SCO Grp v. Novell Inc Doc. 787 Att. 3

EXHIBIT C



Superior Court of Delaware
Online Civil Pattern Jury Instructions, Complete & Annotated
2000 Edition
11. INTENTIONAL TORTS - Defamatory/Privacy Torts

Defamation - Defense of a Conditional Privilege § 11.17

DEFAMATION -- DEFENSE OF A CONDITIONAL PRIVILEGE

I have determined, as a matter of law, that [defendant's name] was privileged to publish false and defamatory communications. But a person with this privilege may not abuse it. You must determine whether [defendant's name] abused [his/her/its] privilege. If you find that [he/she/it] did, you may return a verdict in favor of [plaintiff's name] and against [defendant's name].

The privilege that applies to [defendant's name] is [__state privilege__]. This privilege is abused, however, if [defendant's name] made or published the false and defamatory communication intentionally, that is, with knowledge of its falsity; or recklessly, that is, disregarding whether it was true or false. The privilege is also abused when asserted outside [defendant's name]'s performance of [his/her/its] duties or functions that give rise to the privilege.

{Comment: Examples of such conditional privileges include: Communications among persons with a common interest in a particular subject, such as work-related matters; intercommunications among immediate family members; good-faith communications intended to prevent a crime or to apprehend a criminal.}

Source:

Burr v. Atlantic Aviation, Del. Supr., 348 A.2d 179 (1975); Klein v. Sunbeam Corp., Del. Supr., 94 A.2d 385 (1953); Battista v. Chrysler Corp., Del. Super., 454 A.2d 286 (1982). See also Restatement of Torts § 593-598A (1965).

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