

MOCK TRIAL SCRIPT

Business Law

Yates v. Harris

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NOTE: This script is intended as an introduction to mock trials for business law classes. It is not a complete or actual courtroom case. It may not wholly represent the legal system and it is not intended as a factual guide for civil cases. It is also not intended to be used for any purpose other than an introductory educational experience for students in business law classrooms.

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Yates v. Harris

Characters:

Honorable Terry Linford--Judge
Paul Alvarez--Bailiff
Karen Yates—Plaintiff
Blake Ross—Attorney for the Plaintiff
Nancy Lewis—Attorney for the Defendant
Steve Harris—Defendant
Sharon Jones—Landlord
Nathan Young—Dish Installer
Linda Paulsen—Roommate
Ted Evans--Mechanic

8 – 12 people—Jury Members

Bailiff: Will the court please come to order, for the case of Yates v.Harris—the Honorable Judge Terry B. Linford presiding. Please rise.

People stand while the judge walks in and takes the bench.

Bailiff: Please be seated. (Audience sits.)

Judge: Is the plaintiff ready to proceed?

Mr. Ross: Ready Your Honor

Judge: Is the defense ready?

Ms. Lewis: Yes, Your Honor.

Judge: Mr. Ross, do you wish to present an opening statement?

Mr. Ross: Yes

Judge: Proceed.

Mr. Ross: The plaintiff will prove that Steve Harris, the defendant in this case, first made an error in judgment by acting in a negligent and careless manner when he decided to make an unauthorized change to his rental home. His selfish actions caused extensive damage to Ms. Yates vehicle and other serious financial injury. Then he failed to act in a safe or prudent manner, causing financial and emotional injury to my client. Mr. Harris cannot undo his actions, but he should have to take responsibility and compensate Ms. Yates for her losses. Thank you.

Judge: Ms. Lewis, do you have an opening statement?

Ms. Lewis: Yes I do.

Judge: Proceed.

Mr. Lewis: My client does not dispute that some damage was done to the plaintiff's vehicle. However, the damage was not the fault of Mr. Harris. We will prove that the plaintiff was at least partially at fault for the damage to her vehicle and that the other claims for damages are unsubstantiated and baseless. This lawsuit is totally without merit. The plaintiff is just seeking to get money from my client for what was totally an innocent mistake.

Judge: The plaintiff may call the first witness.

Mr. Ross: We call Karen Yates. (Karen Yates takes the stand.)

Mr. Ross: State your name and occupation for the record.

Ms. Yates: Karen Yates, store clerk.

Mr. Ross: What is your address, Ms. Yates?

Ms. Yates: 2488 Cobblestone.

Mr. Ross: And where does the defendant, Mr. Harris live?

Ms. Yates: 2484 Cobblestone. We rent houses next door to each other.

Mr. Ross: On the afternoon of August 12, when did you return home?

Ms. Yates: About 3 p.m. It was a Saturday and I had been doing some shopping.

Mr. Ross: And did you see the defendant at that time?

Ms. Yates: Yes I did. As I got out of my car with a sack of groceries, I saw he was on the roof of the house next door.

Mr. Ross: What was he doing on the roof?

Ms. Yates: Apparently he was trying to move the television satellite dish.

Mr. Ross: Then what happened?

Ms. Yates: All of the sudden, I hear him sliding and shouting and I look up and he is hanging onto the side of the roof and the dish is hurling off the roof right toward me. He actually dropped the dish from the top of the roof next door. What was he thinking? He could have killed somebody.

Mr. Ross: Did the dish hit you?

Ms. Yates: No, I got out of the way at the last second, but it scared me to death. I had to jump into the grass by the driveway to avoid getting killed! I was so scared, I couldn't even breathe.

Mr. Ross: What did the dish hit?

Ms. Yates: My car.

Mr. Ross: What damage was done to the vehicle?

Ms. Yates: The windshield was broken. The roof and the hood were both smashed. The hood collapsed into the car, so there was mechanical damage to the engine and the radiator. The front seat upholstery was ripped, the dash was totally banged up, and the stereo was ruined.

Mr. Ross: Did you get estimates for the car damage?

Ms. Yates: I did.

Mr. Ross: What was the lowest estimate to fix the car?

Ms. Yates: \$8,956.00

Mr. Ross: Why didn't you just call your insurance?

Ms. Yates: I did call, but I only have the liability coverage required by state law and it doesn't cover damage from flying satellite dishes.

Mr. Ross: What else was damaged?

Ms. Yates: As I mentioned, I was out shopping that day. I had just purchased a flat screen television set. It was sitting in the back seat.

Mr. Ross: What happened to the TV?

Ms. Yates: Smashed.

Mr. Ross: What was the value of the television set?

Ms. Yates: I paid \$2,400 for it that morning.

Mr. Ross: Did you suffer other losses due to the negligent act of the defendant?

Ms. Yates: I sure did. I didn't have any way to get to work for two weeks while they were fixing my car so I lost a week's wages, which is about \$900. The next week I scraped together the money to rent a car and that cost \$200, but I had to get back to work.

Mr. Ross: How long did it take to get your car fixed?

Ms. Yates: Over two weeks—and to be honest, it still isn't the same. I don't think it runs quite the same and the paint doesn't look right, but I can't afford a new car. I am still trying to pay the bill for the repairs.

Mr. Ross: You also have a hospital bill. What is that regarding?

Ms. Yates: When I jumped to the lawn to keep from getting hit by the dish, I cut my hand and had to get stitches. I had to go to the emergency room and the bills for the emergency room, x-rays, doctor bills, and the antibiotics came to \$3,614.00

Mr. Ross: That all adds up to about \$17,000 in damages, yet you are suing the defendant for \$67,000. Why the additional amount?

Ms. Yates: The whole experience was so upsetting to me. I had to go to the hospital. I was in shock. I was terrified. My hand has a permanent scar from the cut which will always be a reminder of that horrible experience. I am still dealing with the effects of that day.

Mr. Ross: Thank you, Ms. YatesYour witness.

Ms. Lewis: Ms. Yates, did you know the defendant prior to this incident?

Ms. Yates: I had seen him a couple of times, but we weren't friends.

Ms. Lewis: Do you recall an incident regarding a garden hose?

Ms. Yates: Yes, one day I came home from work and he was washing his car on his front lawn, which is not a problem, except he was using my hose and my water from my yard.

Ms. Lewis: Did this make you angry?

Ms. Yates: I was ticked off, yes.

Ms. Lewis: Angry enough to get back at him through this lawsuit?

Ms. Yates: That has nothing to do with this. Then he was just a jerk. Now he is a jerk who smashed my car!

Judge: Ms. Yates, please refrain from calling the defendant names.

Ms. Yates: Sorry your honor.

Judge: You may continue your questioning, counselor.

Ms. Lewis: Do you usually park where you did that afternoon?

Ms. Yates: Not always.

Ms. Lewis: Why did you park there that time?

Ms. Yates: There were some boxes in my carport, and this is close to the side door so I could unload my stuff.

Ms. Lewis: So that is not your designated parking spot?

Ms. Yates: No, but people park there all the time—my friends, even Steve parks there sometimes.

Ms. Lewis: Ms. Yates, did you see my client on the roof that day?

Ms. Yates: I noticed him up there.

Ms. Lewis: You noticed him on the roof, and yet you parked there anyway?

Ms. Yates: I didn't see him until I got out of the car, but even though he was on the roof, I didn't think he was going to drop a dish bomb on me and my car. How would I know he would do that?

Ms. Lewis: Isn't it true that you dislike the defendant and you are just trying to get all the money you can from him and are willing to lie to get it?

Mr. Ross: Objection, your honor.

Judge: Sustained. Be careful, Ms. Lewis.

Ms. Lewis: Yes, your honor. Ms. Yates, did you tell a co-worker that you were going to "take that idiot Steve for all he's worth even if I have to lie and cheat to do it"?

Ms. Yates: I called Steve an idiot, but I didn't say anything about money. I am not lying either. I don't want any more than what I need to pay my bills and compensate me for my suffering.

Ms. Lewis: Nothing further.

Judge: You may step down, Ms. Lewis. Mr. Ross, call your next witness.

Mr. Ross: The plaintiff calls Linda Paulsen. (Linda Paulsen takes the stand.)

Mr. Ross: Ms. Paulsen, what is your relationship to the plaintiff?

Ms. Paulsen: We are roommates at 2488 Cobblestone.

Mr. Ross: Were you with the defendant when this incident occurred?

Ms. Paulsen: I was in the house when she pulled in, but I heard this terrible crash noise and ran out to see what happened.

Mr. Ross: And what did you see?

Ms. Paulsen: The first thing I noticed was Karen lying on the lawn holding her arm and crying in pain. I ran toward her and saw that her hand was bleeding.

Mr. Ross: Then what did you do?

Ms. Paulsen: I ran back into the house for a towel for Karen's hand.

Mr. Ross: When did you notice the damage to Karen's car?

Ms. Paulsen: Well, I walked back out with the towel and looked over to the parking area and, holy cow, the car hood was smashed, there was glass from the windshield everywhere, and there was a mangled satellite dish half in the car and half on top. It was wild!

Mr. Ross: Ms. Paulsen, tell us what happened next.

Ms. Paulsen: The landlord showed up and some other neighbors and somebody called the police. They said it was a civil matter and didn't arrest anybody or anything. They told people to call their insurance companies and offered to call an ambulance, but instead, I drove Karen to the emergency room to get some stitches.

Mr. Ross: How would you describe Karen's state of mind that day and in the days after she was hurt?

Ms. Lewis: Objection, witness is not a psychological expert.

Judge: Sustained. Rephrase the question, Mr. Ross.

Mr. Ross: What did you observe about Karen's behavior after the accident?

Ms. Paulsen: She seemed to be a bit in shock at first, then she started to cry—I don't know if it was her hand hurting or looking at her car and her new television set all smashed. She was obviously in pain and they gave her a prescription for a pain killer at the hospital as well as an antibiotic.

Mr. Ross: What about the days following?

Ms. Paulsen: She was upset about finding a way to work, she seemed distraught about her car, her bills, and her injury. She didn't sleep very well for weeks.

Mr. Ross: Thank you Linda, your witness.

Ms. Lewis: Have you ever heard your roommate talk about my client, Steve Harris?

Ms. Paulsen: Not really. After the accident, she was pretty angry with him and said he was a moron, but that's obviously true.

Judge: Just answer the question, Ms. Paulsen, not give an opinion.

Ms. Lewis: Did Karen Yates offer to pay your half of the rent next month if she wins this case?

Ms. Paulsen: Yes, but that's just because I took care of her after this happened—not because she's paying me to say this.

Ms. Lewis: I see. That's all.

Judge: You're excused. Mr. Ross, do you have any other witnesses?

Mr. Ross: Yes, the plaintiff calls Nathan Young. (Nathan Young takes the stand.)

Mr. Ross: Mr. Young, what is your occupation?

Mr. Young: I am an installer for DigiDish Television.

Mr. Ross: Was the dish on top of the defendant's rental home a DigiDish?

Mr. Young: Yes, we installed it about a year ago for Mr. Harris, with the permission of his landlord, the owner of the home.

Mr. Ross: Was the dish installed properly at that time?

Mr. Young: Yes, our records show it was installed and that the dish was working properly over the last 10 months.

Mr. Ross: Did Mr. Harris contact DigiDish recently?

Mr. Young: Yes, he called requesting we make a service call because he complained of poor reception. He said a tree in the front of the house was blocking his signal.

Mr. Ross: What did your office do?

Mr. Young: We suggested he trim the tree. When he refused, we set up an appointment for our service people to come to his home to check it out.

Mr. Ross: When was the appointment scheduled?

Mr. Young: We were supposed to come out the Thursday following the accident.

Mr. Ross: Do you ever suggest or recommend that people move their own dish?

Mr. Young: Absolutely not. These dishes are heavy for one thing, and you need to be trained to install a dish correctly.

Mr. Ross: Our contract clearly states that it is unacceptable to alter, move, or damage a dish. They are not the property of the homeowner or the renter, they are leased to the person as long as they pay for monthly service.

Mr. Ross: What happened to the dish after it fell off the roof?

Mr. Young: The dish was permanently damaged. We removed it, cancelled Mr. Harris' service, and billed him for the dish.

Mr. Ross: Thank you.

Judge: Does the defense have any questions for this witness?

Ms. Lewis: Yes, Your Honor. Mr. Young, how many dishes does your company install in a given year?

Mr. Young: Hundreds, maybe thousands.

Ms. Lewis: And in the past year, how many have been dropped off a roof or caused that type of damage.

Mr. Young: None that I know of.

Ms. Lewis: So these dishes are generally really safe for technicians to move?

Mr. Young: Yes.

Ms. Lewis: So you would see this as just a fluke accident.

Mr. Young: Yes. But . . .

Ms. Lewis: That's all, thank you.

Judge: You're excused. . . Mr. Ross, call your next witness.

Mr. Ross: The plaintiff calls Ted Evans. (Mr. Evans takes the stand.) Mr. Evans, what is your occupation.

Mr. Evans: I fix cars.

Mr. Ross: Did you fix the plaintiff's car?

Mr. Evans: Yes, both the mechanical problems and the body work were done at my shop.

Mr. Ross: Would you describe the damage.

Mr. Evans: That car was smashed. It was like a meteor fell on it or something. There was damage to the roof, hood, the windshield, the radiator, and the engine.

Mr. Ross: How much was your bill?

Mr. Evans: The same as the estimate....just under \$9,000.

Mr. Ross: Were you able to fix the damage completely.

Mr. Evans: We did the best we could, but after a car gets mashed that bad, you can't make it like new.

Mr. Ross: Thank you. Your witness, Ms. Lewis.

Ms. Lewis: Mr. Evans, would you say that the car was in poor condition before the incident?

Mr. Ross: Objection, opinion.

Judge: Sustained. Please rephrase the question.

Ms. Lewis: How would you describe the condition of the automobile in question before the incident?

Mr. Evans: It was an older car, and wasn't in great shape, but it ran ok.

Ms. Lewis: Was there previous body damage?

Mr. Evans: There were some dings and a couple of small dents that were there before the dish fell on it.

Ms. Lewis: So the dish didn't cause all the damage to the car that you repaired.

Mr. Evans: Not all, but most.

Ms. Lewis: And this car may have already had some mechanical problems?

Mr. Evans: Maybe, but from what I could tell it was running pretty well before this happened.

Ms. Lewis: But you can't be sure that the mechanical problems were all due to the dish falling on the car.

Mr. Evans: Not completely sure, I guess.

Ms. Lewis: Thank you, Mr. Evans.

Judge: The witness is excused. Does the plaintiff have any other witnesses?

Mr. Ross: No, your honor.

Judge: Then we will proceed with the defendant's case. Ms. Lewis, call your first witness.

Ms. Lewis: The defense calls Sharon Jones. (Ms. Jones takes the stand.) Ms. Jones, what is your relationship to the plaintiff and the defendant?

Ms. Jones: I am their landlord. I own the small group of rental houses in that subdivision.

Ms. Lewis: Do you carry insurance on the property?

Ms. Jones: I do, but it doesn't cover negligent acts on the part of my tenants.

Ms. Lewis: Do you allow Mr. Harris to do repairs on the home he rents?

Ms. Jones: Yes. In fact, he is quite handy and has done some other repairs for me in the complex.

Ms. Lewis: And do you find him to be a capable and careful repair person?

Ms. Jones: In my experience he has been very capable.

Ms. Lewis: Did you have any problem with him being on the roof and moving the cable dish?

Ms. Jones: I didn't care.

Ms. Lewis: Do you provide television service for your tenants?

Ms. Jones: No, I leave that up to them and they can have a dish or cable or whatever.

Ms. Lewis: Did Steve Harris ask your permission to cut down the tree that was blocking his dish?

Ms. Jones: He did.

Ms. Lewis: What did you tell him?

Ms. Jones: I told him no, and to call the cable company back.

Ms. Lewis: Is the place where Ms. Yates parked her car that day her assigned parking spot?

Ms. Jones: No. She is assigned a parking space on the other side of her house.

Ms. Lewis: Is that area supposed to be used for parking?

Ms. Jones: I know people park there sometimes, but Ms. Jones is supposed to park her car in the covered parking on the other side.

Ms. Lewis: Thank you.

Judge: Mr. Ross, do you have questions for this witness?

Mr. Ross: Yes, your honor.

Judge: Proceed.

Mr. Ross: Ms. Jones, the area is not marked as a no parking zone, is it?

Ms. Jones: No. It's really not marked for anything.

Mr. Ross: To your knowledge, has the defendant, Mr. Harris, ever parked there himself?

Ms. Jones: I think he has, but it's not his assigned space either. It really isn't meant as a parking place.

Mr. Ross: Did you go to the rental houses on the day of this awful occurrence?

Ms. Jones: I live nearby and I got there just a few minutes after it happened.

Mr. Ross: Was the dish still on the car?

Ms. Jones: Yes.

Mr. Ross: Did you see Karen?

Ms. Jones: She was sitting on the grass.

Mr. Ross: Did you see her hand injury?

Ms. Jones: Not really, but she did have a towel on it, and it looked like it was bleeding a little. Then her roommate took her to see about it.

Mr. Ross: Did you say anything to the defendant?

Ms. Jones: I talked to him.

Mr. Ross: What did you say?

Ms. Jones: Something like "Steve, what were you thinking?" But.....I really think it was just an accident and Karen is overplaying it.

Mr. Ross: How long has Ms. Yates been your tenant at 2488 Cobblestone?

Ms. Jones: About two years.

Mr. Ross: Has she ever been late with the rent?

Ms. Jones: No.

Mr. Ross: Has she ever tried to get you to pay for anything extra or do anything unethical in regard to her rental agreement?

Ms. Jones: No.

Mr. Ross: So you have no basis to question her integrity, do you?

Ms. Jones: I guess not.

Mr. Ross: Thank you, Ms. Jones. (Ms. Jones steps down.)

Judge: Call your next witness, Ms. Lewis.

Ms. Lewis: We call the defendant, Steve Harris. (Steve Harris takes the stand.) Mr. Harris, how are you today.

Mr. Harris: Not too good, it's not fun being sued by your neighbor.

Ms. Lewis: I am sure it isn't. Now Mr. Harris, explain what you were doing on the roof that day.

Mr. Harris: My television just didn't work and there was a big game on the next day. I had called the dish company several times and they just wouldn't come and fix it. They told me to cut down the tree.

Ms. Lewis: Did you do that?

Mr. Harris: No, the landlord wouldn't let me.

Ms. Lewis: So what did you do?

Mr. Harris: I figured if I moved the dish to another spot on the roof, it would get a better signal away from that big tree.

Ms. Lewis: Have you done anything like this before?

Mr. Harris: Sure, I'm pretty handy and I have been on the roof repairing shingles and cleaning gutters.

Ms. Lewis: So what happened?

Mr. Harris: It was just a freak accident. I started to slip, so instinctively I grabbed on the roof to keep from falling, but I couldn't hold onto the dish at the same time and it fell off the side of the roof. I didn't intend for anything bad to happen.

Ms. Lewis: Do you think this accident was all your fault?

Mr. Harris: No, Karen shouldn't have parked there. It's not her assigned spot. And I yelled so she would get out of the way.

Ms. Lewis: Did you have the opportunity to see the plaintiff's car prior to this accident?

Mr. Harris: Yes, it really is a hunk of junk. There were scratches and dents in it already, and it needed a paint job. A lot of the damage was already there.

Ms. Lewis: Did you try to work with the plaintiff?

Mr. Harris: Yeah, at first I asked her if she would need a ride and she said she would find one herself.

Ms. Lewis: Did you talk to her about the damage to her car?

Mr. Harris: Yes, I told her I would pay for half of the car repair, which was more than generous I thought as it was her fault, too, but she wouldn't take any of the responsibility herself and said she would see me in court.

Ms. Lewis: Since the accident, have you noticed the plaintiff around the neighborhood?

Mr. Harris: Yes, several times.

Ms. Lewis: And does she seem different or limited in any way?

Mr. Harris: Not that I have noticed. She seems like the same old neighbor to me.

Ms. Lewis: Did you mean to cause damage or hurt anyone in any way that day?

Mr. Harris: Absolutely not. It was just an accident... It could happen to anybody.

Ms. Lewis: Thank you.

Judge: Do you have any questions for this witness, Mr. Ross?

Mr. Ross: I do, thanks your honor. Mr. Harris, you admit that you dropped the dish from the roof?

Mr. Harris: Yes, accidentally.

Mr. Ross: Are you a professional dish installer?

Mr. Harris: No.

Mr. Ross: Did you have permission from Digi Dish to remove or reinstall the dish?

Mr. Harris: No, not really.

Mr. Ross: But you decided to move it anyway?

Mr. Harris: No one would help me, and something needed to be done. It didn't look that complicated. I've done similar things before.

Mr. Ross: And did you drop the dish and did the dish hit the plaintiff's car?

Mr. Harris: Yes, but it shouldn't have been parked there.

Mr. Ross: Have you ever parked in that spot yourself?

Mr. Harris: Yes, but I know I am not supposed to.

Mr. Ross: Did anything come falling out of the sky and hit your car when you were parked there?

Mr. Harris: Of course not.

Mr. Ross: So a reasonable person would not expect that?

Ms. Lewis: Objection.

Judge: Sustained, next question Mr. Ross.

Mr. Ross: Were you hurt?

Mr. Harris: Scraped up a bit, but not too bad.

Mr. Ross: So you were hurt and so was the plaintiff?

Mr. Harris: Yes, but I didn't think it was that bad.

Mr. Ross: Did you see the plaintiff's hand?

Mr. Harris: I saw it was bleeding, but I didn't look at it. I think it was just a minor cut.

Mr. Ross: But you didn't see it?

Mr. Harris: No, she had it wrapped in a towel.

Mr. Ross: Did you know she was driven to the hospital emergency room?

Mr. Harris: Yes.

Mr. Ross: And you have seen the bill?

Mr. Harris: Yes.

Mr. Ross: So obviously she was hurt worse than you were.

Mr. Harris: I suppose so.

Mr. Ross: Were you upset that day?

Mr. Harris: Of course, I almost fell off a roof.

Mr. Ross: Do you think everyone was upset, including the plaintiff?

Mr. Harris: I guess so.

Mr. Ross: Was the plaintiff crying?

Mr. Harris: Yes.

Mr. Ross: Did you try to comfort her?

Mr. Harris: Yes, but she was hysterical and told me to leave her alone.

Mr. Ross: So she was very upset?

Mr. Harris: I guess so.

Mr. Ross: Why didn't you wait for the cable company?

Mr. Harris: I wanted to get it moved before the game the next day.

Mr. Ross: Why didn't you get someone to help you move the dish?

Mr. Harris: I didn't think I needed help.

Mr. Ross: As you think about it, would you do the same thing again?

Mr. Harris: Probably not.

Mr. Ross: Looking back, do you feel you made some mistakes that day?

Mr. Harris: I guess, but accidents happen and this one is not ALL my fault.

Mr. Ross: Bottom line....did you drop that dish off the roof that day?

Mr. Harris: Yes.

Mr. Ross: No more questions.

Judge: Ms. Lewis, do you have any more witnesses?

Ms. Lewis: No, Your Honor.

Judge: Ms. Lewis, do you have a closing argument?

Ms. Lewis: Yes.

Judge: Proceed.

Ms. Lewis: This was an accident. Accidents happen. Mr. Harris was hurt, too. There is no insurance for either of these people, and Mr. Harris shouldn't have to burden the whole cost. Ms. Yates wasn't supposed to be parked there. She has to take some of the responsibility for this. My client does not feel that these damages are reasonable or fair. Ladies and Gentlemen of the jury, please use your good judgment and fairness to see that this was just an accident and my client is not responsible for these damages. Thank you.

Judge: Mr. Ross, do you have a closing argument?

Mr. Ross: I do, thank you, Your Honor.

Judge: Proceed.

Mr. Ross: Ladies and gentlemen of the jury—yes, this **was** an accident, an accident caused by the negligence of the defendant. Steve Harris was negligent. He was not careful and he caused this injury because of it. Mr. Harris did not have the skill, the training, or the permission to move the satellite dish. He did not ask someone to help him. He just didn't act in a careful manner and because of his carelessness, my client was hurt—financially, physically, and emotionally. Ms. Harris did nothing wrong. She came home from the grocery store—that's it. When a person accidentally hits someone with their car, they are liable for the damage even though it is an accident. When a person hurts another person, under the law they need to pay for the damage they cause. I believe that Mr. Harris did not mean for this to happen...but it did because of his negligence and lack of care. Please do the right thing and make it fair for Karen Yates. Thank you.

Judge: Ladies and Gentlemen of the jury. Negligence is the absence of reasonable care. If you find the defendant negligent, you may award damages you see fit to award. The damages asked for are as follows:

\$9,000 for damage to the car
\$2,400 for damage to the television set inside the car
\$3,600 for hospital bills
\$1,800 for lost wages
\$200 for a rental car
\$50,000 for pain and suffering

You are to decide if there was negligence on the part of the defendant and, if so, what amount of damages you will award the plaintiff.

Bailiff, take the jury to the jury room to deliberate and let me know when you have a judgment.

Bailiff: Yes, Your Honor.

(The jury deliberates and returns with a judgment.)