

# How to Read a Case

Hard copies of Reading Assignments 01 are available at the front of the room. Please pick up a copy.

# In-Class Exercise

# The Questions

Why should this defendant be held liable or not held liable?

What remedy does the defendant owe Ms. Hammontree?

What would you like to know that wasn't in the fact pattern? Why?

# The Driver

Why should this defendant be held liable or not held liable?

What remedy does the defendant owe Ms. Hammontree?

What would you like to know that wasn't in the fact pattern? Why?

# The Doctor

Why should this defendant be held liable or not held liable?

What remedy does the defendant owe Ms. Hammontree?

What would you like to know that wasn't in the fact pattern? Why?

# The Car Manufacturer

Why should this defendant be held liable or not held liable?

What remedy does the defendant owe Ms. Hammontree?

What would you like to know that wasn't in the fact pattern? Why?

# Today's Agenda

Hammontree v. Jenner

ENORMOUS DISCLAIMER!



# Before you begin:

1. Connect with your purpose.
2. Discern your immediate goal.

# Why take this preliminary step?

Connecting to a purpose makes the work easier and more fulfilling.

Discerning a goal allows you to focus your attention on what matters.

**There is no escape.**

**Stress is a very bad, no good  
motivator.**

**Purpose connects our daily work  
with our deepest values.**

**Goals determine what we pay attention to.**

# Goals when reading a case

1. Grasp the internal logic and mechanics of the case.
2. Synthesize within a broader context.

# Why read cases?



# Gaps, Contradictions, and Ambiguity

# Internal logic and mechanics of a case

1. Procedural posture
2. Legal question(s)
3. Relevant facts
4. Holding
5. Reasoning(s) behind the holding

# Aside: How to take notes

# Internal logic and mechanics of a case

1. Procedural posture
2. Legal question(s)
3. Relevant facts
4. Holding
5. Reasoning(s) behind the holding

# Holding

# Three lines of reasoning

1. Precedent binds us.
2. Analogy to products liability falls apart.
3. Analogous authority also binds us.