

## Chapter 3 – Tort Law

### I-Study

In this chapter you learned about tort law. A tort is a private wrong committed by one person against another. The person who commits a tort is called a tortfeasor. Torts can be intentional or unintentional. The major intentional torts against people are assault, battery, false imprisonment, defamation, invasion of privacy, and intentional infliction of emotional distress. The major intentional torts against property are trespass, conversion, nuisance, and disparagement.

An unintentional tort is called negligence. Negligence is when one person carelessly injures another. A suit for negligence must prove four elements: duty of care, breach of duty, proximate cause, and actual harm. According to the doctrine of strict liability, those who engage in ultra-hazardous activities will be held liable for any injury or damage that occurs because of that activity, regardless of intent or degree of care.

### I-Quiz

1. A private wrong committed by one person against another is called
  - A. a tort.
  - B. a crime.
  - C. a penalty.
2. Telling lies about someone in writing is called
  - A. libel.
  - B. slander.
  - C. breach of contract.
3. Trespass is a tort against
  - A. people.
  - B. property.
  - C. the government.
4. The link between the negligent conduct and the injury is called
  - A. breach of duty.
  - B. proximate cause.
  - C. actual harm.

## **Answer Key**

- 1. A**
- 2. A**
- 3. B**
- 4. B**