### IDJI 2.20 – Definition of negligence

INSTRUCTION NO. \_\_\_\_

When I use the word "negligence" in these instructions, I mean the failure to use ordinary care in the management of one's property or person. The words "ordinary care" mean the care a reasonably careful person would use under circumstances similar to those shown by the evidence. Negligence may thus consist of the failure to do something which a reasonably careful person would do, or the doing of something a reasonably careful person would not do, under circumstances similar to those shown by the evidence. [The law does not say how a reasonably careful person would act under those circumstances. That is for you to decide.]

Comment:

The bracketed words may be omitted when specific instructions defining standard of care, such as statutory duties, are included.