

Reasonable man doctrine

Reasonable man doctrine or standard. The standard which one must observe to avoid liability for negligence is the standard of the reasonable man under all the circumstances, including the foreseeability of harm to one such as the plaintiff.

Reasonable belief. "Reasonable belief" or "probable cause" to make an arrest without a warrant exists when facts and circumstances within arresting officer's knowledge, and of which he had reasonably trustworthy information, are sufficient in themselves to justify a man of average caution in belief that a felony has been or is being committed. *State v. Johnson*, 249 La. 950, 192 So.2d 135, 141. See also **Probable cause**; **Reasonable and probable cause**.

The words "reasonably believes" are used throughout the Restatement, Second, Torts to denote the fact that the actor believes that a given fact or combination of facts exists, and that the circumstances which he knows, or should know, are such as to cause a reasonable man so to believe. Sec. 11.

Reasonable and probable cause. Such grounds as justify any one in suspecting another of a crime, and placing him in custody thereon. It is a suspicion founded upon circumstances sufficiently strong to warrant reasonable man in belief that charge is true. *Henry v. U. S.*, 361 U.S. 98, 80 S.Ct. 168, 4 L.Ed.2d 134; *Com. v. Stewart*, 358 Mass. 747, 267 N.E.2d 213.

Reasonable cause. As basis for arrest without warrant, is such state of facts as would lead man of ordinary care and prudence to believe and conscientiously entertain honest and strong suspicion that person sought to be arrested is guilty of crime. *People v. Newell*, 272 Cal.App.2d 638, 77 Cal.Rptr. 771, 773.

Reasonable grounds. Reasonable grounds within statute authorizing arrest without warrant by officer who has reasonable grounds for believing that person to be arrested has committed criminal offense means substantially probable cause. *Beyer v. Young*, 32 Colo.App. 273, 513 P.2d 1086, 1088.

Reasonable suspicion. Reasonable suspicion which will justify officer in stopping defendant in public place is quantum of knowledge sufficient to induce ordinarily prudent and cautious man under circumstances to believe criminal activity is at hand. *People v. Johnson*, 56 A.D.2d 766, 392 N.Y.S.2d 294, 295.

Reasonable force. That degree of force which is not excessive and is appropriate in protecting oneself or one's property. When such force is used, a person is justified and is not criminally liable, nor is he liable in tort.

Reasonable care. That degree of care which a person of ordinary prudence would exercise in the same or similar circumstances. *Pampas v. Cambridge Mut. Fire Ins. Co.*, La.App., 169 So.2d 200, 201; *Pierce v. Horvath*, 142 Ind.App. 278, 233 N.E.2d 811, 815. Due care under all the circumstances. Failure to exercise such care is ordinary negligence. See also **Care**.

Reasonable doubt. Reasonable doubt which will justify acquittal is doubt based on reason and arising from evidence or lack of evidence, and it is doubt which reasonable man or woman might entertain, and it is not fanciful doubt, is not imagined doubt, and is not doubt that juror might conjure up to avoid performing unpleasant task or duty. *U. S. v. Johnson*, C.A. N.Y., 343 F.2d 5, 6. Reasonable doubt is such a doubt as would cause prudent men to hesitate before acting in matters of importance to themselves. *U. S. v. Chas. Pfizer & Co., Inc.*, D.C.N.Y., 367 F.Supp. 91, 101. See also **Beyond a reasonable doubt**; **Doubt**.

Reasonable inference rule. The trier of fact may consider as evidence not only the testimony and real evidence presented at trial but also all inferences which may be reasonably drawn, though they are not necessary inferences.

Reasonable notice. While the term is relative, *State v. Boles*, 5 Conn.Cir. 22, 240 A.2d 920, it is notice which is plainly calculated to apprise the appropriate person of its contents. See also **Notice**.

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