding of public concern

- (1) It is a defence if the defendant establishes that the published matter was, or was contained in, a fair report of a proceeding of public concern.
- (2) It is a defence if the defendant establishes that—
 - (a) the published matter was, or was contained in, an earlier published report of a proceeding of public concern; and
 - (b) the published matter was, or was contained in, a copy of, a fair summary of, or a fair extract from, the earlier published report; and
 - (c) the defendant had no knowledge that would reasonably make him or her aware that the earlier published report was not fair.
- (3) A defence established under subsection (1) or (2) is excluded if, and only if, the plaintiff satisfies the court that the published matter was not published honestly for the information of the public or the advancement of education.
- (4) In this section, a *proceeding of public concern* is any of the following:
 - (a) a proceeding in public of a parliamentary body;
 - (b) a proceeding in public of an international organisation of any countries or of governments of any countries;
 - (c) a proceeding in public of an international conference at which governments of any countries are represented;
 - (d) a proceeding in public of—
 - (i) the International Court of Justice, or any other judicial or arbitral tribunal, for the decision of any matter in dispute between nations; or

- (ii) any other international judicial or arbitral tribunal;
- (e) a proceeding in public of—
 - (i) a court of any country; or
 - (ii) an arbitral tribunal;
- (f) a proceeding in public of an inquiry held under the law of any country or under the authority of the government of any country;
- (g) a proceeding of a learned society, or of a committee or governing body of the society, under its principal objects if the proceeding relates to a decision or adjudication made in Australia particularly concerning—
 - (i) a member or members of the society; or
 - (ii) a person subject by contract or otherwise by law to control by the society;
- (h) a proceeding of a sport or recreation association, or of a committee or governing body of the association, under its major objects if the proceeding relates to a decision or adjudication made in Australia particularly concerning—
 - (i) a member or members of the society; or
 - (ii) a person subject by contract or otherwise by law to control by the association;
- (i) a proceeding of a trade association, or of a committee or governing body of the association, under its relevant objects if the proceeding relates to a decision or adjudication made in Australia particularly concerning—
 - (i) a member or members of the society; or
 - (ii) a person subject by contract or otherwise by law to control by the association;

- (j) a proceeding of a public meeting (with or without restriction on the people attending) held anywhere in Australia if the proceeding relates to a matter of public interest, including the advocacy or candidature of a person for public office;
 - (k) a proceeding of an ombudsman of any country if the proceeding relates to a report of the ombudsman;
 - (l) a proceeding in public of a law reform body of any country, or a proceeding in public at an inquiry conducted by a law reform body of any country.
- (5) In this section:

law reform body means a body (however described and whether or not permanent or full-time) whose functions in relation to the law of a country are similar to those of the Australian Law Reform Commission in relation to the law of the Commonwealth.

learned society means a body, wherever formed—

- (a) the objects of which include the advancement of any art, science or religion or the advancement of learning in any field (the ***principal objects***); and
- (b) authorised by its constitution—
 - (i) to exercise control over, or adjudicate on, matters connected with its principal objects; and
 - (ii) to make findings or decisions having effect, by law or custom, in any part of Australia.

ombudsman includes an officer (however described) whose duties are similar to those of the Territory ombudsman.

sport or recreation association means a body, wherever formed—

- (a) the objects of which include the promotion of any game, sport, or pastime to the playing of which or exercise of which the public is admitted as spectators or otherwise and the promotion or protection of the interests of people connected with the game, sport, or pastime (the ***major objects***); and
- (b) authorised by its constitution—
 - (i) to exercise control over, or adjudicate on, matters connected with the game, sport, or pastime; and
 - (ii) to make findings or decisions having effect, by law or custom, in any part of Australia.

trade association means a body, wherever formed—

- (a) the objects of which include the promotion of any calling, that is to say, a trade, business, industry or profession and the promotion or protection of the interests of people engaged in any calling (the ***relevant objects***); and
- (b) authorised by its constitution—
 - (i) to exercise control over, or adjudicate on, matters connected with a calling or the conduct of people engaged in the calling; and
 - (ii) to make findings or decisions having effect, by law or custom, in any part of Australia.

129 Publication of public document

- (1) It is a defence if the defendant establishes that the published matter was contained in—
 - (a) a public document or a fair copy of a public document; or

- (b) a fair summary of, or a fair extract from, a public document.
- (2) For subsection (1), if a report or other document under the law of a country would be a public document except for compliance with a provision of that law about—
- (a) the form of the report or document; or
 - (b) the content of the report or document; or
 - (c) the time within which the report or document is prepared, or presented, submitted, tabled or laid to or before an entity;

the report or document is a public document despite that noncompliance.

- (3) A defence established under subsection (1) is excluded if, and only if, the plaintiff satisfies the court that the published matter was not published honestly for the information of the public or the advancement of education.
- (4) In this section:

Australian jurisdiction means the Territory, the Commonwealth or a State or another Territory.

Australian record or document means a record or document kept—

- (a) by an Australian jurisdiction; or
- (b) by a statutory authority of an Australian jurisdiction; or
- (c) by a court of an Australian jurisdiction; or
- (d) under legislation of an Australian jurisdiction.

entity includes a parliamentary body.

judgment includes a decree, order or sentence.

publication, of matter, includes publication in a way that the matter will become accessible or will be broadcast or sent to other people through a computer network.

public document means any of the following:

- (a) a report or paper published by a parliamentary body, or a record of votes, debates or other proceedings relating to a parliamentary body published under the authority of the body;
- (b) a judgment of a court of any country in a civil proceeding, or a record of the court relating to the judgment or to its enforcement or satisfaction;
- (c) a report, or other document, that under the law of any country—
 - (i) is authorised to be published; or
 - (ii) is required to be presented or submitted to, tabled in, or laid before, a parliamentary body;
- (d) a document issued by the government or a local government of a country, or by an officer, employee or agency of the country or local government, for the information of the public;
- (e) an Australian record or document that is open to inspection by the public;
- (f) a report of a tribunal about its decision and the reasons for its decision.

130 Publication under contract

- (1) It is a defence if the defendant establishes that the publication of the published matter was a reasonable publication under a contract.
- (2) For subsection (1), a publication is reasonable if—
 - (a) the publication was in answer to an inquiry made under the contract; and
 - (b) the published matter was relevant to the subject of the inquiry; and
 - (c) the manner and extent of the publication were reasonable; and
 - (d) the defendant was not motivated by ill will to the plaintiff, or by any other improper motive; and
 - (e) the defendant had, at the time of publication, reasonable grounds to believe the published matter to be true.

131 Evidence of apology admissible in mitigation—defamation

- (1) If an offer to make amends has not been made, the defendant may mitigate damages by giving evidence of any apology made or offered by the defendant to the plaintiff before the beginning of the action or as soon as practicable afterwards.
- (2) The defendant may give the evidence only if the defendant gave written notice to the plaintiff of his or her intention to do so when filing or delivering his or her defence in the action.

132 Payment into court—defamation

The defendant, or 1 or more of several defendants, may pay into court an amount by way of compensation, satisfaction and amends.

133 Defence of apology and payment into court—defamation

- (1) The defendant may plead that the published matter that is or may be a libel was published without actual malice and without gross negligence, and that before the action was begun or as soon as practicable afterwards, the defendant published a full apology for the libel or, if this was not possible, had offered to publish an apology in a way to be selected by the plaintiff.
- (2) After filing a defence under subsection (1), the defendant may pay into court an amount by way of amends for the libel.

134 Defence for defamation—defendant not negligent

- (1) It is a defence if the defendant establishes that the published matter (other than any published matter imputing criminal behaviour) was not published negligently.
- (2) For subsection (1), it is sufficient if—
 - (a) the defendant establishes that the defendant took reasonable steps to ensure the accuracy of the published matter; and
 - (b) the defendant gave the plaintiff a reasonable opportunity to comment on the published matter before it was published.

135 Compensation etc provable in mitigation—defamation

At the trial, the defendant may give evidence, in mitigation of damages, that the plaintiff has already recovered, or has brought an action for damages, or has received or agreed to receive compensation in relation to the published matter.

136 Damages—defamation

In deciding the amount of damages to be awarded, a court must—

- (a) ensure that there is an appropriate and rational relationship between the relevant harm and the amount of damages awarded; and
- (b) take into account the ordinary level of general damages component in personal injury awards in the ACT.

137 Disclosure of name of contributor

- (1) If the published matter is an article, letter, report, or writing published in a newspaper, the plaintiff may ask the editor of the newspaper to give to the plaintiff the name and address of the person who supplied the article, letter, report, or writing to the newspaper.
- (2) The editor may comply with the request.
- (3) If the editor does not comply with the request within 14 days, the plaintiff may apply to a court.
- (4) After hearing the proprietor, the court may direct that the name and address be given to the person.
- (5) In this section:

newspaper includes any newspaper, review, magazine, or other writing or print, published periodically.

Part 9.4 Other provisions—defamation

138 Scope of defences not limited

A defence under this chapter is additional to any other defence available to the defendant and does not limit any other defence.

139 Time not to be extended except by leave

The time for delivering, amending, or filing any pleading or document in an action for defamation in a court may be extended only with the leave of the court.

140 Review of certain provisions of ch 9

- (1) The Minister must review the operation of part 9.2 (Resolution of disputes without litigation—defamation) and section 134 (Defence for defamation—defendant not negligent) as soon as practicable after 1 July 2004.
- (2) The Minister must present to the Legislative Assembly the report of the review within 6 months after the review begins.
- (3) This section expires on 1 January 2005.

Chapter 10 Trespass

141 Defence to action for trespass to land

It is a defence to an action for trespass to land if the defendant establishes that—

- (a) the defendant does not claim any interest in the land; and
- (b) the trespass was because of negligence or was not intentional; and
- (c) the defendant made a reasonable offer to make amends to the plaintiff before the action was brought.

142 Action for use and occupation of land—amount of damages

- (1) This section applies to an action for damages for use and occupation of land.
- (2) Evidence may be given of a lease of the land (whether by deed, orally or otherwise) and of the rent payable under the lease.
- (3) The evidence must be received by the court as evidence of the amount of damages for the use and occupation of the land.
- (4) Proof of a lease of the land is not a defence to the action.

Chapter 11 Mitigation of strict liability

Part 11.1 Traveller accommodation providers liability

Division 11.1.1 Preliminary

143 Purpose of pt 11.1

The purpose of this part is to mitigate some of the harsh consequences of innkeeper's liability at common law.

144 Definitions for pt 11.1

In this part:

accommodation unit means an area of traveller accommodation that is designed to be used by a guest of the accommodation provider for sleeping.

agent, of an accommodation provider, includes—

- (a) an employee of the accommodation provider; and
- (b) an apparent agent or employee of the accommodation provider.

fault means negligence or another act or omission giving rise to a liability.

limitation amount means the amount prescribed under the regulations.

loss, of property, includes damage to, or destruction of, the property.

provide traveller accommodation includes offering to provide the traveller accommodation.

safe custody facilities—see section 153 (1).

145 Meaning of *traveller accommodation*

- (1) *Traveller accommodation* is accommodation provided for use by members of the travelling public as part of a commercial transaction.
- (2) Without limiting subsection (1), traveller accommodation includes the following types of accommodation:
 - (a) backpacker;
 - (b) bed and breakfast;
 - (c) hotel;
 - (d) motel;
 - (e) resort;
 - (f) serviced apartment.
- (3) Accommodation is traveller accommodation even if the accommodation is provided without charge as long as the accommodation is provided as part of a commercial transaction.

Examples of accommodation supplied as part of commercial transaction

- 1 resort holidays supplied to purchasers of electrical goods from retail outlets
- 2 accommodation supplied to members of the travel industry or the public generally for promoting the accommodation

Note An example is part of the Act, is not exhaustive and may extend, but does not limit, the meaning of the provision in which it appears (see Legislation Act, s 126 and s 132).

- (4) Despite subsections (1) to (3)—
- (a) accommodation is traveller accommodation only if it includes an accommodation unit; and
 - (b) accommodation in or on something, that is a means of transport, is not traveller accommodation if the particular thing is being used, or is ordinarily used, for transport.

146 Meaning of *accommodation provider*

- (1) An *accommodation provider* is the person who operates a business that includes providing traveller accommodation.
- (2) To remove any doubt, the owner of traveller accommodation is not necessarily the accommodation provider.

Example of accommodation provider

The letting agent for, or the manager of, serviced apartments is the accommodation provider and not the owner of the apartments.

Note An example is part of the Act, is not exhaustive and may extend, but does not limit, the meaning of the provision in which it appears (see Legislation Act, s 126 and s 132).

147 Meaning of *innkeeper's liability*

- (1) For this part, *innkeeper's liability* is innkeeper's liability under the common law but only in relation to the strict liability imposed on an innkeeper for failing to safeguard property of the innkeeper's guests that is brought to the innkeeper's inn.
- (2) To remove any doubt, for innkeeper's liability, loss of a guest's property includes damage to, or destruction of, the property.
- (3) For innkeeper's liability—
 - (a) an accommodation provider, and only an accommodation provider, is an innkeeper; and

- (b) traveller accommodation, and only traveller accommodation, is an inn.

148 Meaning of *guest*

- (1) A *guest* is a person to whom, or for whom, traveller accommodation is provided by an accommodation provider.
- (2) However, the person is a *guest* only on a day when the person is provided with the use of an accommodation unit at the traveller accommodation.
- (3) A *guest* does not include a person—
 - (a) who is at the traveller accommodation only to obtain beverages or food or to visit someone else; or
 - (b) who usually lives at the traveller accommodation.

149 Meaning of *property of guest*

- (1) *Property* of a guest is the property brought to the traveller accommodation or its precincts by or for the guest.
- (2) However, *property* of a guest does not include—
 - (a) a motor vehicle brought to the traveller accommodation or its surrounds by or for the guest, or other things owned by the guest left in or on the motor vehicle; or
 - (b) property taken from the traveller accommodation or its surrounds by or for the guest.

Division 11.1.2 Liability of accommodation providers

150 Application of div 11.1.2

This division applies to the property of a guest after the accommodation provider, or the provider's agent, knows or is

told about the arrival of the guest or the guest's property at the traveller accommodation or its surrounds.

151 Limitation on strict liability under innkeeper's liability

- (1) This section applies to an accommodation provider's liability under innkeeper's liability for a loss of the guest's property.
- (2) The liability for the loss is limited to the limitation amount for each accommodation unit provided for the use of the guest on the day of the loss, despite—
 - (a) the amount of the loss on the day; or
 - (b) the number of guests who, on the day, are provided with the use of the accommodation unit and suffer a loss of property.
- (3) Despite the limitation on the liability to the limitation amount, the accommodation provider's liability is subject to the defences available at common law for an innkeeper, including the perils of travel defences.

152 Circumstances when limitation does not apply

- (1) The limitation on the accommodation provider's liability under section 151 (2) does not apply if the loss of a guest's property—
 - (a) is caused by the fault of the accommodation provider or the provider's agent; or
 - (b) happens after the accommodation provider, or the provider's agent, accepts the property for depositing in safe custody facilities; or
 - (c) happens while the property is left, at the invitation of the accommodation provider or the provider's agent, at a particular place outside of the accommodation unit provided to the guest.

- (2) Also, the limitation on the accommodation provider's liability under section 151 (2) does not apply if—
- (a) at the time the guest is provided with the use of an accommodation unit, the accommodation provider did not comply with section 154 (1) (a) (Notice about pt 11.1); or
 - (b) during all of the period the guest is provided with the use of an accommodation unit, the accommodation provider did not do 1 of the following:
 - (i) comply with section 154 (1) (b) in relation to the accommodation unit;
 - (ii) have a system in operation as mentioned in section 154 (2).

153 Safe custody facilities

- (1) This section applies if an accommodation provider, or the provider's agent, accepts a guest's property for safekeeping in facilities controlled by the accommodation provider or the provider's agent (*safe custody facilities*), other than facilities located in an accommodation unit for the safekeeping of property.
- (2) The accommodation provider is liable for the loss of the guest's property if it happens after the accommodation provider, or the provider's agent, accepts the property for deposit in the safe custody facilities.
- (3) An accommodation provider, or the provider's agent, may require a guest who asks to use safe custody facilities for the guest's property to place the property in a container and fasten or seal the container.
- (4) If the accommodation provider provides safe custody facilities, the accommodation provider must accept a guest's property for deposit in the safe custody facilities unless—

- (a) the guest does not place the property in a container and fasten or seal it, in response to a requirement under subsection (3); or
 - (b) the accommodation provider reasonably considers that depositing the property in the safe custody facilities would be unreasonable having regard to the property's nature, size or value and the type of accommodation and tariff charged for the accommodation unit.
- (5) This section does not require an accommodation provider to provide safe custody facilities.

154 Notice about pt 11.1

- (1) An accommodation provider must ensure that the notice set out in schedule 1 is conspicuously displayed so it can be easily read by a person when the person is—
- (a) in the reception area for, or main entrance to, the traveller accommodation; and
 - (b) in an accommodation unit.
- (2) However, subsection (1) (b) does not apply if the accommodation provider has a system in operation under which—
- (a) for each accommodation unit provided for the use of a guest—the guest is given a copy of the notice, including, for example, as part of the key tag or access card for, or in the compendium in, the accommodation unit; and
 - (b) the guest is told about the notice and where it is located at the time the guest checks in to the traveller accommodation.

Part 11.2 Common carriers

Division 11.2.1 Preliminary—common carriers

155 Purpose of pt 11.2

The purpose of this part is to mitigate some of the harsh consequences of common carriers' liability at common law.

156 Definitions for pt 11.2

In this part:

common carrier means a common carrier by land.

schedule 2 packaged goods—see section 159 (1) (Liability of carriers for certain goods worth more than \$20).

transport means carriage—

- (a) under a contract of carriage; or
- (b) incidental to the carriage of a person for reward.

Division 11.2.2 When common law liability of carriers not affected

157 Certain things not protected by pt 11.2

- (1) This part does not protect a common carrier from liability under the common law if the loss of, or damage to, goods or an animal given to the carrier for transport results from the criminal or fraudulent act of the carrier or an employee or agent of the carrier.

- (2) This part does not protect an employee or agent of a common carrier from liability under the common law if the loss of, or damage to, goods or an animal given to the carrier for transport results from the employee's or agent's personal neglect or misconduct.

158 Public notices by carrier not to affect liability

A public notice (other than a notice mentioned in section 160 (1) (Notice of increased charge for transport of certain goods) or section 165 (1) (Notice of increased charge for transport of certain animals)) or declaration does not limit or otherwise affect a common carrier's liability under the common law.

Division 11.2.3 Liability of common carriers for certain goods worth more than \$20

159 Liability of carriers for certain goods worth more than \$20

- (1) This section applies if goods mentioned in schedule 2 that are contained in a parcel or package and worth more than \$20 (*schedule 2 packaged goods*) are given to a common carrier for transport.
- (2) The common carrier is not liable for more than \$20 for the loss of, or damage to, the goods.
- (3) However, subsection (2) does not apply if—
- (a) at or before the time the goods are given to the carrier for transport, the person giving the goods declares the nature and value of the goods in the parcel or package; and
 - (b) the person giving the goods pays, or agrees to pay, any increased charge mentioned in section 160 (1) that is asked for by the carrier for the transport of the goods; and

- (c) the carrier receives the goods for transport.

160 Notice of increased charge for transport of certain goods

- (1) If a common carrier sets an increased charge for the transport of schedule 2 packaged goods, the common carrier must clearly display, in a public part of the place where goods are received for transport, a legible notice setting out the increased charge for the transport of the goods.
- (2) A person is bound by the notice even if the person does not have actual knowledge of it.
- (3) If a common carrier receives schedule 2 packaged goods from a person for transport in the circumstances mentioned in section 159 (3) (Liability of carriers for certain goods worth more than \$20), but does not comply with subsection (1)—
- (a) the carrier is liable under the common law for the loss of, or damage to, the goods; and
 - (b) if the person has paid an increased charge for the transport—the carrier must refund the increased charge.

161 Receipt of carrier for increased charge

- (1) If a person pays or agrees to pay a common carrier an increased charge for transport of schedule 2 packaged goods, and the person asks for a receipt, the carrier must give the person a receipt stating that the goods are insured.
- (2) If the carrier does not give the person the receipt—
- (a) section 159 (2) (Liability of carriers for certain goods worth more than \$20) does not apply to the carrier; and
 - (b) the carrier is liable under the common law for the loss of, or damage to, the goods; and

- (c) if the person has paid an increased charge for the transport—the carrier must refund the increased charge.

162 Carrier only liable for proven amount for certain goods

- (1) If—
- (a) a person gives schedule 2 packaged goods to a common carrier for transport; and
 - (b) the person declares the nature and value of the goods in accordance with this division; and
 - (c) the person pays, or agrees to pay, any increased charge mentioned in section 160 (1) that is asked for by the carrier for the transport of the goods; and
 - (d) the carrier receives the goods for transport, but the goods are lost or damaged;

the carrier is liable for not more than the proven amount for the goods.

- (2) Subsection (1) has effect despite the declaration of the value of the schedule 2 packaged goods or the acceptance of the declared value by the common carrier before or at the time the goods were accepted for transport.
- (3) In this section:

proven amount, for goods, means the lesser of the actual or declared value of the goods.

Division 11.2.4 Liability of common carriers for certain animals

163 Definitions for div 11.2.4

In this division:

animal means a horse, cattle, sheep or pig.

default value, for an animal, means the amount mentioned in table 164, column 3 for the animal.

164 Liability of carriers for certain animals

- (1) This section applies if—
 - (a) an animal is given to a common carrier for transport; and
 - (b) the animal is worth more than the default value.
- (2) The common carrier is not liable for more than the default value for the loss of, or damage to, the animal.
- (3) However, subsection (2) does not apply if—
 - (a) at or before the time the animal is given to the carrier for transport, the person giving the animal declares the value of the animal; and
 - (b) the person giving the animal pays, or agrees to pay, any increased charge mentioned in section 165 (1) that is asked for by the carrier for the transport of the animal; and
 - (c) the carrier receives the animal for transport.

Table 164 Default value for certain animals

column 1 item	column 2 animal	column 3 amount per animal
1	horse	\$100

column 1 item	column 2 animal	column 3 amount per animal
2	cattle	\$30
3	sheep	\$4
4	pig	\$4

165 Notice of increased charge for transport of certain animals

- (1) If a common carrier sets an increased charge for the transport of animals, the carrier must clearly display, in a public part of the place where an animal is received for transport, a legible notice setting out any increased charge for the transport of the animal if the animal's value is more than the default value.
- (2) A person is bound by the notice even if the person does not have actual knowledge of it.

166 Carrier only liable for proven amount for certain animals

- (1) If—
 - (a) a person gives an animal to a common carrier for transport; and
 - (b) the person declares the value of the animal in accordance with this division; and
 - (c) the person pays, or agrees to pay, any increased charge mentioned in section 165 (1) that is asked for by the carrier for the transport of the animal; and
 - (d) the carrier receives the animal for transport, but the animal is lost or damaged;

the carrier is liable for not more than the proven amount for the animal.

- (2) Subsection (1) has effect despite the declaration of the value of the animal or the acceptance of the declared value by the common carrier before or at the time the animal was accepted for transport.
- (3) In this section:
proven amount, for an animal, means the lesser of the actual or declared value of the animal.

Division 11.2.5 Notice, condition or declaration of carrier

167 Carrier liable for neglect or default despite notice etc

- (1) A common carrier is liable for the loss of, or damage to, goods or animals given to the carrier for transport if the loss or damage results from the carrier's neglect or default despite any notice condition or declaration made by the carrier that excludes or limits the carrier's liability.
- (2) A notice, condition or declaration mentioned in subsection (1) is void.
- (3) But, a contract of carriage may contain conditions about the transport of goods or animals that are just and reasonable.
- (4) Also, a special contract between a common carrier and someone else for the transport of goods or animals is binding on the other person if, but only if, it is signed by the other person or the person giving the carrier the goods or animals for transport.
- (5) This section does not affect a common carrier's rights or liabilities under division 11.2.3 (Liability of common carriers for certain goods worth more than \$20).

(6) In this section:

notice does not include a notice mentioned in section 160 (1) (Notice of increased charge for transport of certain goods) or section 165 (1) (Notice of increased charge for transport of certain animals).

Chapter 12 Other liability provisions

Part 12.1 Occupiers liability

168 Liability of occupiers

- (1) An occupier of premises owes a duty to take all care that is reasonable in the circumstances to ensure that anyone on the premises does not suffer injury or damage because of—
 - (a) the state of the premises; or
 - (b) things done or omitted to be done about the state of the premises.
- (2) Without limiting subsection (1), in deciding whether the duty of care has been discharged consideration must be given to the following:
 - (a) the gravity and likelihood of the probable injury;
 - (b) the circumstances of the entry onto the premises;
 - (c) the nature of the premises;
 - (d) the knowledge the occupier has or should have about the likelihood of people or property being on the premises;
 - (e) the age of the person entering the premises;
 - (f) the ability of the person entering the premises to appreciate the danger;
 - (g) the burden on the occupier of removing the danger or protecting the person entering the premises from the danger as compared to the risk of the danger to the person.

- (3) Part 7.1 (Damages for personal injuries—exclusions and limitations) and part 7.3 (Contributory negligence), other than section 102 (2), apply in relation to a claim brought by a person against an occupier of premises in relation to injury or damage.
- (4) This section replaces the common law rules about the standard of care an occupier of premises must show to people entering on the premises in relation to any dangers to them.
- (5) This section does not affect—
- (a) other common law rules about the liability of occupiers to people entering on their premises; or
 - (b) any obligation an occupier of premises has under another Act or any statutory instrument or contract.
- (6) In this section:
- occupier**, of premises, includes the lessor of premises let under a tenancy who—
- (a) is under an obligation to the tenant to maintain or repair the premises; or
 - (b) could exercise a right to enter the premises to carry out maintenance or repairs.

Part 12.2 Liability for damage caused by animals

169 Evidence of breach of duty for animals

- (1) This section applies if an animal (other than a dog or cat) was on premises and—
 - (a) the occupier of the premises—
 - (i) could not lawfully prevent the animal from being on the premises; or
 - (ii) had not consented to the animal being on the premises; and
 - (b) someone other than the occupier of the premises was, when the animal was on the premises, under a duty to another person to take reasonable care that the other person would not be subjected to the danger of the animal causing damage to the other person; and
 - (c) the animal caused damage to the other person.
- (2) The fact that the animal was on the premises when the damage was caused is evidence of breach of the duty.
- (3) In this section:
on includes in.
premises does not include a place that is open to or used by the public as a road.

Part 12.3 Liability for fires accidentally begun

170 Actions do not lie for damage caused by accidental fires

- (1) An action does not lie against a person in whose house, room or other building, or on whose property, a fire accidentally starts for injury or damage caused by the fire to someone else, or for damage caused by the fire to the property of someone else.
- (2) Subsection (1) applies despite any other Territory law or any usage or custom in force in the ACT.
- (3) For subsection (1), a fire must not be taken to have started accidentally if it was started deliberately or negligently.

171 Contract between landlord and tenant not affected

Section 170 does not affect, or make void, any term of a contract or agreement made between a landlord and tenant about the leasing or letting of premises, or a part of premises, by the landlord to the tenant.

Chapter 13 Misrepresentation

172 Definitions for ch 13

In this chapter:

court includes an arbitrator.

non-fraudulent misrepresentation means a misrepresentation that was not made fraudulently.

173 Removal of certain bars to rescission for misrepresentation

- (1) This section applies if—
 - (a) a person enters into a contract after a misrepresentation is made to the person; and
 - (b) the person would be entitled to rescind the contract without claiming fraud if 1 or more of the following matters (*former bars*) did not apply:
 - (i) the misrepresentation has become a term of the contract;
 - (ii) the contract has been performed;
 - (iii) a conveyance, transfer or other document has been registered under a Territory law or a law of the Commonwealth, a State or another Territory because of the contract.
- (2) The person may rescind the contract even though 1 or more of the former bars apply.

- (3) This section is subject to the following sections:
- section 175 (Damages instead of rescission for misrepresentation)
 - section 176 (3) (Exclusion clauses—misrepresentation).

174 Damages for misrepresentation

- (1) This section applies if a person (the *first person*) enters into a contract after a non-fraudulent misrepresentation is made to the first person by—
- (a) another party to the contract; or
 - (b) a person acting for another party to the contract; or
 - (c) a person who receives any direct or indirect material advantage because of the formation of the contract.
- (2) If the first person suffers loss because of entering into the contract, anyone (whether or not that person made the misrepresentation) who would be liable for damages in tort for the loss, if the misrepresentation had been made fraudulently, is liable for damages for the loss.
- (3) It is a defence to an action under subsection (2) that—
- (a) if the representation was made by the defendant—the defendant had reasonable grounds for believing, and did believe up to the time the contract was made, that the representation was true; or
 - (b) if the representation was made by a person acting for the defendant—both the defendant and that person had reasonable grounds for believing, and did believe up to the time the contract was made, that the representation was true.

175 Damages instead of rescission for misrepresentation

- (1) This section applies if, in an action arising out of a contract, a person has rescinded, or may rescind, the contract on the ground of non-fraudulent misrepresentation.
- (2) The court may declare the contract to be existing and award damages, or award damages instead of ordering rescission, if the court considers that—
 - (a) the consequences of a declaration are preferable to the consequences of rescission in the circumstances of the case; and
 - (b) it is just and equitable to do so.
- (3) Damages may be awarded against a person under subsection (2) even if the person is not liable for damages under section 174.
- (4) However, a court must take into account—
 - (a) in assessing damages under section 174 or this section—any award of damages under section 174 or this section, or damages or compensation under any other law; or
 - (b) in assessing damages or compensation under any other law relating to a contract—any award of damages under this chapter.

176 Exclusion clauses—misrepresentation

- (1) This section applies if an agreement contains a provision that would, apart from this section, exclude or restrict—
 - (a) any liability of a party to a contract because of a misrepresentation made by the party before the contract was made; or
 - (b) any remedy available to another party to the contract because of a misrepresentation mentioned in paragraph (a).

- (2) The provision is of no effect.
- (3) However, in an action arising out of the contract, the court may allow the provision to be relied on if the court considers it fair and reasonable in the circumstances to rely on it.

177 Misrepresentation in trade or commerce an offence

- (1) A person must not make a misrepresentation, in the course of trade or commerce—
 - (a) to make or induce someone else to enter into a contract; or
 - (b) to make or induce someone else to pay an amount, or to transfer real or personal property, to the person or to someone else.

Maximum penalty: 200 penalty units

- (2) It is a defence to a prosecution for an offence against this section that the person who made the representation believed on reasonable grounds that the representation was true.

178 Employer etc liable for misrepresentation

- (1) If the misrepresentation mentioned in section 177 (1) is made by a person acting in the course of his or her employment, the person's employer commits an offence.

Maximum penalty: 200 penalty units.

- (2) If the misrepresentation mentioned in section 177 (1) is made by a person authorised to act for someone else, the other person commits an offence.

Maximum penalty: 200 penalty units.

- (3) It is a defence to a prosecution for an offence against this section—
- (a) that the defendant took reasonable precautions to prevent misrepresentations being made by the defendant's employees or people acting for the defendant; or
 - (b) that the defendant did not know, and could not reasonably be expected to have known, that the representation was made or that it was untrue.

179 Prosecutions for misrepresentation

- (1) This section applies if in a prosecution for an offence against section 177 or section 178, it is proved that—
- (a) a misrepresentation was in fact a material inducement to a person—
 - (i) to enter into a contract; or
 - (ii) to pay an amount, or to transfer real or personal property, to the person who made the misrepresentation or someone else; and
 - (b) the person who made the misrepresentation received a direct or indirect material advantage because of the contract, payment or transfer.
- (2) It must be assumed, unless the contrary is proven, that the misrepresentation was made to induce the person to whom it was made to enter into the contract, make the payment or transfer the property.

Chapter 14 Limitations on legal costs

Part 14.1 Maximum costs for certain personal injury damages claims

180 Definitions for ch 14

In this part:

costs do not include—

- (a) disbursements that are charges for services other than legal services; or
- (b) disbursements that are counsel's fees on a brief to appear in an action; or
- (c) any other disbursements.

court includes a tribunal or arbitrator.

personal injury damages means damages that relate to the death of, or injury to, a person caused by someone else's wrongful act or omission (whether or not an offence).

181 Maximum costs for claims of \$50 000 or less

- (1) This section applies if the amount recovered on a claim for personal injury damages is \$50 000 or less.
- (2) If this section applies—
 - (a) a lawyer is not entitled to be paid; and
 - (b) a court (or a taxing officer) must not decide that a lawyer is entitled to be paid; and

(c) a court must not order anyone to pay to a lawyer;

an amount for legal services in relation to the claim that (or that together with other amounts) is more than the maximum costs allowable under this section.

(3) Subsection (2) is subject to the following sections:

- section 182 (Costs incurred after offer of compromise not accepted)
- section 183 (Exclusion of costs unnecessarily incurred etc)
- section 184 (Court discretion to allow additional costs).

(4) The *maximum costs* allowable for legal services provided to the plaintiff in relation to the claim are the greater of—

- (a) the relevant percentage of the amount recovered; and
- (b) the relevant amount.

(5) The *maximum costs* allowable for legal services provided to the defendant in relation to the claim are the greater of—

- (a) the relevant percentage of the amount sought to be recovered by the plaintiff; and
- (b) the relevant amount.

(6) In this section:

amount recovered, on a claim—

- (a) includes an amount paid under a compromise or settlement of the claim, whether or not an action has been begun; but
- (b) does not include an amount attributable to costs or to the addition of interest.

amount sought to be recovered by a plaintiff means, if an action is begun—

- (a) the amount sought to be proved by the plaintiff at the hearing of the claim; or
- (b) if the claim is for unliquidated damages—the amount that the court (or a taxing officer) decides is, for this section, the amount sought to be recovered by the plaintiff on the claim.

relevant amount means \$10 000 or, if another amount is prescribed under the regulations for this definition, the prescribed amount.

relevant percentage means 20% or, if another percentage is prescribed under the regulations for this definition, the prescribed percentage.

182 Costs incurred after offer of compromise not accepted

- (1) This section applies if—
 - (a) a party to a claim for personal injury damages makes an offer of compromise on the claim; and
 - (b) the offer is expressed to be made for this section; and
 - (c) the offer is not accepted; and
 - (d) the court decides or makes an order or award on the claim that is no less favourable to the party than the terms of the offer.
- (2) Section 181 (Maximum costs for claims of \$50 000 or less) does not prevent the awarding of costs against another party, to be assessed on an indemnity basis, for legal services provided after the offer is made.

- (3) The regulations may—
- (a) require lawyers to give their clients information about the effect of this section if an offer of compromise is not accepted; and
 - (b) make provision in relation to the requirement, including, for example, what information must be given and how and when it must be given.

Note An example is part of the Act, is not exhaustive and may extend, but does not limit, the meaning of the provision in which it appears (see Legislation Act, s 126 and s 132).

- (4) If the court considers that—
- (a) a lawyer has contravened regulations made for this section; and
 - (b) the lawyer's client has incurred an increased liability for costs for not accepting an offer of compromise;

the court may (on its own initiative or on application by the client) make either or both of the orders mentioned in subsection (5).

- (5) The orders are—
- (a) an order directing the lawyer to repay to the client (or to pay) all or part of the increased costs that the client has been ordered to pay to another party; and
 - (b) an order directing the lawyer to indemnify a party other than the client against all or part of the costs payable by the party for legal services provided after the offer was made.
- (6) The regulations may prohibit or restrict the making of offers of compromise otherwise than under this section.

183 Exclusion of costs unnecessarily incurred etc

- (1) This section applies to legal services provided to a party to a claim for personal injury damages if a court is satisfied that—
 - (a) the legal services were provided in response to action on the claim by or on behalf of the other party to the claim; and
 - (b) in the circumstances, the action was not necessary or reasonable for the advancement of the party's case or was intended, or was reasonably likely, to unnecessarily delay or complicate determination of the claim.
- (2) The court may order that the costs for the legal services are to be excluded from the operation of section 181 (Maximum costs for claims of \$50 000 or less).

184 Court discretion to allow additional costs

- (1) This section applies if a court, or a taxing officer, decides (on the court's or taxing officer's own initiative or on the application of a party to the claim) that the maximum costs for legal services allowable under this part in relation to a claim for personal injury damages should be increased because of—
 - (a) the complexity of the claim; or
 - (b) the behaviour of 1 or more of the parties to the claim.
- (2) The court or taxing officer may order that the lawyer who provided the services is entitled to stated additional costs.
- (3) If the court or taxing officer makes an order under subsection (2), the court or taxing officer may state who is to pay the additional costs.
- (4) The regulations may make provision in relation to the making of orders under this section.

185 **Apportionment of costs between lawyers**

If more than 1 lawyer provides legal services to a party in relation to a claim for personal injury damages, the maximum costs allowable under this part (including any additional amount allowed under section 184) are to be apportioned between them as agreed by them or, if they do not agree, as ordered by the court (or a taxing officer).

U Part 14.2

**Costs in damages claims if no
reasonable prospects of
success**

Chapter 15 Miscellaneous

Part 15.1 Mediation and neutral evaluation

191 Purpose of pt 15.1 etc

- (1) The purpose of this part is to enable a court or tribunal to refer matters for mediation or neutral evaluation.
- (2) This part does not prevent the parties to a proceeding from agreeing to, and arranging for, mediation or neutral evaluation of any matter otherwise than under this part.
- (3) This part does not apply to criminal proceedings.

192 Meaning of *mediation*, *neutral evaluation* etc

- (1) For this part, *mediation* is a structured negotiation process in which the mediator, as a neutral and independent party, assists the parties to a dispute to achieve their own resolution of the dispute.
- (2) For this part, *mediation session* means a meeting arranged for the mediation of a matter under this part.
- (3) For this part, *neutral evaluation* is a process of evaluation of a dispute in which the evaluator seeks to identify and reduce the issues of fact and law that are in dispute.
- (4) The evaluator's role includes assessing the relative strengths and weaknesses of each party's case and offering an opinion about the likely outcome of the proceeding, including any likely findings of liability or the award of damages.
- (5) For this part, *neutral evaluation session* means a meeting arranged for the neutral evaluation of a matter under this part.

193 Who can be a mediator

A person can be a mediator if the person—

- (a) is a registered mediator under the *Mediation Act 1997*; and
- (b) is appointed by a court or tribunal as a mediator.

194 Who can be an evaluator

The following people can be an evaluator:

- (a) a registrar of a court or tribunal;
- (b) a deputy registrar of a court or tribunal;
- (c) someone else that a court or tribunal considers has the skills and qualifications to be an evaluator and appoints as an evaluator.

195 Referral by court or tribunal for mediation or neutral evaluation

- (1) A court or tribunal may, by order, refer any proceeding, or any part of a proceeding, before it for mediation or neutral evaluation, and may do so either with or without the consent of the parties to the proceeding.
- (2) Mediation is to be undertaken by a mediator appointed by the court or tribunal, and neutral evaluation is to be undertaken by an evaluator appointed by the court or tribunal.
- (3) For a proceeding before the Supreme Court, an order under subsection (1), and an appointment under subsection (2), may be made by—
 - (a) the master of the court; or
 - (b) if the rules of court allow—the registrar of the court.

196 Duty of parties to take part in neutral evaluations

It is the duty of each party to a proceeding referred for mediation or neutral evaluation under section 195 to take part, genuinely and sincerely, in the mediation or neutral evaluation.

197 Costs of neutral evaluation

The costs of a mediation or neutral evaluation are payable—

- (a) by the parties to the proceeding, in the proportions they agree among themselves; or
- (b) if a court or tribunal makes an order about the payment of the costs—by 1 or more of the parties, in the way stated in the order.

198 Agreements and arrangements arising from mediation sessions

- (1) The court or tribunal may make orders to give effect to an agreement or arrangement arising out of a mediation session.
- (2) This part does not affect the enforceability of any other agreement or arrangement that may be made, whether or not arising out of a mediation session, in relation to the matters that are the subject of the mediation session.

Note For provisions about privilege, secrecy and protection in relation to mediators, see the *Mediation Act 1997*.

199 Privilege for neutral evaluations

- (1) The same privilege in relation to defamation that exists for a judicial proceeding, and a document produced in a judicial proceeding, exists for—
 - (a) a neutral evaluation session; or

- (b) a document or other material sent to or produced to an evaluator, or sent to or produced at a court or tribunal or the registry of a court or tribunal, for the purpose of enabling a neutral evaluation session to be arranged.
- (2) However, the privilege under subsection (1) only extends to a publication made—
 - (a) at a neutral evaluation session; or
 - (b) as provided by subsection (1) (b); or
 - (c) as provided in section 200.
 - (3) Evidence of anything said, or of any admission made, in a neutral evaluation session is not admissible in a proceeding before a court, tribunal or other entity.
 - (4) A document prepared for, in the course of, or because of, a neutral evaluation session, or any copy of the document, is not admissible in evidence in any civil proceeding before a court, tribunal or other entity.
 - (5) Subsections (3) and (4) do not apply to any evidence or document—
 - (a) for evidence—if the people in attendance at, or identified during, the neutral evaluation session consent to the admission of the evidence; or
 - (b) for a document—if the people in attendance at, or identified during, the neutral evaluation session and all people identified in the document, consent to the admission of the document; or
 - (c) in a proceeding (including a criminal proceeding) brought in relation to an act or omission in relation to which a disclosure has been made under section 200 (c).

(6) In this section:

neutral evaluation session includes any steps taken in the course of making arrangements for the session or in the course of the follow-up of a session.

200 Secrecy by evaluators

An evaluator may disclose information obtained in relation to the administration or execution of this part only in the following circumstances:

- (a) with the consent of the person from whom the information was obtained;
- (b) for the administration or execution of this part;
- (c) if there are reasonable grounds to believe that the disclosure is necessary to prevent or minimise the danger of death or injury to anyone or damage to any property;
- (d) if the disclosure is reasonably required for the purpose of referring any party to a neutral evaluation session to any entity and the disclosure is made with the consent of the parties to the neutral evaluation session for the purpose of aiding in the resolution of a dispute between the parties or assisting the parties in any other way;
- (e) in accordance with a requirement imposed under a Territory or Commonwealth law (other than a requirement imposed by a subpoena or other compulsory process).

201 Protection from liability for evaluators

An evaluator is not subject to civil liability for anything done or omitted to be done honestly for a neutral evaluation session under this part.

Part 15.2 General reporting requirements of insurers

202 Who is an *insurer* for pt 15.2

In this part, an *insurer* is a person who carries on the business of insurance, or an activity declared under the regulations to be the business of insurance, in relation to—

- (a) property located in the ACT; or
- (b) an act or omission happening in the ACT.

203 Insurers reporting requirements

- (1) On or before 31 July in each year, an insurer must, in accordance with this section, give a report to the Minister about insurance policies held by the insurer at any time in the financial year ending on the previous 30 June in relation to—

- (a) property located in the ACT; or
- (b) an act or omission happening in the ACT.

Maximum penalty: 100 penalty units.

- (2) The report must state for each class of policy prescribed in the regulations—
- (a) the premium paid to the insurer; and
 - (b) the number of claims; and
 - (c) the number of claims that were paid; and
 - (d) the number of claims that were refused; and
 - (e) anything else required under the regulations.
- (3) The report must be given in the way required under the regulations.

204 Confidentiality of general reports of insurers

- (1) Information in a report under this part by an insurer is commercially sensitive and confidential.
- (2) A person must not use any confidential information obtained in carrying out the person's functions under this part to obtain, directly or indirectly, a financial or other advantage for himself or herself or anyone else.

Maximum penalty: 100 penalty units, imprisonment for 1 year or both.

- (3) A person must not disclose any confidential information obtained in carrying out the person's functions under this part, except in accordance with subsection (4).

Maximum penalty: 100 penalty units, imprisonment for 1 year or both.

- (4) A person may disclose confidential information if—
 - (a) the disclosure does not identify the insurer that supplied the information; or
 - (b) the disclosure is made in the exercise of a function under this Act or any other Territory law permitting the disclosure; or
 - (c) the disclosure is made with the agreement of the insurer that supplied the information; or
 - (d) the disclosure is made in a legal proceeding at the direction of a court; or
 - (e) the information is already in the public domain; or
 - (f) the disclosure is to a person, or for a purpose, prescribed under the regulations.

205 Report to Legislative Assembly

On or before 31 October in each year, the Minister must present to the Legislative Assembly a report about the key findings arising from the reports given to the Minister under section 203 in the financial year ending on the previous 30 June.

Part 15.3 Attachment of insurance money

206 Amount of liability charge on insurance money payable against liability

- (1) This section applies if—
 - (a) a person (the *insured*) has entered into a contract of insurance by which the insured is indemnified against liability to pay damages or compensation; and
 - (b) an event happens that gives rise to a claim against the insured for damages or compensation
- (2) On the happening of the event, the amount of the insured's liability in relation to the event becomes a charge on all insurance money that is or may become payable in relation to the liability.
- (3) If, when the event happens, the insured is a corporation that is being wound up, or if any subsequent winding-up of the insured is taken to have begun on or before the happening of the event, subsection (2) applies despite the winding-up.
- (4) A charge under this section has priority over all other charges affecting the insurance money.
- (5) However, if the insurance money is subject to 2 or more charges under this section—
 - (a) the charges have priority between themselves in the order of the happening of the events out of which the liabilities arose; and
 - (b) charges that arise out of events happening on the same day rank equally between themselves.

207 Enforcement of charge on insurance money

- (1) A charge under section 206 is enforceable by an action against the insurer in the same way and in the same court as if the action were an action to recover damages or compensation from the insured.
- (2) The parties have, to the extent of the charge, the same rights and liabilities in relation to the action, and the judgment given in the action, as if the action were against the insured.
- (3) The court has the same powers in relation to the action, and the judgment given in the action, as if the action were against the insured.
- (4) Unless section 206 (3) applies, the action cannot be begun without the leave of the court.
- (5) Leave must not be given if the court is satisfied that—
 - (a) the insurer is entitled under the terms of the contract of insurance to disclaim liability; and
 - (b) any proceeding, including any arbitration proceeding, necessary to establish that entitlement have been taken.
- (6) The action can be brought although judgment has already been recovered against the insured for damages or compensation in relation to the same matter.

208 Protection of insurer for pt 15.3 charge

- (1) Despite anything in this part, a payment made by an insurer under the contract of insurance without actual notice of the existence of a charge under this part is, to the extent of that payment, a valid discharge to the insurer.
- (2) An insurer is not liable under this part for any greater amount than is fixed by the contract of insurance between the insurer and the insured.

209 Certain other provisions not affected by pt 15.3

This part does not affect the operation of the *Workers Compensation Act 1951* or the *Road Transport (General) Act 1999*, part 10 (Compulsory vehicle insurance).

Part 15.4 Abolition of certain common law actions, rules and remedies

210 Abolition of seduction, enticement and harbouring

The following actions at common law are abolished:

- (a) seduction;
- (b) enticement;
- (c) harbouring.

211 Abolition of rule about unity of spouses

The rights of action that a person has in tort against someone are not affected by the fact that they are or were married to each other.

212 Abolition of action of cattle-trespass

- (1) The common law action of cattle-trespass is abolished.
- (2) This section does not affect—
 - (a) the common law action for trespass committed by a person by means of cattle; or
 - (b) the law relating to liability of an occupier of land for damages for tort for the death of, or injury to, cattle trespassing on the land.

213 Abolition of distress damage feasant

The common law remedy of distress of an animal damage feasant is abolished.

214 Abolition of rules relating exclusively to liability for damage by animals

The common law rule known as the rule in *Searle v Wallbank* and all other common law rules relating exclusively to liability for damages for tort for damage caused by an animal (including any rule relating to the nature or propensity of an animal, or a class of animals, or knowledge of that nature or propensity) are abolished.

215 Partial abolition of rule in *Rylands v Fletcher*

The common law rule known as the rule in *Rylands v Fletcher* is abolished to the extent to which the rule applies in relation to damage caused by the escape of animals.

216 Abolition of rule of common employment

An employer is liable in damages for the death of, or injury or damage to, an employee caused by the wrongful act or omission of another employee in the same way and in the same cases as if the employees had not been engaged in common employment.

217 Abolition of husband's liability for wife's torts and premarital obligations

A husband is not, only because of being the husband, liable—

- (a) in relation to a tort committed by his wife, whether before or after the marriage, or in relation to a contract entered into, or a debt or obligation incurred, by his wife before the marriage; or
- (b) to be sued, or made a party to a legal proceeding brought, in relation to the tort, contract, debt or obligation.

218 Abolition of action for loss of consortium

If a wife has been injured because of the negligence of a person other than her husband, the person is not liable to the husband for any resulting impairment or loss of consortium.

219 Abolition of rule in Cavalier v Pope

A lessor of premises is not exempt from owing a duty of care to people on the premises only because the lessor is not the occupier of the premises.

220 Partial abolition of Mocambique rule

- (1) The jurisdiction of a court in any proceeding is not excluded or limited only because the proceeding relates to land or other immovable property outside the ACT.
- (2) Subsection (1) does not authorise a court to adjudicate on title to, or the right to the possession of, land or other immovable property outside the ACT.
- (3) A court is not required to exercise jurisdiction in a proceeding relating to land or other immovable property outside the ACT if the court considers that it is an inappropriate forum in relation to the proceeding.

Note The *Law Reform (Abolitions and Repeals) Act 1996* abolished the following:

- the estate pur autre vie
- the common law misdemeanours of criminal libel, blasphemous libel, seditious libel and obscene libel
- the right to levy or make distress for rent.

221 Abolition of torts of maintenance and champerty

- (1) The torts of maintenance and champerty are abolished.

Note For the abolition of the common law offences of maintenance, champerty and being a common barrator, see *Law Reform (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1955*, s 68.

- (2) Subsection (1) does not affect any rule of law about—
 - (a) the illegality or avoidance of contracts that are tainted with maintenance or are champertous; or

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Miscellaneous
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Section 221

- (b) the misconduct of a lawyer who—
 - (i) engages in conduct that would have been maintenance at common law; or
 - (ii) is a party to a champertous agreement.

Part 15.5 Other provisions

222 Approved forms

- (1) The Minister may, in writing, approve forms for this Act.
- (2) If the Minister approves a form for a particular purpose, the approved form must be used for that purpose.

Note For other provisions about forms, see Legislation Act, s 255.

- (3) An approved form is a notifiable instrument.

Note A notifiable instrument must be notified under the Legislation Act.

223 Regulation-making power

The Executive may make regulations for this Act.

Note Regulations must be notified, and presented to the Legislative Assembly, under the Legislation Act.

Chapter 16 Transitional provisions

224 Application provisions—for certain new measures

- (1) Part 2.1 (Good samaritans) does not apply in relation to an act or omission that happened before the commencement of the part.
- (2) Part 7.1 (Damages for personal injuries—exclusions and limitations), other than section 99 (Tariffs for damages for non-economic loss), does not apply to a claim arising out of an accident that happened before the commencement of the part.
- (3) Part 14.1 (Maximum costs for certain personal injury damages claims) does not apply to a plaintiff or defendant's legal costs in relation to a claim if—
 - (a) the costs for the claim are covered by an agreement or arrangement about costs between the plaintiff or defendant and his or her lawyer; and
 - (b) the agreement or arrangement was entered into before the commencement of the part.
- (4) Also, part 14.1 does not apply to a claim based on a cause of action that arose before the commencement of the part.
- (5) This section expires on 1 November 2005.
- (6) Subsections (1) to (3) are declared to be provisions to which the *Legislation Act 2001*, section 88 (Repeal does not end transitional or validating effect etc) applies.

**M 225 Application provisions—for Civil Law (Wrongs)
Amendment Act 2003**

- (1) The following provisions do not apply to a claim based on a cause of action that arose before the commencement of the provision:
 - (a) part 2.3 (Apologies);
 - (b) section 34 (Mental harm—duty of care);
 - (c) section 35 (Mental harm—damages);
 - (d) chapter 4 (Negligence);
 - (e) chapter 6 (Expert medical evidence);
 - (f) section 99 (Tariffs for damages for non-economic loss);
 - (g) chapter 8 (Liability of public and other authorities);
 - (h) part 14.2 (Costs in damages claims if no reasonable prospects of success);
 - (i) schedule 3 (Equine activities).
- (2) Chapter 5 (Personal injuries claims—pre-court procedures) does not apply to a claim if, before the commencement of the chapter, the claimant had consulted a lawyer to obtain advice about seeking damages for the personal injury.
- (3) This section expires on 9 September 2006.
- (4) Subsections (1) and (2) are declared to be laws to which the Legislation Act, section 88 (Repeal does not end effect of transitional laws etc) applies.

229 Abolition of torts of maintenance and champerty—saving of existing rights and liabilities

- (1) The Legislation Act, section 84 (Saving of operation of repealed and amended laws) applies to the abolition of a tort under section 221 as if the section repealed a law.
- (2) This section expires on 1 November 2005.
- (3) Subsection (1) is declared to be a provision to which the Legislation Act, section 88 (Repeal does not end effect of transitional laws etc) applies.

230 Transitional regulations

- (1) The regulations may prescribe savings or transitional matters necessary or convenient to be prescribed because of the enactment of this Act.
- (2) Regulations made for this section must not be taken to be inconsistent with this Act (or any Act amended by this Act) so far as they can operate concurrently with this Act (or that Act).
- (3) This section is additional to, and does not limit, section 231.
- (4) This section expires on 1 November 2004.

231 Modification of ch 16's operation

- (1) The regulations may modify this part to make provision in relation to any matter that, in the Executive's opinion, is not, or is not adequately, dealt with in this chapter.
- (2) This section expires on 1 November 2004.

Schedule 1 Traveller accommodation providers notice

(see s 154)

Notice about loss of guest's property

The *Civil Law (Wrongs) Act 2002*, part 7.1 changes the common law about innkeeper's liability.

Under the Act, an *accommodation provider* may be liable to make good any *loss* of a *guest's property* in certain circumstances even though the loss is not caused by the *fault* of the accommodation provider, or the provider's *agent*.

The strict liability of the accommodation provider under the Act—

- applies only to a guest of the accommodation provider on a day when an *accommodation unit* is *provided* for the use of the guest
- is limited to the *limitation amount* for each accommodation unit provided for the use of the guest on the day, unless the guest's property was placed in *safe custody facilities*
- does not cover *motor vehicles* and things owned by the guest left in or on motor vehicles.

Note Words appearing in bold italics have a special meaning under the *Civil Law (Wrongs) Act 2002*.

Schedule 2 Common carriers—goods subject to special limited liability

(see s 159 (1))

column 1 item	column 2 goods
1	gold or silver coin of Australia or a foreign country
2	gold or silver in a manufactured or unmanufactured state
3	precious stones, jewellery, watches, clocks or time-pieces of any description
4	trinkets, gold or silver ores, bills, notes of any bank, orders, notes or securities for the payment of money
5	Australian stamps or a foreign country's stamps
6	maps, writings or title-deeds
7	paintings, engravings or pictures
8	gold or silver plate or plated articles, glass or china
9	silk in a manufactured or unmanufactured state (including silk ornamented with other materials), furs or lace

Schedule 3 Equine activities

1 Definitions for sch 3

In this schedule:

equine means a horse, donkey, mule or hinny.

equine activity means any of the following:

- (a) an equine show, fair, competition, performance or parade that involves 1 or more equines and 1 or more equine disciplines;
- (b) equine teaching or training activities;
- (c) agisting or boarding equines;
- (d) riding, inspecting or evaluating an equine belonging to someone else, whether or not the owner—
 - (i) receives any reward for use of the equine; or
 - (ii) is permitting a prospective buyer to ride, inspect or evaluate the equine;
- (e) a ride, trip, hunt or other activity (however informal or impromptu) that is sponsored by an equine activity sponsor;
- (f) placing or replacing horseshoes on an equine.

Examples for par (a)

dressage

3-day events

performance riding

polo

showjumping

steeplechasing

Note An example is part of the Act, is not exhaustive and may extend, but does not limit, the meaning of the provision in which it appears (see Legislation Act, s 126 and s 132).

equine activity sponsor means—

- (a) an entity that (whether or not it operates for profit) sponsors, organises or provides a facility for an equine activity; or
- (b) an operator, instructor or promoter of an equine facility.

Examples for par (a)

pony clubs
riding clubs or schools
equestrian centres
school-sponsored classes

equine facility includes an equestrian centre, riding school, stable, clubhouse, fair or arena where an equine activity is held.

equine professional means a person engaged for reward in—

- (a) instructing a participant or renting an equine to a participant to—
 - (i) ride or be a passenger on the equine; or
 - (ii) drive the equine; or
- (b) renting equipment or tack to a participant.

inherent risks of equine activities means the dangers or conditions that are an integral part of equine activities, including, for example—

- (a) the propensity of an equine to behave in ways that may result in injury, harm or death to people on or around them; and
- (b) the unpredictability of an equine's reactions including to sounds, sudden movement and unfamiliar objects, people or animals; and
- (c) hazards such as surface and subsurface conditions; and
- (d) collisions with other equines or objects; and

- (e) the potential of a participant to act negligently that may contribute to injury to the participant or others.

Examples for par (e)

failing to maintain control over an equine

not acting within the participant's ability

participant means a person who participates in an equine activity (whether or not a fee is paid for the participation).

participate in an equine activity—

- (a) means—
- (i) ride or be a passenger on an equine; or
 - (ii) drive or train an equine, whether mounted or unmounted; or
 - (iii) assist in medical treatment of an equine, whether mounted or unmounted; or
 - (iv) assist a participant or show management; but
- (b) does not include be a spectator at an equine activity (unless the spectator is in an unauthorised area and in immediate proximity to the equine activity).

2 Application of sch 3

This schedule does not prevent or limit the liability of an equine activity sponsor, an equine professional or anyone else in relation to—

- (a) activities engaged in as part of the horseracing industry; or
- (b) any action for breach of the *Trade Practices Act 1974* (Cwlth) or the *Fair Trading Act 1992*; or
- (c) a claim under the *Workers Compensation Act 1951*.

3 Limitation on liability for injury or death of participant

- (1) An equine activity sponsor, an equine professional or anyone else is not liable for personal injury to a participant resulting from the inherent risks of equine activities.
- (2) However, this clause does not prevent or limit the liability of a person (the *defendant*) if—
 - (a) the injury was caused by faulty equipment or tack and the defendant—
 - (i) provided the equipment or tack; and
 - (ii) knew or ought reasonably to have known that the equipment or tack was faulty; or
 - (b) the defendant provided the equine and failed to make reasonable and prudent efforts to assess, based on the participant's representations, the participant's ability to—
 - (i) engage safely in the equine activity; and
 - (ii) safely manage the particular equine; or
 - (c) the injury was caused by a dangerous latent condition of the land or facility used for the equine activity and—
 - (i) the defendant owned, leased or was otherwise in lawful possession of the land or facility; and
 - (ii) the defendant knew, or ought reasonably to have known, of the dangerous latent condition; and
 - (iii) a sign warning about the dangerous latent condition had not been conspicuously displayed on the land or at the facility; or
 - (d) the defendant acted, or omitted to act, in a way that showed intentional or reckless disregard for the safety of the participant and the act or omission caused the injury; or

(e) the defendant intentionally injured the participant.

- (3) Also, this clause does not prevent or limit an equine professional's liability to a participant in relation to an equine facility if, before the injury happened, the equine professional had not complied with clause 4 in relation to the facility.

4 Warning notice

- (1) An equine professional must ensure that a warning notice is displayed—
- (a) on or near an equine facility that is owned, managed or controlled by the equine professional; and
 - (b) so that it can be clearly seen by participants before participating in equine activities at the facility.
- (2) The warning notice must be to the following effect:

WARNING

Under the *Civil Law (Wrongs) Act 2002*, an equine professional is not liable for injury to, or the death of, a participant in an equine activity that results from an inherent risk of the activity. This is subject to limitations set out in the Act.

- (3) The warning notice must be in black letters with each letter at least 2cm high.
- (4) The warning notice must also be included in clearly visible print in each written contract the equine professional enters into for the provision of professional services, instruction or rental of equipment or tack to a participant.

Dictionary

(see s 2)

Note 1 The Legislation Act contains definitions and other provisions relevant to this Act.

Note 2 In particular, the Legislation Act, dict, pt 1, defines the following terms:

- doctor
- domestic partner (see s 169)
- entity
- foreign country
- indictable offence (see s 190)
- lawyer
- Minister (see s 162)
- proceeding
- property
- (the) Territory

accident means an incident out of which personal injury arises, and includes a motor accident.

accommodation provider—see section 146.

accommodation unit—see section 144.

action, for chapter 9 (Defamation)—see section 115.

agent, of an accommodation provider—see section 144.

aggrieved person, for part 9.2 (Resolution of disputes without litigation—defamation)—see section 116.

agreed expert, for chapter 6 (Expert medical evidence)—see section 84.

amends agreement, for part 9.2 (Resolution of disputes without litigation—defamation)—see section 119 (1).

animal, for division 11.2.4 (Liability of common carriers for certain animals)—see section 163.

apology, for part 2.3 (Apologies)—see section 13.

appointed expert, for chapter 6 (Expert medical evidence)—see section 84.

child—

(a) for part 3.1 (Wrongful act or omission causing death)—see section 23; and

(b) for part 3.2 (Mental harm)—see section 32.

claim—

(a) for chapter 5 (Personal injuries claims—pre-court procedures)—see section 49; and

(b) for chapter 6 (Expert medical evidence)—see section 82; and

(c) for part 7.1 (Damages for personal injuries—exclusions and limitations)—see section 92.

claimant, for chapter 5 (Personal injuries claims—pre-court procedures)—see section 49.

common carrier—see section 156.

community organisation—see section 6.

community work—see section 7.

complying notice of claim, for chapter 5 (Personal injuries claims—pre-court procedures)—see section 49.

consequential mental harm, for part 3.2 (Mental harm)—see section 32.

contribution notice, for chapter 5 (Personal injuries claims—pre-court procedures)—see section 57 (Respondent may add someone else as contributor).

contributor, for chapter 5 (Personal injuries claims—pre-court procedures)—see section 49.

costs, for chapter 14 (Limitations on legal costs)—see section 180.

country, for chapter 9 (Defamation)—see section 115.

court—

- (a) for part 2.5 (Proceedings against and contributions between wrongdoers)—see section 19; and
- (b) for chapter 5 (Personal injuries claims—pre-court procedures)—see section 49; and
- (c) for part 7.1 (Damages for personal injuries—exclusions and limitations)—see section 92; and
- (d) for part 7.3 (Contributory negligence)—see section 101; and
- (e) for chapter 9 (Defamation)—see section 115; and
- (f) for chapter 13 (Misrepresentation)—see section 172; and
- (g) for part 14.1 (Maximum costs for certain personal injury damages claims)—see section 180; and
- (h) for part 14.2 (Costs in damages claims if no reasonable prospects of success)—see section 186.

damage—

- (a) for part 2.5 (Proceedings against and contributions between wrongdoers)—see section 19; and
- (b) for part 7.3 (Contributory negligence)—see section 101.

defamation—see section 115.

default value, for division 11.2.4 (Liability of common carriers for certain animals)—see section 163.

duty of care, for chapter 8 (Liability of public and other authorities)—see section 109.

equine, for schedule 3 (Equine activities)—see schedule 3, clause 1.

equine activity, for schedule 3 (Equine activities)—see schedule 3, clause 1.

equine activity sponsor, for schedule 3 (Equine activities)—see schedule 3, clause 1.

equine facility, for schedule 3 (Equine activities)—see schedule 3, clause 1.

equine professional, for schedule 3 (Equine activities)—see schedule 3, clause 1.

evidence, for chapter 6 (Expert medical evidence)—see section 82.

expert, for chapter 6 (Expert medical evidence)—see section 82.

expert medical evidence, for chapter 6 (Expert medical evidence)—see section 82.

family member, of a person, for part 3.2 (Mental harm)—see section 32.

fault, for part 11.1 (Traveller accommodation providers liability)—see section 144.

funeral expenses includes costs related to any of the following:

- (a) the publication of death and funeral notices;
- (b) the services of an undertaker, including the supply of vehicles;
- (c) wreaths or floral tributes;
- (d) a funeral service;
- (e) a service at the burial or cremation site;
- (f) burial or cremation;
- (g) a headstone, plaque, tablet or other memorial.

guest—see section 148.

harm, for chapter 4 (Negligence)—see section 40.

inherent risks of equine activities, for schedule 3 (Equine activities)—see schedule 3, clause 1.

innkeeper's liability—see section 147.

insured, for part 15.3 (Attachment of insurance money)—see section 206 (1).

insurer—

- (a) of a person in relation to a claim, for chapter 5 (Personal injuries claims—pre-court procedures)—see section 49; and
- (b) for part 15.2 (General reporting requirements of insurers)—see section 202.

intoxicated—see section 92.

legal services means legal services provided by a lawyer or the lawyer's agent or employee.

limitation amount, for part 11.1 (Traveller accommodation providers liability)—see section 144.

loss, of property, for part 11.1 (Traveller accommodation providers liability)—see section 144.

matter in question, for part 9.2 (Resolution of disputes without litigation—defamation)—see section 116.

mediation—see section 192.

mediation session—see section 192.

medical issue, for chapter 6 (Expert medical evidence)—see section 82.

member, of a dead person's family, for part 3.1 (Wrongful act or omission causing death)—see section 23.

mental harm, for part 3.2 (Mental harm)—see section 32.

motor accident means an accident caused by, or arising out of the use of, a motor vehicle.

motor vehicle means—

(a) a motor vehicle under the *Road Transport (General) Act 1999*;
or

(b) a vehicle operated on a railway or other fixed track;

and, for part 11.1 (Traveller accommodation providers liability), includes a boat, caravan and trailer attached to a motor vehicle.

negligence—

(a) for part 3.2 (Mental harm)—see section 32; and

(b) for chapter 4 (Negligence)—see section 40.

neutral evaluation—see section 192.

neutral evaluation session—see section 192.

non-fraudulent misrepresentation, for chapter 13 (Misrepresentation)—see section 172.

offer to make amends, for chapter 9 (Defamation)—see section 115.

parent—

(a) for part 3.1 (Wrongful act or omission causing death)—see section 23; and

(b) for part 3.2 (Mental harm)—see section 32.

parliamentary body—see section 115.

participant, for schedule 3 (Equine activities)—see schedule 3, clause 1.

participate, for schedule 3 (Equine activities)—see schedule 3, clause 1.

party, for chapter 5 (Personal injuries claims—pre-court procedures)—see section 49.

personal injury means bodily injury, and includes—

- (a) mental or nervous shock; and
- (b) death.

personal injury damages, for chapter 14 (Limitations on legal costs) see section 180.

personal representative, of a dead person, means the person to whom any grant of probate of the will or administration of the estate of the dead person has been made in the ACT, a State or another Territory, and includes an executor by representation or the public trustee.

premises includes any land or building, any fixed or moveable structure erected on any land, and any vehicle, vessel or aircraft.

property, of a guest—see section 149.

provable facts, in relation to a lawyer, for part 14.2 (Costs in damages claims if no reasonable prospects of success)—see section 186.

provide traveller accommodation—see section 144.

public or other authority, for chapter 8 (Liability of public and other authorities)—see section 109.

published matter, for part 9.3 (Rules governing litigation of civil claims—defamation)—see section 124.

publisher, for part 9.2 (Resolution of disputes without litigation—defamation)—see section 116.

pure mental harm, for part 3.2 (Mental harm)—see section 32.

qualified offer, for part 9.2 (Resolution of disputes without litigation—defamation)—see section 117 (2).

reasonable prospects of success, for part 14.2 (Costs in damages claims if no reasonable prospects of success)—see section 186.

recreational drug means a drug consumed voluntarily for non-medicinal purposes, and includes alcohol.

respondent, for chapter 5 (Personal injuries claims—pre-court procedures)—see section 49.

safe custody facilities, for part 11.1 (Traveller accommodation providers liability)—see section 153 (1).

schedule 2 packaged goods, for part 11.2 (Common carriers)—see section 159 (1) (Liability of carriers for certain goods worth more than \$20).

transport, for part 11.2 (Common carriers)—see section 156.

traveller accommodation—see section 145.

tribunal, for chapter 9 (Defamation)—see section 115.

voluntary basis—see section 6.

volunteer—see section 6.

wrong—

- (a) for part 2.5 (Proceedings against and contributions between wrongdoers)—see section 19; and
- (b) for part 7.3 (Contributory negligence)—see section 101.

Endnotes

1 About the endnotes

Endnotes

1 About the endnotes

Amending and modifying laws are annotated in the legislation history and the amendment history. Current modifications are not included in the republished law but are set out in the endnotes.

Not all editorial amendments made under the *Legislation Act 2001*, part 11.3 are annotated in the amendment history. Full details of any amendments can be obtained from the Parliamentary Counsel's Office.

Uncommenced amending laws and expiries are listed in the legislation history and the amendment history. These details are underlined. Uncommenced provisions and amendments are not included in the republished law but are set out in the last endnote.

If all the provisions of the law have been renumbered, a table of renumbered provisions gives details of previous and current numbering.

The endnotes also include a table of earlier republications.

2 Abbreviation key

am = amended	ord = ordinance
amdt = amendment	orig = original
ch = chapter	par = paragraph/subparagraph
cl = clause	pres = present
def = definition	prev = previous
dict = dictionary	(prev...) = previously
disallowed = disallowed by the Legislative Assembly	pt = part
div = division	r = rule/subrule
exp = expires/expired	reg = regulation/subregulation
Gaz = Gazette	renum = renumbered
hdg = heading	reloc = relocated
IA = Interpretation Act 1967	R[X] = Republication No
ins = inserted/added	RI = reissue
LA = Legislation Act 2001	s = section/subsection
LR = legislation register	sch = schedule
LRA = Legislation (Republication) Act 1996	sdiv = subdivision
mod = modified/modification	sub = substituted
o = order	SL = Subordinate Law
om = omitted/repealed	<u>underlining</u> = whole or part not commenced or to be expired

3 Legislation history

Civil Law (Wrongs) Act 2002 No 40

notified LR 10 October 2002

s 1, s 2 commenced 10 October 2002 (LA s 75 (1))

pt 7.1 (now pt 11.1) commenced 12 noon 1 July 2003 (s 2 (1))

ch 10 (now ch 14) commenced 1 January 2003 (s 2 (2) and
CN2002-13)

pt 11.1 (now pt 15.1) commenced 10 April 2003 (s 2 (2) and LA s 79)

remainder commenced 1 November 2002 (s 2 (2) and CN2002-13)

as modified by

Civil Law (Wrongs) Regulations 2002 SL2002-41

notified LR 20 December 2002

reg 1, reg 2 commenced 20 December 2002 (LA s 75 (1))

remainder commenced 21 December 2002 (reg 2)

as amended by

Statute Law Amendment Act 2002 (No 2) No 49 pt 3.2

notified LR 20 December 2002

s 1, s 2 taken to have commenced 7 October 1994 (LA s 75 (2))

pt 3.2 commenced 17 January 2002 (s 2 (1))

Civil Law (Wrongs) Amendment Act 2003 A2003-6

notified LR 27 March 2003

s 1, s 2 commenced 27 March 2003 (LA s 75 (1))

remainder commenced 28 March 2003 (s 2)

**Legislation (Gay, Lesbian and Transgender) Amendment Act 2003
A2003-14 sch 1 pt 1.5**

notified LR 27 March 2003

s 1, s 2 commenced 27 March 2003 (LA s 75 (1))

sch 1 pt 1.5 commenced 28 March 2003 (s 2)

Endnotes

4 Amendment history

Civil Law (Wrongs) Amendment Act 2003 (No 2) A2003-35 pt 2

notified LR 8 September 2003

s 1, s 2 commenced 8 September 2003 (LA s 75 (1))

s 13, s 23 awaiting commencement (s 2 (2))

pt 2 remainder commenced 9 September 2003 (s 2 (1))

Note default commencement s 13, s 23 under LA s 79:
8 March 2004

Statute Law Amendment Act 2003 A2003-41 sch 3 pt 3.5

notified LR 11 September 2003

s 1, s 2 commenced 11 September 2003 (LA s 75 (1))

sch 3 pt 3.5 commenced 9 October 2003 (s 2 (1))

as modified by

Civil Law (Wrongs) Amendment Regulations 2004 (No 1) SL2004-8

notified LR 2 March 2004

reg 1, reg 2 commenced 2 March 2004 (LA s 75 (1))

remainder commenced 3 March 2004 (reg 2)

4 Amendment history

Dictionary

s 2 orig s 2 om LA s 89 (4)
(prev s 3) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Notes

s 3 orig s 3 renum as s 2
(prev s 4) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)
(2), (3) exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))

Offences against Act—application of Criminal Code etc

s 4 orig s 4 renum as s 3
(prev s 4A) ins A2003-35 s 4
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Offences against Act—application of Criminal Code etc

s 4A renum as s 4

Apologies

pt 2.2A hdg renum as pt 2.3 hdg

Apologies

pt 2.3 hdg orig pt 2.3 hdg renum as pt 2.4 hdg
(prev pt 2.2A hdg) ins A2003-35 s 5
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Application of pt 2.2A

s 11A renum as s 12

Meaning of apology in pt 2.2A

s 11B renum as s 13

Effect of apology on liability etc

s 11C renum as s 14

Application of pt 2.3

s 12 orig s 12 renum as s 15
(prev s 11A) ins A2003-35 s 5
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Meaning of apology in pt 2.3

s 13 orig s 13 renum as s 16
(prev s 11B) ins A2003-35 s 5
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Effect of apology on liability etc

s 14 orig s 14 renum as s 17
(prev s 11C) ins A2003-35 s 5
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Survival of actions on death

pt 2.4 hdg orig pt 2.4 hdg renum as pt 2.5 hdg
(prev pt 2.3 hdg) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Effect of death on certain causes of action

s 15 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 15 orig s 15 renum as s 18
(prev s 12) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Damages in surviving cause of action

s 16 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 16 orig s 16 renum as s 19
(prev s 13) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

If person liable dies before or at time of damage

s 17 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 17 orig s 17 renum as s 20
(prev s 14) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Saving of rights additional to pt 2.4

s 18 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 18 orig s 18 renum as s 21
(prev s 15) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Proceedings against and contributions between wrongdoers

pt 2.5 hdg (prev pt 2.4 hdg) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Endnotes

4 Amendment history

Definitions for pt 2.5

s 19 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 19 orig s 19 renum as s 22
(prev s 16) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Each of several wrongdoers can be sued

s 20 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 20 orig s 20 renum as s 23
(prev s 17) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Right of contribution

s 21 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 21 orig s 21 renum as s 24
(prev s 18) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Effect of pt 2.5

s 22 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 22 orig s 22 renum as s 25
(prev s 19) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Definitions for pt 3.1

s 23 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 23 orig s 23 renum as s 26
(prev s 20) def *member* am A2003-14 amdt 1.12; pars renum
R6 LA (see A2003-14 amdt 1.13)
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Liability for a person's death

s 24 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 24 orig s 24 renum as s 27
(prev s 21) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Damages for a person's death

s 25 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 25 orig s 25 renum as s 28
(prev s 22) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Amounts not to be taken into account in assessing damages for death

s 26 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 26 orig s 26 renum as s 29
(prev s 23) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Contributory negligence not defence in relation to death

s 27 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 27 orig s 27 renum as s 30
(prev s 24) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

One action for benefit of members of dead person's family

s 28 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 28 orig s 28 renum as s 31
(prev s 25) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Payment into court

s 29 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 29 orig s 29 renum as s 32
(prev s 26) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Special endorsement on originating process

s 30 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 30 orig s 30 renum as s 33
(prev s 27) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Mental harm—duty of care

s 30A renum as s 34

Mental harm—damages

s 30B renum as s 35

Powers of court to make orders in relation to actions

s 31 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 31 orig s 31 renum as s 36
(prev s 28) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Meaning of *act of terrorism* for pt 3.3

s 31A renum as s 37

Limitation of liability for acts of terrorism

s 31B renum as s 38

Expiry of pt 3.3

s 31C renum as s 39

Negligence

ch 3A hdg renum as ch 4 hdg

Preliminary

pt 3A.1 hdg renum as pt 4.1 hdg

Definitions for ch 3A

s 31D renum as s 40

Application of ch 3A

s 31DA renum as s 41

Duty of care

pt 3A.2 hdg renum as pt 4.2 hdg

Standard of care

s 31E renum as s 42

Precautions against risk—general principles

s 31F renum as s 43

Precautions against risk—other principles

s 31G renum as s 44

Endnotes

4 Amendment history

Causation

pt 3A.3 hdg renum as pt 4.3 hdg

General principles

s 31H renum as s 45

Burden of proof

s 31I renum as s 46

Other provisions—negligence

pt 3A.4 hdg renum as pt 4.4 hdg

Contributory negligence can defeat claim

s 31J renum as s 47

Remedy available if claim fraudulent

s 31K renum as s 48

Personal injuries claims—pre-court procedures

ch 3B hdg renum as ch 5 hdg

Preliminary

pt 3B.1 hdg renum as pt 5.1 hdg

Definitions for ch 3B

s 31N renum as s 49

Application of ch 3B

s 31NA renum as s 50

Claims procedures

pt 3B.2 hdg renum as pt 5.2 hdg

Notice of claim

s 31O renum as s 51

Preliminary response to claimant

s 31P renum as s 52

Acknowledgment that proper respondent not admission of liability

s 31Q renum as s 53

Respondent's response to notice of claim

s 31R renum as s 54

Claimant may add later respondents

s 31S renum as s 55

Multiple respondents

s 31T renum as s 56

Respondent may add someone else as contributor

s 31U renum as s 57

Contributor's responses 31V [renum as s 58](#)**Claimant's failure to give complying notice of claim**s 31W [renum as s 59](#)**Legal disabilities**s 31X [renum as s 60](#)**Respondent must attempt to resolve claim**s 31Y [renum as s 61](#)**Consequences of noncompliance with pt 3B.2**s 31Z [renum as s 62](#)**Obligations of parties to give documents and information**pt 3B.3 hdg [renum as pt 5.3 hdg](#)**Purpose of pt 3B.3**s 31ZA [renum as s 63](#)**Claimant to give documents etc to respondent**s 31ZB [renum as s 64](#)**Respondent and claimant may jointly arrange for expert report**s 31ZC [renum as s 65](#)**Cost of expert report obtained by agreement**s 31ZD [renum as s 66](#)**Examination by expert if no agreement**s 31ZE [renum as s 67](#)**Respondent to give documents etc to claimant**s 31ZF [renum as s 68](#)**Respondent to give documents etc to contributor**s 31ZG [renum as s 69](#)**Contributor to give documents to respondent**s 31ZH [renum as s 70](#)**Alternative provision if more than 200 pages**s 31ZI [renum as s 71](#)**Other provisions—pre-court procedures**pt 3B.4 hdg [renum as pt 5.4 hdg](#)**Nondisclosure of documents etc—client legal privilege**s 31ZJ [renum as s 72](#)**Nondisclosure of documents etc—suspected fraud**s 31ZK [renum as s 73](#)

Endnotes

4 Amendment history

Offence not to disclose particular material

s 31ZL [renum as s 74](#)

Consequences of failure to give document

s 31ZM [renum as s 75](#)

Privilege generally for documents etc

s 31ZN [renum as s 76](#)

No requirement to give documents etc if already in other party's possession

s 31ZO [renum as s 77](#)

Court's power to enforce compliance with pt 3B.2 and pt 3B.3

s 31ZP [renum as s 78](#)

Need for urgent proceeding

s 31ZQ [renum as s 79](#)

False or misleading statements

s 31ZR [renum as s 80](#)

Expert medical evidence

ch 3C hdg [renum as ch 6 hdg](#)

Purpose of ch 3C

s 31ZT [renum as s 81](#)

Definitions for ch 3C

s 31ZU [renum as s 82](#)

Application of ch 3C

s 31ZV [renum as s 83](#)

Limitation on expert medical evidence

s 31ZW [renum as s 84](#)

Agreed expert

s 31ZX [renum as s 85](#)

Appointed expert

s 31ZY [renum as s 86](#)

Role of expert

s 31ZYA [renum as s 87](#)

Documents etc to be given to expert

s 31ZZ [renum as s 88](#)

If agreed or appointed expert unavailable

s 31ZZA [renum as s 89](#)

Costs of experts

s 31ZZB [renum as s 90](#)

Rules etc to make further provision

s 31ZZC renum as s 91

Mental harm

pt 3.2 hdg sub A2003-35 s 8

Definitions for pt 3.2

s 32 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))

s 32 orig s 32 renum as s 92

(prev s 29) def **consequential mental harm** ins A2003-35 s 9def **family member** am A2003-14 amdt 1.14; pars renum R6

LA (see A2003-14 amdt 1.15)

def **mental harm** ins A2003-35 s 9def **negligence** ins A2003-35 s 9def **pure mental harm** ins A2003-35 s 9

renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Personal injury arising from mental or nervous shock

s 33 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))

s 33 orig s 33 renum as s 93

(prev s 30) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Mental harm—duty of care

s 34 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))

s 34 orig s 34 renum as s 94

(prev s 30A) ins A2003-35 s 10

renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Mental harm—damages

s 35 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))

s 35 orig s 35 renum as s 95

(prev s 30B) ins A2003-35 s 10

renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Extensions of liability under pt 3.2 in certain cases

s 36 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))

s 36 orig s 36 renum as s 96

(prev s 31) am A2003-14 amdt 1.16; A2003-35 s 11

renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Temporary exclusion of liability for terrorism-associated risks

pt 3.3 hdg ins A2003-6 s 4

exp 31 December 2004 (s 39)

Endnotes

4 Amendment history

Meaning of *act of terrorism* for pt 3.3

s 37 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 37 orig s 37 renum as s 97
(prev s 31A) ins A2003-6 s 4
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)
exp 31 December 2004 (s 39)

Limitation of liability for acts of terrorism

s 38 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 38 orig s 38 renum as s 98
(prev s 31B) ins A2003-6 s 4
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)
exp 31 December 2004 (s 39)

Tariffs for damages for non-economic loss

s 38A renum as s 99

Expiry of pt 3.3

s 39 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 39 orig s 39 renum as s 100
(prev s 31C) ins A2003-6 s 4
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)
exp 31 December 2004 (s 39)

Negligence

ch 4 hdg orig ch 4 hdg renum as ch 7 hdg
(prev ch 3A hdg) ins A2003-35 s 12
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Preliminary

pt 4.1 hdg orig pt 4.1 hdg renum as pt 7.1 hdg
(prev pt 3A.1 hdg) ins A2003-35 s 12
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Definitions for ch 4

s 40 orig s 40 renum as s 101
(prev s 31D) ins A2003-35 s 12
def ***harm*** ins A2003-35 s 12
def ***negligence*** ins A2003-35 s 12
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Application of ch 4

s 41 orig s 41 renum as s 102
(prev s 31DA) ins A2003-35 s 12
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Duty of care

pt 4.2 hdg orig pt 4.2 hdg renum as pt 7.2 hdg
(prev pt 3A.2 hdg) ins A2003-35 s 12
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Standard of care

s 42 orig s 42 renum as s 103
(prev s 31E) ins A2003-35 s 12
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Precautions against risk—general principles

s 43 orig s 43 renum as s 104
(prev s 31F) ins A2003-35 s 12
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Precautions against risk—other principles

s 44 orig s 44 renum as s 105
(prev s 31G) ins A2003-35 s 12
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Causation

pt 4.3 hdg orig pt 4.3 hdg renum as pt 7.3 hdg
(prev pt 3A.3 hdg) ins A2003-35 s 12
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

General principles

s 45 orig s 45 renum as s 106
(prev s 31H) ins A2003-35 s 12
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Burden of proof

s 46 orig s 46 renum as s 107
(prev s 31I) ins A2003-35 s 12
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Liability of public and other authorities

ch 4A hdg renum as ch 8 hdg

Application of ch 4A

s 46A renum as s 108

Definitions for ch 4A

s 46B renum as s 109

Principles about resources, responsibilities etc of public or other authorities

s 46C renum as s 110

Proceedings against public or other authorities based on breach of statutory duty

s 46D renum as s 111

When public or other authority not liable for failure to exercise regulatory functions

s 46E renum as s 112

Special nonfeasance protection in relation to roads etc

s 46F renum as s 113

Endnotes

4 Amendment history

Exercise of function or decision to exercise does not create duty

s 46G renum as s 114

Other provisions—negligence

pt 4.4 hdg orig pt 4.4 hdg renum as pt 7.4 hdg
(prev pt 3A.4 hdg ins A2003-35 s 12
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55))

Contributory negligence can defeat claim

s 47 orig s 47 renum as s 115
(prev s 31J) ins A2003-35 s 12
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Remedy available if claim fraudulent

s 48 orig s 48 renum as s 116
(prev s 31K) ins A2003-35 s 12
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Personal injuries claims—pre-court procedures

ch 5 hdg orig ch 5 hdg renum as ch 9 hdg
(prev ch 3B hdg) ins A2003-35 s 13
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Preliminary

pt 5.1 hdg orig pt 5.1 hdg renum as pt 9.1 hdg
(prev pt 3B.1 hdg) ins A2003-35 s 13
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Definitions for ch 5

s 49 orig s 49 renum as s 117
(prev s 31N) ins A2003-35 s 13
def **claim** ins A2003-35 s 13
def **claimant** ins A2003-35 s 13
def **complying notice of claim** ins A2003-35 s 13
def **contribution notice** ins A2003-35 s 13
def **contributor** ins A2003-35 s 13
def **court** ins A2003-35 s 13
def **insurer** ins A2003-35 s 13
def **party** ins A2003-35 s 13
def **respondent** ins A2003-35 s 13
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Application of ch 5

s 50 orig s 50 renum as s 118
(prev s 31NA) ins A2003-35 s 13
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Claims procedures

pt 5.2 hdg [orig pt 5.2 hdg renum as ch 9.2 hdg](#)
(prev pt 3B.2 hdg ins A2003-35 s 13)
[renum R9 LA \(see A2003-35 s 55\)](#)

Notice of claim

s 51 [orig s 51 renum as s 119](#)
(prev s 31O) ins A2003-35 s 13
[renum R9 LA \(see A2003-35 s 55\)](#)

Preliminary response to claimant

s 52 [orig s 52 renum as s 120](#)
(prev s 31P) ins A2003-35 s 13
[renum R9 LA \(see A2003-35 s 55\)](#)

Acknowledgment that proper respondent not admission of liability

s 53 [orig s 53 renum as s 121](#)
(prev s 31Q) ins A2003-35 s 13
[renum R9 LA \(see A2003-35 s 55\)](#)

Respondent's response to notice of claim

s 54 [orig s 54 renum as s 122](#)
(prev s 31R) ins A2003-35 s 13
[renum R9 LA \(see A2003-35 s 55\)](#)

Claimant may add later respondents

s 55 [orig s 55 renum as s 123](#)
(prev s 31S) ins A2003-35 s 13
[renum R9 LA \(see A2003-35 s 55\)](#)

Multiple respondents

s 56 [orig s 56 renum as s 124](#)
(prev s 31T) ins A2003-35 s 13
[renum R9 LA \(see A2003-35 s 55\)](#)

Respondent may add someone else as contributor

s 57 [orig s 57 renum as s 125](#)
(prev s 31U) ins A2003-35 s 13
[renum R9 LA \(see A2003-35 s 55\)](#)

Contributor's response

s 58 [orig s 58 renum as s 126](#)
(prev s 31V) ins A2003-35 s 13
[renum R9 LA \(see A2003-35 s 55\)](#)

Claimant's failure to give complying notice of claim

s 59 [orig s 59 renum as s 127](#)
(prev s 31W) ins A2003-35 s 13
[renum R9 LA \(see A2003-35 s 55\)](#)

Endnotes

4 Amendment history

Legal disabilities

s 60 [orig s 60 renum as s 128](#)
[\(prev s 31X\) ins A2003-35 s 13](#)
[renum R9 LA \(see A2003-35 s 55\)](#)

Respondent must attempt to resolve claim

s 61 [orig s 61 renum as s 129](#)
[\(prev s 31Y\) ins A2003-35 s 13](#)
[renum R9 LA \(see A2003-35 s 55\)](#)

Consequences of noncompliance with pt 3B.2

s 62 [orig s 62 renum as s 130](#)
[\(prev s 31Z\) ins A2003-35 s 13](#)
[renum R9 LA \(see A2003-35 s 55\)](#)

Obligations of parties to give documents and information

pt 5.3 hdg [orig pt 5.3 hdg renum as pt 9.3 hdg](#)
[\(prev pt 3B.3 hdg\) ins A2003-35 s 13](#)
[renum R9 LA \(see A2003-35 s 55\)](#)

Purpose of pt 5.3

s 63 [orig s 63 renum as s 131](#)
[\(prev s 31ZA\) ins A2003-35 s 13](#)
[renum R9 LA \(see A2003-35 s 55\)](#)

Claimant to give documents etc to respondent

s 64 [orig s 64 renum as s 132](#)
[\(prev s 31ZB\) ins A2003-35 s 13](#)
[renum R9 LA \(see A2003-35 s 55\)](#)

Respondent and claimant may jointly arrange for expert report

s 65 [orig s 65 renum as s 133](#)
[\(prev s 31ZC\) ins A2003-35 s 13](#)
[renum R9 LA \(see A2003-35 s 55\)](#)

Cost of expert report obtained by agreement

s 66 [orig s 66 renum as s 134](#)
[\(prev s 31ZD\) ins A2003-35 s 13](#)
[renum R9 LA \(see A2003-35 s 55\)](#)

Examination by expert if no agreement

s 67 [orig s 67 renum as s 135](#)
[\(prev s 31ZE\) ins A2003-35 s 13](#)
[renum R9 LA \(see A2003-35 s 55\)](#)

Respondent to give documents etc to claimant

s 68 [orig s 68 renum as s 136](#)
[\(prev s 31ZF\) ins A2003-35 s 13](#)
[renum R9 LA \(see A2003-35 s 55\)](#)

Respondent to give documents etc to contributor

s 69 [orig s 69 renum as s 137](#)
[\(prev s 31ZG\) ins A2003-35 s 13](#)
[renum R9 LA \(see A2003-35 s 55\)](#)

Contributor to give documents to respondent

s 70 [orig s 70 renum as s 138](#)
[\(prev s 31ZH\) ins A2003-35 s 13](#)
[renum R9 LA \(see A2003-35 s 55\)](#)

Alternative provision if more than 200 pages

s 71 [orig s 71 renum as s 139](#)
[\(prev s 31ZI\) ins A2003-35 s 13](#)
[renum R9 LA \(see A2003-35 s 55\)](#)

Other provisions—pre-court procedures

pt 5.4 hdg [orig pt 5.4 hdg renum as pt 9.4 hdg](#)
[\(prev pt 3B.4 hdg\) ins A2003-35 s 13](#)
[renum R9 LA \(see A2003-35 s 55\)](#)

Nondisclosure of documents etc—client legal privilege

s 72 [orig s 72 renum as s 140](#)
[\(prev s 31ZJ\) ins A2003-35 s 13](#)
[renum R9 LA \(see A2003-35 s 55\)](#)

Nondisclosure of documents etc—suspected fraud

s 73 [orig s 73 renum as s 141](#)
[\(prev s 31ZK\) ins A2003-35 s 13](#)
[renum R9 LA \(see A2003-35 s 55\)](#)

Offence not to disclose particular material

s 74 [orig s 74 renum as s 142](#)
[\(prev s 31ZL\) ins A2003-35 s 13](#)
[renum R9 LA \(see A2003-35 s 55\)](#)

Consequences of failure to give document

s 75 [orig s 75 renum as s 143](#)
[\(prev s 31ZM\) ins A2003-35 s 13](#)
[renum R9 LA \(see A2003-35 s 55\)](#)

Privilege generally for documents etc

s 76 [orig s 76 renum as s 144](#)
[\(prev s 31ZN\) ins A2003-35 s 13](#)
[renum R9 LA \(see A2003-35 s 55\)](#)

No requirement to give documents etc if already in other party's possession

s 77 [orig s 77 renum as s 145](#)
[\(prev s 31ZO\) ins A2003-35 s 13](#)
[renum R9 LA \(see A2003-35 s 55\)](#)

Endnotes

4 Amendment history

Court's power to enforce compliance with pt 5.2 and pt 5.3

s 78 orig s 78 renum as s 146
(prev s 31ZP) ins A2003-35 s 13
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Need for urgent proceeding

s 79 orig s 79 renum as s 147
(prev s 31ZQ) ins A2003-35 s 13
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

False or misleading statements

s 80 orig s 80 renum as s 148
(prev s 31ZR) ins A2003-35 s 13
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Expert medical evidence

ch 6 hdg orig ch 6 hdg renum as ch 10 hdg
(prev ch 3C hdg) ins A2003-35 s 14
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Purpose of ch 6

s 81 orig s 81 renum as s 149
(prev s 31ZT) ins A2003-35 s 14
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Definitions for ch 6

s 82 orig s 82 renum as s 150
(prev s 31ZU) ins A2003-35 s 14
def **agreed expert** ins A2003-35 s 14
def **appointed expert** ins A2003-35 s 14
def **claim** ins A2003-35 s 14
def **evidence** ins A2003-35 s 14
def **expert** ins A2003-35 s 14
def **expert medical evidence** ins A2003-35 s 14
def **medical issue** ins A2003-35 s 14
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Application of ch 6

s 83 orig s 83 renum as s 151
(prev s 31ZV) ins A2003-35 s 14
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Limitation on expert medical evidence

s 84 orig s 84 renum as s 152
(prev s 31ZW) ins A2003-35 s 14
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Agreed expert

s 85 orig s 85 renum as s 153
(prev s 31ZX) ins A2003-35 s 14
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Appointed expert

s 86 orig s 86 renum as s 154
(prev s 31ZY) ins A2003-35 s 14
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Role of expert

s 87 orig s 87 om LA s 89 (3)
(prev s 31ZYA) ins A2003-35 s 14
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Documents etc to be given to expert

s 88 orig s 88 renum as s 155
(prev s 31ZZ) ins A2003-35 s 14
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

If agreed or appointed expert unavailable

s 89 orig s 89 renum as s 156
(prev s 31ZZA) ins A2003-35 s 14
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Costs of experts

s 90 orig s 90 renum as s 157
(prev s 31ZZB) ins A2003-35 s 14
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Rules etc to make further provision

s 91 orig s 91 renum as s 158
(prev s 31ZZC) ins A2003-35 s 14
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Damages

ch 7 hdg orig ch 7 hdg renum as ch 11 hdg
(prev ch 4 hdg) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Damages for personal injuries—exclusions and limitations

pt 7.1 hdg orig pt 7.1 hdg renum as pt 11.1 hdg
(prev pt 4.1 hdg) sub A2003-35 s 15
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Definitions for pt 7.1

s 92 orig s 92 renum as s 159
(prev s 32) def **accident** om A2003-35 s 16
def **motor accident** om A2003-35 s 16
def **motor vehicle** om A2003-35 s 16
def **personal injury** om A2003-35 s 16
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Endnotes

4 Amendment history

Application of pt 7.1

s 93 orig s 93 renum as s 160
(prev s 33) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Exclusion of liability if conduct an offence

s 94 orig s 94 renum as s 161
(prev s 34) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Presumption of contributory negligence—injured person intoxicated

s 95 orig s 95 renum as s 162
(prev s 35) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Presumption of contributory negligence—injured person relying on intoxicated person

s 96 orig s 96 renum as s 163
(prev s 36) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Presumption of contributory negligence—injured person not wearing seatbelt etc

s 97 orig s 97 renum as s 164
(prev s 37) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Damages for loss of earnings

s 98 orig s 98 renum as s 165
(prev s 38) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)
am A2003-41 amdt 3.19, amdt 3.20

Tariffs for damages for non-economic loss

s 99 orig s 99 renum as s 166
(prev s 38A) ins A2003-35 s 17
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Loss of capacity to perform domestic services

pt 7.2 hdg orig pt 7.2 hdg renum as pt 11.2 hdg
(prev pt 4.2 hdg) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Damages for loss of capacity to perform domestic services

s 100 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 100 orig s 100 renum as s 167
(prev s 39) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Contributory negligence

pt 7.3 hdg orig pt 7.3 hdg renum as pt 11.3 hdg
(prev pt 4.3 hdg) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Definitions for pt 7.3

s 101 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 101 orig s 101 renum as s 168
(prev s 40) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Apportionment of liability—contributory negligence

s 102 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 102 orig s 102 renum as s 169
(prev s 41) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Joint wrongdoers

s 103 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 103 orig s 103 renum as s 170
(prev s 42) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Claims by third parties—contributory negligence

s 104 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 104 orig s 104 renum as s 171
(prev s 43) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Pleading of statutory limitation period—contributory negligence

s 105 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 105 orig s 105 renum as s 172
(prev s 44) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Other provisions—damages

pt 7.4 hdg orig pt 7.4 hdg renum as pt 11.4 hdg
(prev pt 4.4 hdg) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Court may make consent order for structured settlement

s 106 orig s 106 renum as s 173
(prev s 45) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Independent finding of liability and award of damages

s 107 orig s 107 renum as s 174
(prev s 46) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Liability of public and other authorities

ch 8 hdg orig ch 8 hdg renum as ch 12 hdg
(prev ch 4A hdg) ins A2003-35 s 19
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Application of ch 8

s 108 orig s 108 renum as s 175
(prev s 46A) ins A2003-35 s 19
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Definitions for ch 8

s 109 orig s 109 renum as s 176
(prev s 46B) ins A2003-35 s 19
def **duty of care** ins A2003-35 s 19
def **public or other authority** ins A2003-35 s 19
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Endnotes

4 Amendment history

Principles about resources, responsibilities etc of public or other authorities

s 110 orig s 110 renum as s 177
(prev s 46C) ins A2003-35 s 19
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Proceedings against public or other authorities based on breach of statutory duty

s 111 orig s 111 renum as s 178
(prev s 46D) ins A2003-35 s 19
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

When public or other authority not liable for failure to exercise regulatory functions

s 112 orig s 112 renum as s 179
(prev s 46E) ins A2003-35 s 19
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Special nonfeasance protection in relation to roads etc

s 113 orig s 113 renum as s 180
(prev s 46F) ins A2003-35 s 19
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Exercise of function or decision to exercise does not create duty

s 114 orig s 114 renum as s 181
(prev s 46G) ins A2003-35 s 19
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Defamation

ch 9 hdg orig ch 9 hdg renum as ch 13 hdg
(prev ch 5 hdg) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Preliminary—defamation

pt 9.1 hdg (prev pt 5.1 hdg) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Definitions for ch 9

s 115 orig s 115 renum as s 182
(prev s 47) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Resolution of disputes without litigation—defamation

pt 9.2 hdg (prev pt 5.2 hdg) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Application of pt 9.2

s 116 orig s 116 renum as s 183
(prev s 48) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Offer to make amends—defamation

s 117 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 117 orig s 117 renum as s 184
(prev s 49) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Reasonable offer to make amends—defamation

s 118 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 118 orig s 118 renum as s 185
(prev s 50) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Definitions for pt 10.2

s 118A renum as s 186

Application of pt 10.2

s 118B renum as s 187

Certificate that claim or defence has reasonable prospects of success

s 118C renum as s 188

Costs order against lawyer acting without reasonable prospects of success

s 118D renum as s 189

Onus on lawyer to show facts provided reasonable prospects of success

s 118E renum as s 190

Acceptance of offer to make amends—defamation

s 119 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 119 orig s 119 renum as s 191
(prev s 51) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

False or misleading statement in correction

s 120 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 120 orig s 120 renum as s 192
(prev s 52) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Who can be a mediator

s 120A renum as s 193

Offer to make amends not accepted—defamation

s 121 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 121 orig s 121 renum as s 194
(prev s 53) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Order to vindicate reputation if offer not made

s 122 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 122 orig s 122 renum as s 195
(prev s 54) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Rules governing litigation of civil claims—defamation

pt 9.3 hdg (prev pt 5.3 hdg) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Application of pt 9.3

s 123 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 123 orig s 123 renum as s 196
(prev s 55) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Endnotes

4 Amendment history

Meaning of *published matter* in pt 9.3

s 124 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 124 orig s 124 renum as s 197
(prev s 56) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Agreements and arrangements arising from mediation sessions

s 124A renum as s 198

Slander actionable without special damage

s 125 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 125 orig s 125 renum as s 199
(prev s 57) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Plaintiff's character not likely to be injured

s 126 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 126 orig s 126 renum as s 200
(prev s 58) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Defence of truth and public benefit

s 127 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 127 orig s 127 renum as s 201
(prev s 59) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Publication of a proceeding of public concern

s 128 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 128 orig s 128 renum as s 202
(prev s 60) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Publication of public document

s 129 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 129 orig s 129 renum as s 203
(prev s 61) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Publication under contract

s 130 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 130 orig s 130 renum as s 204
(prev s 62) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Evidence of apology admissible in mitigation—defamation

s 131 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 131 orig s 131 renum as s 205
(prev s 63) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Payment into court—defamation

s 132 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 132 orig s 132 renum as s 206
(prev s 64) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Defence of apology and payment into court—defamation

s 133 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 133 orig s 133 renum as s 207
(prev s 65) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Defence for defamation—defendant not negligent

s 134 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 134 orig s 134 renum as s 208
(prev s 66) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Compensation etc provable in mitigation—defamation

s 135 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 135 orig s 135 renum as s 209
(prev s 67) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Damages—defamation

s 136 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 136 orig s 136 renum as s 210
(prev s 68) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Disclosure of name of contributor

s 137 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 137 orig s 137 renum as s 211
(prev s 69) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Other provisions—defamation

pt 9.4 hdg (prev pt 5.4 hdg) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Scope of defences not limited

s 138 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 138 orig s 138 renum as s 212
(prev s 70) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Time not to be extended except by leave

s 139 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 139 orig s 139 renum as s 213
(prev s 71) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Review of certain provisions of ch 9

s 140 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 140 orig s 140 renum as s 214
(prev s 72) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)
exp 1 January 2005 (s 140 (3))

Trespass

ch 10 hdg orig ch 10 hdg renum as ch 14 hdg
(prev ch 6 hdg) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Defence to action for trespass to land

s 141 orig s 141 renum as s 215
(prev s 73) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Endnotes

4 Amendment history

Action for use and occupation of land—amount of damages

s 142 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 142 orig s 142 renum as s 216
(prev s 74) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Mitigation of strict liability

ch 11 hdg orig ch 11 hdg renum as ch 15 hdg
(prev ch 7 hdg) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Traveller accommodation providers liability

pt 11.1 hdg orig pt 11.1 renum as pt 15.1 hdg
(prev pt 7.1 hdg) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Preliminary

div 11.1.1 hdg (prev div 7.1.1 hdg) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Purpose of pt 11.1

s 143 orig s 143 renum as s 217
(prev s 75) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Definitions for pt 11.1

s 144 orig s 144 renum as s 218
(prev s 76) def **motor vehicle** om A2003-35 s 20
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Meaning of traveller accommodation

s 145 orig s 145 renum as s 219
(prev s 77) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Meaning of accommodation provider

s 146 orig s 146 renum as s 220
(prev s 78) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Abolition of torts of maintenance and champerty

s 146A renum as s 221

Meaning of innkeeper's liability

s 147 orig s 147 renum as s 222
(prev s 79) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Meaning of guest

s 148 orig s 148 renum as s 223
(prev s 80) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Meaning of property of guest

s 149 orig s 149 om LA s 89 (3)
(prev s 81) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Liability of accommodation providers

div 11.1.2 hdg (prev div 7.1.2 hdg) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Application of div 11.1.2

s 150 orig s 150 renum as s 224
(prev s 82) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Limitation on strict liability under innkeeper's liability

s 151 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 151 orig s 151 renum as s 226
(prev s 83) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Circumstances when limitation does not apply

s 152 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 152 orig s 152 exp 1 January 2003 (s 152 (3))
(prev s 84) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Safe custody facilities

s 153 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 153 orig s 153 renum as s 216
(prev s 85) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Notice about pt 11.1

s 154 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 154 orig s 154 renum as s 216
(prev s 86) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Common carriers

pt 11.2 hdg orig pt 11.2 hdg renum as pt 15.2 hdg
(prev pt 7.2 hdg) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Preliminary—common carriers

div 11.2.1 hdg (prev div 7.2.1 hdg) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Abolition of torts of maintenance and champerty—saving of existing rights and liabilities

s 154A renum as s 229

Purpose of pt 11.2

s 155 orig s 155 renum as s 231
(prev s 88) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Definitions for pt 11.2

s 156 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 156 orig s 156 renum as s 231
(prev s 89) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

When common law liability of carriers not affected

div 11.2.2 hdg (prev div 7.2.2 hdg) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Certain things not protected by pt 11.2

s 157 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 157 (prev s 90) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Endnotes

4 Amendment history

Public notices by carrier not to affect liability

s 158 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 158 (prev s 91) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Liability of common carriers for certain goods worth more than \$20

div 11.2.3 hdg (prev div 7.2.3 hdg) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Liability of carriers for certain goods worth more than \$20

s 159 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 159 (prev s 92) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Notice of increased charge for transport of certain goods

s 160 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 160 (prev s 93) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Receipt of carrier for increased charge

s 161 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 161 (prev s 94) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Carrier only liable for proven amount for certain goods

s 162 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 162 (prev s 95) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Liability of common carriers for certain animals

div 11.2.4 hdg (prev div 7.2.4 hdg) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Definitions for div 11.2.4

s 163 (prev s 96) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Liability of carriers for certain animals

s 164 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 164 (prev s 97) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)
table renum R12 LA

Notice of increased charge for transport of certain animals

s 165 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 165 (prev s 98) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Carrier only liable for proven amount for certain animals

s 166 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 166 (prev s 99) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Notice, condition or declaration of carrier

div 11.2.5 hdg (prev div 7.2.5 hdg) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Carrier liable for neglect or default despite notice etc

s 167 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 167 (prev s 100) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Other liability provisions

ch 12 hdg orig ch 12 hdg renum as ch 16 hdg
(prev ch 8 hdg) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Occupiers liability

pt 12.1 hdg (prev pt 8.1 hdg) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Liability of occupiers

s 168 (prev s 101) am A2003-35 s 21
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Liability for damage caused by animals

pt 12.2 hdg (prev pt 8.2 hdg) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Evidence of breach of duty for animals

s 169 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 169 (prev s 102) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Liability for fires accidentally begun

pt 12.3 hdg (prev pt 8.3 hdg) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Actions do not lie for damage caused by accidental fires

s 170 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 170 (prev s 103) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Contract between landlord and tenant not affected

s 171 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 171 (prev s 104) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Misrepresentation

ch 13 hdg (prev ch 9 hdg) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Definitions for ch 13

s 172 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 172 (prev s 105) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Removal of certain bars to rescission for misrepresentation

s 173 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 173 (prev s 106) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Damages for misrepresentation

s 174 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 174 (prev s 107) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Damages instead of rescission for misrepresentation

s 175 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 175 (prev s 108) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Exclusion clauses—misrepresentation

s 176 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 176 (prev s 109) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Misrepresentation in trade or commerce an offence

s 177 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 177 (prev s 110) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Endnotes

4 Amendment history

Employer etc liable for misrepresentation

s 178 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 178 (prev s 111) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Prosecutions for misrepresentation

s 179 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 179 (prev s 112) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Limitations on legal costs

ch 14 hdg (prev ch 10 hdg) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Maximum costs for certain personal injury damages claims

pt 14.1 hdg (prev pt 10.1 hdg) ins A2003-35 s 22
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Definitions for ch 14

s 180 (prev s 113) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Maximum costs for claims of \$50 000 or less

s 181 (prev s 114) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Costs incurred after offer of compromise not accepted

s 182 (prev s 115) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Exclusion of costs unnecessarily incurred etc

s 183 (prev s 116) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Court discretion to allow additional costs

s 184 (prev s 117) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Apportionment of costs between lawyers

s 185 (prev s 118) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Costs in damages claims if no reasonable prospects of success

pt 14.2 hdg (prev pt 10.2 hdg) ins A2003-35 s 23
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Definitions for pt 14.2

s 186 (prev s 118A) ins A2003-35 s 23
def ***court*** ins A2003-35 s 23
def ***provable*** ins A2003-35 s 23
def ***reasonable prospects of success*** ins A2003-35 s 23
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Application of pt 14.2

s 187 (prev s 118B) ins A2003-35 s 23
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Certificate that claim or defence has reasonable prospects of success

s 188 (prev s 118C) ins A2003-35 s 23
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Costs order against lawyer acting without reasonable prospects of success

s 189 (prev s 118D) ins A2003-35 s 23
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Onus on lawyer to show facts provided reasonable prospects of success

s 190 (prev s 118E) ins A2003-35 s 23
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Miscellaneous

ch 15 hdg (prev ch 11 hdg) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Mediation and neutral evaluation

pt 15.1 hdg (prev pt 11.1 hdg) sub A2003-35 s 24
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Purpose of pt 15.1 etc

s 191 (prev s 119) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Meaning of mediation, neutral evaluation etc

s 192 hdg (prev s 120 hdg) sub A2003-35 s 26
s 192 (prev s 120) am A2003-35 s 27; ss renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 28)
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Who can be a mediator

s 193 (prev s 120A) ins A2003-35 s 29
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Who can be an evaluator

s 194 (prev s 121) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Referral by court or tribunal for mediation or neutral evaluation

s 195 hdg (prev s 122 hdg) sub A2003-35 s 30
s 195 (prev s 122) am A2003-35 s 31, s 32
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Duty of parties to take part in neutral evaluations

s 196 (prev s 123) am A2003-35 s 33
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Costs of neutral evaluation

s 197 (prev s 124) am A2003-35 s 34
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Agreements and arrangements arising from mediation sessions

s 198 (prev s 124A) ins A2003-35 s 35
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Privilege for neutral evaluations

s 199 (prev s 125) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Secrecy by evaluators

s 200 (prev s 126) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Endnotes

4 Amendment history

Protection from liability for evaluators

s 201 (prev s 127) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

General reporting requirements of insurers

pt 15.2 hdg (prev pt 11.2 hdg) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Who is an insurer for pt 15.2

s 202 (prev s 128) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Insurers reporting requirements

s 203 (prev s 129) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Confidentiality of general reports of insurers

s 204 (prev s 130) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Report to Legislative Assembly

s 205 (prev s 131) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Attachment of insurance money

pt 15.3 hdg (prev pt 11.3 hdg) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Amount of liability charge on insurance money payable against liability

s 206 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))

s 206 (prev s 132) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Enforcement of charge on insurance money

s 207 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))

s 207 (prev s 133) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Protection of insurer for pt 15.3 charge

s 208 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))

s 208 (prev s 134) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Certain other provisions not affected by pt 15.3

s 209 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))

s 209 (prev s 135) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Abolition of certain common law actions, rules and remedies

pt 15.4 hdg (prev pt 11.4 hdg) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Abolition of seduction, enticement and harbouring

s 210 (prev s 136) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Abolition of rule about unity of spouses

s 211 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))

s 211 (prev s 137) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Abolition of action of cattle-trespass

s 212 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))

s 212 (prev s 138) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Abolition of distress damage feasant

s 213 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))

s 213 (prev s 139) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Abolition of rules relating exclusively to liability for damage by animals

s 214 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
 s 214 (prev s 140) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Partial abolition of rule in Rylands v Fletcher

s 215 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
 s 215 (prev s 141) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Abolition of rule of common employment

s 216 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
 s 216 (prev s 142) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Abolition of husband's liability for wife's torts and premarital obligations

s 217 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
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 s 218 (prev s 144) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Abolition of rule in Cavalier v Pope

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 s 219 (prev s 145) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

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s 220 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
 s 220 (prev s 146) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Abolition of torts of maintenance and champerty

s 221 (prev s 146A) ins 2002 No 49 amdt 3.2
 renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

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pt 15.5 hdg (prev pt 11.5 hdg) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

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s 222 (prev s 147) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

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s 223 (prev s 148) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

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ch 16 hdg (prev ch 12 hdg) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)

Application provisions—for certain new measures

s 224 (prev s 150) mod SL2002-41 reg 3 (mod exp 9 September
 2003 see A2003-35 s 56)
 am A2003-35 ss 36-38
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exp 1 November 2005 (s 224 (5))

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s 225 (prev s 150A) ins A2003-35 s 39
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)
mod SL2003-20 reg 7 (as am SL2004-8 reg 8)
exp 9 September 2006 (s 225 (3))

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s 226 (prev s 151) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)
exp 1 November 2003 (s 226 (11))

Application of provisions of Civil Liability (Animals) Act 1984 (repealed)

s 227 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 227 (prev s 153) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)
exp 1 November 2003 (s 227 (4))

Application of s 33 and s 36

s 228 hdg bracketed note exp 1 November 2003 (s 3 (3))
s 228 (prev s 154) renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)
exp 1 November 2003 (s 228 (3))

Abolition of torts of maintenance and champerty—saving of existing rights and liabilities

s 229 (prev s 154A) ins 2002 No 49 amdt 3.3
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)
exp 1 November 2005 (s 229 (2) and see s 224 (5))

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s 230 (prev s 155) am A2003-35 s 40
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)
exp 1 November 2004 (s 230 (4))

Modification of ch 12's operation

s 231 (prev s 156) am A2003-35 s 41
renum R9 LA (see A2003-35 s 55)
exp 1 November 2004 (s 231 (2))

Equine activities

sch 3 om LA s 89 (3)
ins A2003-35 s 42

Dictionary

dict

am A2003-14 amdt 1.17
def **accident** sub A2003-35 s 43
def **agreed expert** ins A2003-35 s 44
def **apology** ins A2003-35 s 44
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def **claim** sub A2003-35 s 45
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def **duty of care** ins A2003-35 s 48
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def **personal injury** sub A2003-35 s 53
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def **public or other authority** ins A2003-35 s 54
def **pure mental harm** ins A2003-35 s 54
def **reasonable prospects of success** ins A2003-35 s 54
def **respondent** ins A2003-35 s 54

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5 Earlier republications

5 Earlier republications

Some earlier republications were not numbered. The number in column 1 refers to the publication order.

Since 12 September 2001 every authorised republication has been published in electronic pdf format on the ACT legislation register. A selection of authorised republications have also been published in printed format. These republications are marked with an asterisk (*) in column 1. Except for the footer, electronic and printed versions of an authorised republication are identical.

Republication No and date	Effective	Last amendment made by	Republication for
R1 1 Nov 2002	1 Nov 2002– 20 Dec 2002	not amended	new Act
R2 21 Dec 2002	21 Dec 2002– 31 Dec 2002	A2002-49	modification by SL2002-41
R3 1 Jan 2003	1 Jan 2003– 1 Jan 2003	A2002-49	commenced provisions
R4 2 Jan 2003	2 Jan 2003– 16 Jan 2003	A2002-49	expired provision
R5 17 Jan 2003	17 Jan 2003– 27 Mar 2003	A2002-49	amendments by A2002-49
R6 28 Mar 2003	28 Mar 2003– 29 Apr 2003	A2003-14	amendments by A2003-6 and A2003-14
R7 30 Apr 2003	30 Apr 2003– 30 June 2003	A2003-14	commenced provisions
R8 1 July 2003	noon 1 July 2003– 8 Sept 2003	A2003-14	commenced provisions about traveller accommodation providers liability
R9 9 Sept 2003	9 Sept 2003– 8 Oct 2003	A2003-35	amendments by A2003-35 and general renumbering

Republication No and date	Effective	Last amendment made by	Republication for
R10 9 Oct 2003	9 Oct 2003– 1 Nov 2003	A2003-41	amendments by A2003-41
R11* 2 Nov 2003	2 Nov 2003– 2 Mar 2004	A2003-41	commenced expiries

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6 Renumbered provisions

6 Renumbered provisions

as made by *Civil Law (Wrongs) Amendment Act 2003 (No 2)* A2003-35 and under the *Legislation Act 2001*

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7 Modifications of republished law with temporary effect

The following modifications have not been included in this republication:

Civil Law (Wrongs) Amendment Regulations 2004 (No 1) SL2004-8 reg 7

7 Modification of Act, ch 16—Act, s 231

The Act, section 225 is modified by inserting the following subsection:

(2A) Chapter 5 applies to a claim based on a cause of action that arose before 8 March 2004 and in relation to which the claimant had not consulted a lawyer as mentioned in subsection (2) as if section 51 (3) (a) (i) and (ii) read as follows:

- ‘(i) 8 March 2004; or
- (ii) if symptoms of the injury were not immediately apparent and did not appear before 8 March 2004—the day the symptoms of the injury first appear;’

Endnotes

8 Uncommenced amendments

8 Uncommenced amendments

The following amendments have not been included in this republication because they were uncommenced at the republication date:

Civil Law (Wrongs) Amendment Act 2003 (No 2) A2003-35 s 13, s 23

13 New chapter 5

insert

Chapter 5 Personal injuries claims—pre-court procedures

Part 5.1 Preliminary

49 Definitions for ch 5

In this chapter:

claim means a claim (however described) for damages based on a liability for personal injury, whether the liability is based in tort or contract or on another form of action (including breach of statutory duty), and, for a fatal injury, includes a claim for the dead person's dependants or estate.

claimant means a person by whom, or on whose behalf, a claim is made.

complying notice of claim means a notice of claim under section 51 (Notice of claim) or section 55 (Claimant may add later respondents) that is given as required under this chapter.

contribution notice—see section 57 (Respondent may add someone else as contributor).

contributor means a person added as a contributor under section 57 (Respondent may add someone else as contributor).

court, in relation to a claim, means—

- (a) if a proceeding based on a claim has been begun—the court hearing the proceeding; or
- (b) if no proceeding based on the claim has been begun—a court with jurisdiction to hear the claim.

insurer, of a person in relation to a claim, means the insurer or other entity providing, or purportedly providing, the person cover or an indemnity against the claim.

party means claimant, respondent or contributor.

respondent means a person who—

- (a) is a respondent under section 51 (Notice of claim); or
- (b) is a later respondent under section 55 (Claimant may add later respondents).

50 Application of ch 5

- (1) This chapter applies to all claims for damages for personal injury, including claims to which the *Road Transport (General) Act 1999*, part 10 (Compulsory vehicle insurance) applies.
- (2) However, this chapter does not apply to—
 - (a) a claim under the *Workers Compensation Act 1951*; or
 - (b) a claim for which—
 - (i) notice has been given by or for the claimant under the *Limitation Act 1985*, section 30A (2) (Special provision for injuries to children); and
 - (ii) notice has been given by a respondent under that Act, section 30A (6).

Part 5.2 Claims procedures

51 Notice of claim

- (1) Before a claimant brings a proceeding against someone else (a *respondent*) based on a claim in relation to a personal injury, the claimant must give the respondent written notice of the claim.

Note 1 A proceeding must be brought before the end of the relevant limitation period under the *Limitation Act 1985*.

Note 2 If a form is approved under s 222 for a notice of claim, the form must be used.

- (2) The notice must—
- (a) contain a statement of the information required under the regulations; and
 - (b) authorise each of the following to have access to the records and sources of information relevant to the claim that are required under the regulations:
 - (i) the respondent;
 - (ii) if the respondent is insured against the claim—the respondent’s insurer for the claim; and
 - (c) be accompanied by the documents required under the regulations.
- (3) The notice must be given within the period that ends on the earlier of the following days:
- (a) the day that is 9 months after—
 - (i) the day the accident giving rise to the personal injury happened; or
 - (ii) if symptoms of the injury are not immediately apparent—the day symptoms of the injury first appear;

- (b) that day that is 4 months after the day the claimant first consults a lawyer to obtain advice about seeking damages for the personal injury and the respondent is identified.
- (4) If the claimant is a child, the claimant's parent or legal guardian may give the notice for the claimant.
- Note* For another procedure for a claim in relation to a personal injury suffered by a child, see the *Limitation Act 1985*, s 30A (Special provision for injuries to children).
- (5) If the notice is not given within the period required under subsection (3), a reasonable excuse for the delay must be given in the notice or by separate written notice to the respondent.
- Note* If the notice is not given as required under s (3), the obligation to give the notice continues until it is given (see *Legislation Act*, s 152).
- (6) If the respondent knows of anyone else (a **relevant person**) against whom a proceeding based on the claim may be begun by the claimant, the respondent must, within the period prescribed under the regulations (or, if no period is prescribed, within 1 month after the day the respondent receives the notice)—
- (a) give a copy of the notice to each relevant person; and
- (b) tell the claimant in writing about each relevant person and give the claimant a short written statement explaining why each of them may be a relevant person.
- (7) If the respondent is a child, the respondent's parent or legal guardian may comply with subsection (6) for the respondent.

52 Preliminary response to claimant

- (1) A respondent must, in writing and within the required period—
- (a) give notice to the claimant under section 54 (Respondent's response to notice of claim); or
- (b) if the respondent cannot decide on the information in the notice whether or not the respondent is properly a respondent to the

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- claim—tell the claimant, in writing, about the further information the respondent reasonably needs to decide whether the respondent is properly a respondent to the claim; or
- (c) if the respondent considers that the respondent is not properly a respondent to the claim, tell the claimant, in writing, that the respondent considers the respondent is not properly a respondent to the claim and give the claimant, in writing—
- (i) reasons why the respondent considers the respondent is not properly a respondent to the claim; and
 - (ii) any information the respondent has that may help the claimant identify someone who should be a respondent to the claim.
- (2) If the claimant is told that further information is needed under subsection (1) (b), the claimant must, within the required period—
- (a) give the respondent the further information; or
 - (b) tell the respondent, in writing, that the claimant considers the respondent to be properly a respondent to the claim and requires the respondent to give notice to the claimant under section 54.
- (3) Within the required period after being given information under subsection (2) (a), the respondent must, having regard to that information—
- (a) give notice to the claimant under section 54; or
 - (b) if the respondent considers that the respondent is not properly a respondent to the claim, tell the claimant, in writing, that the respondent considers the respondent is not properly a respondent to the claim and give the claimant, in writing—
 - (i) reasons why the respondent considers the respondent is not properly a respondent to the claim; and

- (ii) any information the respondent has that may help the claimant identify someone who should be a respondent to the claim.
- (4) If the claimant is told under subsection (1) (c) or subsection (3) (b) that the respondent is not properly a respondent to the claim, the claimant must, within the required period, tell the respondent, in writing, that—
 - (a) the claimant accepts that the respondent is not properly a respondent to the claim; or
 - (b) the claimant considers the respondent to be properly a respondent to the claim and requires the respondent to give notice to the claimant under section 54.
- (5) Advice given to the respondent under subsection (4) (a) does not prevent the claimant from giving the respondent another notice of claim under section 51 at a later time.
- (6) In this section:
 - required period* means—
 - (a) the period prescribed under the regulations; or
 - (b) if no period is prescribed, the following:
 - (i) for subsection (1)—1 month after the day the respondent receives a notice of claim under section 51;
 - (ii) for subsection (2)—1 month after the day the claimant is told under subsection (1) (b) that further information is needed;
 - (iii) for subsection (3)—1 month after the day the respondent is given the information;
 - (iv) for subsection (4)—1 month after the day the claimant is told under subsection (1) (c) or subsection (3) (b) that the respondent is not properly a respondent to claim.

53 Acknowledgment that proper respondent not admission of liability

Advice by a respondent that the respondent considers that the respondent is properly a respondent to a claim is not an admission of liability by the respondent in relation to the claim.

54 Respondent's response to notice of claim

- (1) This section applies if a respondent—
 - (a) considers the respondent to be properly a respondent to a claim; or
 - (b) is told under section 52 (2) (b) or (4) (b) (Preliminary response to claimant) that the claimant considers the respondent to be properly a respondent to a claim.
- (2) The respondent must, within the required period, give the claimant written notice (a *response*)—
 - (a) stating whether the respondent is satisfied that the notice is a complying notice of claim; and
 - (b) if the respondent is not satisfied—identifying the noncompliance and stating whether the respondent waives compliance with the requirements; and
 - (c) if the respondent does not waive compliance with the requirements—allowing the claimant a reasonable period, of at least 1 month, stated in the response to—
 - (i) satisfy the respondent that the claimant has complied with the requirements; or
 - (ii) take reasonable action stated in the response to remedy the noncompliance.
- (3) If the respondent does not give a response within the required period, the respondent is conclusively presumed to be satisfied that the notice is a complying notice of claim.

- (4) If subsection (2) (c) applies, the respondent must, within 1 month after the day the period stated in the response ends, give the claimant a written notice—
- (a) stating that the respondent is satisfied the claimant has complied with the relevant requirements, is satisfied with the action taken by the claimant to remedy the noncompliance, or waives the noncompliance; or
 - (b) stating that the respondent is not satisfied that the claimant has taken reasonable action to remedy the noncompliance, and giving full particulars of the noncompliance and the claimant's failure to remedy it.
- (5) In this section:
- required period*** means—
- (a) if the respondent responds directly to the claimant under this section as mentioned in section 52 (1) (a)—the period applying under section 52 (1); and
 - (b) in any other case—
 - (i) the period prescribed under the regulations; or
 - (ii) if no period is prescribed, the later of the following:
 - (A) if the respondent gives notice to the claimant under section 52 (3) (a)—1 month after the day the respondent is given the further information under section 52 (2) (a);
 - (B) if the claimant tells the respondent under section 52 (2) (b) or (4) (b) that the claimant considers the respondent to be properly a respondent to the claim—1 month after the day the claimant tells the respondent under that paragraph.

55 Claimant may add later respondents

- (1) After a claimant has given notice of a claim to a respondent under section 51, the claimant may add someone else as a respondent (a *later respondent*) to the claim by giving the later respondent—
 - (a) a notice of a claim complying with section 51 (2); and
 - (b) copies of other documents given to or received from any other respondent under this chapter.
- (2) However, the claimant may add a later respondent only—
 - (a) within the time prescribed under the regulations; or
 - (b) if the later respondent and all parties to the claim agree; or
 - (c) if the court gives leave.
- (3) If the claimant adds a later respondent under this section—
 - (a) the later respondent must respond to the notice as if it were a notice of a claim given under section 51; and
 - (b) the claimant must, in writing, tell each other respondent of the addition within the time prescribed under the regulations.

56 Multiple respondents

- (1) If there are 2 or more respondents to a claim, one of the respondents (the *respondents' claim manager*) may act for 1 or more of the other respondents under this chapter with the agreement of the other respondents.
- (2) The respondents' claim manager—
 - (a) may exercise the functions given under this chapter in relation to the claim and the claimant for all respondents for whom the respondents' claim manager acts; and
 - (b) must act as far as practicable with the agreement of the other respondents for whom the manager acts.

- (3) Action taken, or an agreement made, by the respondents' claim manager in relation to the claim is binding on each respondent for whom the respondents' claim manager acts so far as it affects the claimant.
- (4) However, if the respondents' claim manager acts beyond the scope of the manager's authority under the agreement under subsection (1), the manager is liable to each other respondent who is a party to the agreement for any loss suffered by the other respondent.

57 Respondent may add someone else as contributor

- (1) A respondent who receives a complying notice of claim may, within the time prescribed under the regulations, add someone else as a contributor for this chapter by giving the person a written notice (a *contribution notice*)—
 - (a) claiming an indemnity from, or contribution towards, the respondent's liability; and
 - (b) stating the grounds on which the respondent holds the person liable; and
 - (c) stating any other information prescribed under the regulations; and
 - (d) accompanied by copies of documents about the claim given to or received from any other party under this chapter.
- (2) If the time prescribed under subsection (1) for adding a contributor has ended, the respondent may add someone else as a contributor only if—
 - (a) the contributor and all parties to the claim agree; or
 - (b) the court gives leave.

- (3) If the respondent adds someone else as a contributor under this section, the respondent must give a copy of the contribution notice to each other party within the time prescribed under the regulations.

58 Contributor's response

- (1) A contributor must, within the period prescribed under the regulations (or, if no period is prescribed, within 1 month after the day the contributor receives a contribution notice), give the respondent who gave the contribution notice a written response (the *contributor's response*)—
- (a) containing a statement of information prescribed under the regulations; and
 - (b) accompanied by the documents (if any) prescribed under the regulations.
- (2) The contributor's response must also state—
- (a) whether the claim for the contribution or indemnity claimed in the contribution notice is admitted, denied or admitted in part; and
 - (b) if the claim for the contribution or indemnity is admitted in part—the extent to which it is admitted.
- (3) An admission of liability in the contributor's response—
- (a) is not binding on the contributor in relation to any other claim; and
 - (b) is not binding on the contributor at all if it later appears the admission was induced by fraud.
- (4) If the respondent requires information provided by a contributor under this section to be verified by statutory declaration, the contributor must verify the information by statutory declaration.

59 Claimant's failure to give complying notice of claim

- (1) If a claimant does not give a complying notice of claim, the claimant cannot proceed further with the claim unless—
 - (a) the respondent to whom notice of the claim was purportedly given—
 - (i) has given the claimant a written notice to the effect that the respondent is satisfied the notice is a complying notice of claim or the claimant has taken reasonable action to remedy the noncompliance; or
 - (ii) is presumed, under section 54 (3) (Respondent's response to notice of claim), to be satisfied the notice is a complying notice of claim; or
 - (b) the respondent has waived any noncompliance; or
 - (c) the court, on application by the claimant—
 - (i) declares that the claimant has remedied the noncompliance; or
 - (ii) authorises the claimant to proceed further with the claim despite the noncompliance.
- (2) An order of the court under subsection (1) (c) may be made on conditions the court considers necessary or appropriate to minimise prejudice to a respondent from the claimant's noncompliance.

60 Legal disabilities

- (1) A claimant is not required to comply with an obligation under this chapter while the claimant is under a legal disability.

Note If the claimant is a child, under s 51 (4) a parent or guardian of the child may give the notice of claim for the child.
- (2) The period within which the obligation must be complied with begins when the claimant's legal disability ends.

- (3) This chapter applies to the claimant as if—
 - (a) a reference to the day the accident giving rise to the personal injury happened were a reference to the day the claimant's legal disability ends; and
 - (b) all other changes were made to give effect to this section.
- (4) This section does not prevent a claimant, or a person acting for a claimant, from complying with an obligation under this chapter while the claimant is under a legal disability.
- (5) In this section:
legal disability—a claimant is under a *legal disability* in the circumstances in which a person is under a disability for the *Limitation Act 1985*.

61 Respondent must attempt to resolve claim

- (1) A respondent must, within the period prescribed under the regulations (or, if no period is prescribed, within 6 months after the day the respondent receives a complying notice of claim)—
 - (a) take any reasonable steps necessary to find out about the accident claimed to have given rise to the personal injury to which the claim relates; and
 - (b) give the claimant written notice stating—
 - (i) whether liability is admitted or denied; and
 - (ii) if contributory negligence is claimed—the degree of the contributory negligence expressed as a percentage; and
 - (c) if the claimant made an offer of settlement in the notice of claim—tell the claimant whether the respondent accepts or rejects the offer; and

- (d) if the claimant did not make an offer of settlement in the notice of claim—invite the claimant to make a written offer of settlement; and
 - (e) make a fair and reasonable estimate of the damages to which the claimant would be entitled in a proceeding against the respondent; and
 - (f) either—
 - (i) make a written offer, or counteroffer, of settlement to the claimant setting out in detail the basis on which the offer is made; or
 - (ii) settle the claim by accepting an offer made by the claimant.
- (2) If a notice of claim is not a complying notice of claim, a respondent is taken to have been given a complying notice of claim when—
- (a) the respondent gives the claimant written notice that the respondent waives compliance with the requirement that has not been complied with or is satisfied the claimant has taken reasonable action to remedy the noncompliance; or
 - (b) the court makes a declaration that the claimant has remedied the noncompliance, or authorises the claimant to proceed further with the claim despite the noncompliance.
- (3) An offer, or counteroffer, of settlement must be accompanied by a copy of medical reports, assessments of cognitive, functional or vocational capacity and all other material, including documents relevant to assessing economic loss, in the offerer's possession or control that may help the person to whom the offer is made make a proper assessment of the offer.

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- (4) A respondent or claimant to whom a written offer, or counteroffer, of settlement is made must, unless a response to the offer is to be made under subsection (1) (c), respond in writing to the offer within the period prescribed under the regulations after the day the respondent or claimant receives it (or, if no period is prescribed, within 3 months), indicating acceptance or rejection of the offer.
- (5) An admission of liability by a respondent under this section—
 - (a) is not binding on the respondent in relation to any other claim; and
 - (b) is not binding on the respondent at all if it later appears the admission was induced by fraud.

62 Consequences of noncompliance with pt 5.2

- (1) If a claimant does not comply with the requirements of this part, a court in which the claimant begins a proceeding based on the claim—
 - (a) may, on a respondent's application in the proceeding, award in the respondent's favour costs (including legal and investigation costs) reasonably incurred by the respondent because of the claimant's noncompliance; and
 - (b) may only award interest in the claimant's favour for a period for which the claimant was in noncompliance if the court is satisfied there is a reasonable excuse for the noncompliance.
- (2) If a respondent does not comply with the requirements of this part, a court in which the respondent defends a proceeding based on the claim may, on a claimant's application in the proceeding, award in the claimant's favour costs (including legal and investigation costs) reasonably incurred by the claimant because of the respondent's noncompliance.

Part 5.3 **Obligations of parties to give documents and information**

63 **Purpose of pt 5.3**

The purpose of this part is to put the parties in a position where they have enough information to assess liability and quantum in relation to a claim.

64 **Claimant to give documents etc to respondent**

- (1) A claimant must give a respondent—
 - (a) copies of the following in the claimant's possession:
 - (i) reports and other documents about the accident claimed to have given rise to the personal injury to which the claim relates;
 - (ii) reports about the claimant's medical condition or prospects of rehabilitation;
 - (iii) reports about the claimant's cognitive, functional or vocational capacity; and
 - (b) information reasonably requested by the respondent about any of the following:
 - (i) the accident;
 - (ii) the nature of the personal injury and of any consequent disabilities;
 - (iii) if applicable, the medical treatment and rehabilitation services the claimant has sought or obtained;
 - (iv) the claimant's medical history, as far as it is relevant to the claim, and any other claims for damages for personal injury made by the claimant;
 - (v) the claimant's claim for past and future economic loss;

- (vi) any claim known to the claimant for gratuitous services consequent on the claimant's personal injury.
- (2) The claimant must give the copies mentioned in subsection (1) (a)—
 - (a) within the period prescribed under the regulations (or, if no period is prescribed, within 1 month after the day the claimant gives notice of the claim under part 5.2, or purportedly under part 5.2); and
 - (b) to the extent that a report or other document mentioned in subsection (1) (a) comes into the claimant's possession later, within 7 days after the day it comes into the claimant's possession.
- (3) The claimant must respond to a request under subsection (1) (b) within the period prescribed under the regulations (or, if no period is prescribed, within 1 month after the day the request is received).
- (4) If a respondent requires information given by a claimant under this section to be verified by statutory declaration, the claimant must verify the information by statutory declaration.
- (5) If a claimant fails, without proper reason, to comply fully with this section, the claimant is liable for costs to the respondent resulting from the failure.

65 Respondent and claimant may jointly arrange for expert report

- (1) A respondent and a claimant may jointly arrange for an expert report about 1 or more of the following:
 - (a) the cause, or probable cause, of the accident claimed to have given rise to the personal injury to which the claim relates and whether, in the expert's opinion, 1 or more people (who may be named) are responsible for, or contributed to, the accident;

- (b) the cause, or probable cause, of the personal injury and whether, in the expert's opinion, 1 or more people (who may be named) are responsible for, or contributed to, the accident;
 - (c) the claimant's medical condition or prospects of rehabilitation;
 - (d) the claimant's cognitive, functional or vocational capacity.
- (2) Neither the respondent nor the claimant is under an obligation to agree to a proposal to obtain a report under this section.
 - (3) The person from whom an expert report is obtained must be a person, agreed to by both parties, with appropriate qualifications and experience in the relevant field.
 - (4) The person preparing the expert report must give both parties a copy of the report.

66 Cost of expert report obtained by agreement

- (1) If an expert report is obtained by agreement between a respondent and a claimant and the claimant is liable for the cost of obtaining the report, the respondent must, at the claimant's request, reimburse the claimant for the reasonable cost of obtaining the report.
- (2) However, a claimant's right to reimbursement under this section is subject to any agreement between the claimant and the respondent.

67 Examination by expert if no agreement

- (1) This section applies if a respondent wants to obtain an expert report about 1 or more of the matters mentioned in section 65 (1) but fails to obtain the claimant's agreement.

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- (2) The claimant must comply with a request by the respondent to undergo, at the respondent's expense, either or both of the following:
 - (a) a medical examination by a doctor to be selected by the claimant from a panel of at least 3 doctors with appropriate qualifications and experience in the relevant field nominated by the respondent in the request;
 - (b) an assessment of cognitive, functional or vocational capacity by an expert to be selected by the claimant from a panel of at least 3 experts with appropriate qualifications and experience in the relevant field nominated by the respondent in the request.
- (3) However, a claimant is not obliged to undergo an examination or assessment under this section if it is unreasonable or unnecessarily repetitious.
- (4) If 3 doctors or experts with appropriate qualifications and experience in the relevant field are not available for inclusion on a panel under subsection (2), the number on the panel may be reduced to 2.

68 Respondent to give documents etc to claimant

- (1) A respondent must give a claimant—
 - (a) copies of the following in the respondent's possession that are directly relevant to a matter in issue in the claim:
 - (i) reports and other documents about the accident claimed to have given rise to the personal injury to which the claim relates;
 - (ii) reports about the claimant's medical condition or prospects of rehabilitation;
 - (iii) reports about the claimant's cognitive, functional or vocational capacity; and

- (b) if asked by the claimant—
 - (i) information that is in the respondent's possession about the circumstances of, or the reasons for, the accident; or
 - (ii) if the respondent is an insurer of a person for the claim—information that can be found out from the insured person for the claim about the circumstances of, or the reasons for, the accident.
- (2) The respondent must give the copies mentioned in subsection (1) (a)—
 - (a) within the period prescribed under the regulations (or, if no period is prescribed, within 1 month after the day the respondent receives a complying notice of claim); and
 - (b) to the extent that a report or other document mentioned in subsection (1) (a) comes into the claimant's possession later, within 7 days after the day it comes into the claimant's possession.
- (3) The respondent must respond to a request under subsection (1) (b) within the period prescribed under the regulations (or, if no period is prescribed, within 1 month after the day the request is received).
- (4) If a claimant requires information given by a respondent under this section to be verified by statutory declaration, the respondent must verify the information by statutory declaration.
- (5) If a respondent fails, without proper reason, to comply fully with this section, the respondent is liable for costs to the claimant resulting from the failure.

69 Respondent to give documents etc to contributor

- (1) A respondent must give a contributor added by the respondent copies of the following that are in the respondent's possession:
 - (a) reports and other documents about the accident claimed to have given rise to the personal injury to which the claim relates;
 - (b) reports about the claimant's medical condition or prospects of rehabilitation;
 - (c) reports about the claimant's cognitive, functional or vocational capacity;
 - (d) reports about the claimant's person injury and of any consequent disabilities;
 - (e) if applicable, information about the medical treatment and rehabilitation services the claimant has sought or obtained;
 - (f) information about the claimant's medical history, as far as it is relevant to the claim, and any other claims for damages for personal injury made by the claimant;
 - (g) information about the claimant's claim for past and future economic loss;
 - (h) information about any claim known to the respondent for gratuitous services consequent on the claimant's personal injury.
- (2) The respondent must give the copies—
 - (a) within the period prescribed under the regulations (or, if no period is prescribed, within 1 month after the day the respondent gives a contribution notice to the contributor); and

- (b) to the extent that a report or other document or information mentioned in subsection (1) comes into the respondent's possession later, within 7 days after the day it comes into the respondent's possession.

70 Contributor to give documents to respondent

- (1) A contributor must give the respondent who added the contributor copies of reports and other documents about the accident claimed to have given rise to the personal injury to which the claim relates that are in the contributor's possession.
- (2) The contributor must give the copies—
- (a) within the period prescribed under the regulations (or, if no period is prescribed, within 1 month after the day the contributor is added as a contributor); and
- (b) to the extent that a report or other document mentioned in subsection (1) comes into the respondent's possession later, within 7 days after the day it comes into the respondent's possession.

71 Alternative provision if more than 200 pages

- (1) In this section:
- relevant section* means any of the following sections:
- section 68 (Respondent to give documents etc to claimant)
 - section 69 (Respondent to give documents etc to contributor)
 - section 70 (Contributor to give documents to respondent).
- (2) This section applies to the extent that a relevant section requires a person (the *disclosing person*) to give copies of reports or other documents or information (*relevant material*) to someone else and the total number of pages of the copies exceeds 200 pages.

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8 Uncommenced amendments

- (3) Within the time the disclosing person would, apart from this section, be required to give relevant material to someone else under the relevant section, the disclosing person need only offer the other person a reasonable opportunity to inspect the material.
- (4) If the other person, whether on inspection or otherwise, by written notice given to the disclosing person, requires the disclosing person to give the other person copies of some or all of the relevant material, the disclosing person must comply with the requirement within—
 - (a) if the total number of pages does not exceed 200—1 month after the day the requirement is made; or
 - (b) in any other case—1 month after the day the other person pays 50 cents for each page by which the total number of pages exceeds 200 pages.

Note If, under a provision of an Act or statutory instrument, an act is required to be done, the obligation to do the act continues until it is done (see Legislation Act, s 152).

Part 5.4 Other provisions—pre-court procedures

72 Nondisclosure of documents etc—client legal privilege

- (1) A party is not obliged to disclose a document or information under this chapter if the document or information is protected by client legal privilege.
- (2) However, an investigative report, medical report or report relevant to the claimant's rehabilitation must be disclosed even though otherwise protected by client legal privilege.
- (3) The regulations may prescribe exceptions to subsection (2).

- (4) If a report mentioned in subsection (2) is required to be disclosed, it may be disclosed with the omission of passages containing only statements of opinion.
- (5) In this section:
investigative reports does not include a document prepared in relation to an application for, an opinion on or a decision about indemnity against the claim from the Territory.

73 Nondisclosure of documents etc—suspected fraud

- (1) If a respondent has reasonable grounds to suspect a claimant of fraud, the respondent may apply to the court for approval to withhold from disclosure under this chapter documents or information that—
- (a) would alert the claimant to the suspicion; or
 - (b) could help further the fraud.
- (2) The application may be made without notice to the claimant.
- (3) If the court gives approval on application under subsection (1), the respondent may withhold from disclosure the documents or information in accordance with the approval.

74 Offence not to disclose particular material

A respondent must not withhold information or documents from disclosure under this chapter if the withholding is not—

- (a) permitted under this chapter; or
- (b) approved by the court.

Maximum penalty: 100 penalty units.

75 Consequences of failure to give document

- (1) This section applies if a party fails to comply with a provision of this chapter requiring the party to disclose a document to another party.
- (2) The document cannot be used by the party in a later court proceeding based on the claim, or the deciding of the claim, unless the court orders otherwise.
- (3) If the document comes to the other party's knowledge, the document may be used by the other party.

76 Privilege generally for documents etc

The information, reports and other documents given or disclosed under this chapter are protected by the same privileges as if disclosed in a proceeding in the Supreme Court.

77 No requirement to give documents etc if already in other party's possession

This chapter does not require a party to give a document or other information to another party if the document or information is already in the possession of the other party.

78 Court's power to enforce compliance with pt 5.2 and pt 5.3

- (1) If a party (the *first party*) fails to comply with a duty imposed under part 5.2 or part 5.3, the court may, on the application of a party to whom the duty is owed, order the first party to take stated action to remedy the noncompliance within a time stated by the court.
- (2) The court may make consequential or ancillary orders, including orders about costs.

79 Need for urgent proceeding

- (1) The court, on application by a claimant, may give leave to the claimant to begin a proceeding in the court for damages based on a liability for personal injury despite noncompliance with this chapter if the court is satisfied there is an urgent need to begin the proceeding.
- (2) The order giving leave may be made on conditions the court considers appropriate having regard to the circumstances of the case.
- (3) If leave is given, the proceeding begun by leave is stayed until the claimant complies with this chapter or the proceeding is discontinued or otherwise ends.
- (4) However, the proceeding is not stayed if—
 - (a) the court is satisfied that—
 - (i) the claimant is suffering from a terminal condition; and
 - (ii) the trial of the proceeding should be expedited; and
 - (b) the court orders the proceeding be given priority in the allocation of a trial date.
- (5) If, under subsection (4), the proceeding is not stayed, this chapter (other than this section) does not apply in relation to the personal injury.

80 False or misleading statements

- (1) A person commits an offence if—
 - (a) the person makes a statement in a notice, response or other document given under this chapter; and
 - (b) the person does so knowing that the statement—
 - (i) is false or misleading; or

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- (ii) omits anything without which the statement is misleading.

Maximum penalty: 100 penalty units, imprisonment for 1 year or both.

- (2) Subsection (1) (b) (i) does not apply if the statement is not false or misleading in a material particular.
- (3) Subsection (1) (b) (ii) does not apply if the omission does not make the statement misleading in a material particular.
- (4) A person commits an offence if—
 - (a) the person makes a statement in a notice, response or other document given under this chapter; and
 - (b) the person is reckless about whether the statement—
 - (i) is false or misleading; or
 - (ii) omits anything without which the statement is misleading.

Maximum penalty: 50 penalty units, imprisonment for 6 months or both.

- (5) Subsection (4) (b) (i) does not apply if the statement is not false or misleading in a material particular.
- (6) Subsection (4) (b) (ii) does not apply if the omission does not make the statement misleading in a material particular.

23 New part 14.2*insert***Part 14.2 Costs in damages claims if no reasonable prospects of success****186 Definitions for pt 14.2**

In this part:

court includes a tribunal or arbitrator.

provable facts, in relation to a lawyer—a fact is *provable* in relation to a lawyer only if the lawyer believes on reasonable grounds that the material then available to the lawyer provides a proper basis for claiming the fact.

reasonable prospects of success—

- (a) a claim has *reasonable prospects of success* if there are reasonable prospects of damages being recovered on the claim; and
- (b) a defence has *reasonable prospects of success* if there are reasonable prospects of the defence defeating the claim or leading to a reduction in the damages recovered on the claim.

187 Application of pt 14.2

- (1) This part applies despite any obligation of the lawyer to act in accordance with the instructions or wishes of the client.
- (2) This part does not apply to legal services provided by a lawyer in relation to a claim for damages at any time before the lawyer gives the certification required under section 188 for the claim.
- (3) Also, this part does not apply to a claim for damages if the court considers that it is in the interests of justice for the claim to be continued and makes an order to that effect.

188 Certificate that claim or defence has reasonable prospects of success

- (1) This section applies to a lawyer who is providing legal services on a claim for damages, or in defence of a claim for damages.
- (2) The lawyer must not sign a pleading in relation to the claim unless the lawyer has filed in the court a certificate stating that the lawyer believes, on the basis of provable facts and a reasonably arguable view of the law, that the claim or defence has reasonable prospects of success.
- (3) Contravention of subsection (2) by a lawyer is not an offence but can be professional misconduct or unsatisfactory professional conduct under the *Legal Practitioners Act 1970*, part 8 (Discipline).
- (4) The regulations may make provision in relation to the certificate mentioned in subsection (2), including, for example, about the form of the certificate.

Note An example is part of the Act, is not exhaustive and may extend, but does not limit, the meaning of the provision in which it appears (see Legislation Act, s 126 and s 132).

189 Costs order against lawyer acting without reasonable prospects of success

- (1) If the court in which a pleading has been signed in relation to a claim for damages considers that legal services were provided by a lawyer for a client on the claim, or in defence of the claim, without the claim or defence having reasonable prospects of success, the court may (on its own initiative or on the application of a party to the proceeding) make either or both of the following orders:
 - (a) an order directing the lawyer to repay to the client (or to pay) all or part of the costs that the client has been ordered to pay to another party;
 - (b) an order directing the lawyer to indemnify a party other than the client against all or part of the costs payable by that party.

- (2) The Supreme Court may, on its own initiative or on the application of a party to the action, make any order that the court considers necessary for this section.
- (3) An application for an order under this section cannot be made after the court concerned (or a taxing officer) has made a final decision about the costs payable in the action.
- (4) A lawyer is not entitled to demand, recover or accept from a client any part of the costs for which the lawyer is directed to indemnify a party under an order under this section.

190 Onus on lawyer to show facts provided reasonable prospects of success

- (1) For this part, it must be presumed that legal services were provided for a client by a lawyer on a claim for damages, or in defence of a claim for damages, without the claim or defence having reasonable prospects of success if—
 - (a) the trial court hearing the action finds that the facts established by the evidence before the court do not form the basis for a belief on reasonable grounds that the claim or defence had reasonable prospects of success; or
 - (b) the Supreme Court (if it is not the trial court) is satisfied, because of a finding, or the judgment, of the trial court, that the facts established by the evidence before the trial court do not form the basis for a belief on reasonable grounds that the claim or defence had reasonable prospects of success.
- (2) The lawyer can rebut the presumption by establishing that, when the legal services were provided, there were provable facts that provided a basis for a belief on reasonable grounds that the claim or defence had reasonable prospects of success.

Endnotes

8 Uncommenced amendments

- (3) For the purpose of rebutting the presumption, a lawyer may disclose information or a document despite client legal privilege (including any duty of confidentiality to a client) if—
- (a) the client is the client for whom the legal services were provided; or
 - (b) the client consents to the disclosure; or
 - (c) the court is satisfied that the disclosure is necessary for the lawyer to rebut the presumption.

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