



Chapter 8 Assignments

ASSIGNMENT 1: Palsgraf Case

Review the following scenario and answer the question below:

The plaintiff, Helen Palsgraf, was waiting at a Long Island Railroad station in August 1924 while taking her daughters to the beach. While they waited on the platform, two men attempted to board the train before theirs as it started to pull out of the station. The men raced for the train. One made it without incident, as the doors had not closed. The other man, carrying a package, leapt aboard with the help of a platform guard pushing him from behind while a member of the train's crew pulled him into the car. The man dropped the package, which contained fireworks. The package exploded. Either the explosion or the resulting panic caused a large coin-operated scale on the platform to hit Mrs. Palsgraf. After the incident, she began to stammer. She sued the railroad, arguing that its employees had been negligent while assisting the man, and that she had been harmed by the neglect. (*Palsgraf v. Long Island Railroad Co.*)

Answer the following questions in 200-250 words: Do you think the railroad employees' actions were the cause of Mrs. Palsgraf's injury? Why or why not?

ASSIGNMENT 2: Carnival Cruise and Emotional Distress

In 2013, [Lisa Williams sued Carnival Cruise Lines](#).

Read the attached complaint Ms. Williams filed against Carnival Cruise. In the complaint, you will find a description of the event as presented by the plaintiff, the passenger on the cruise ship. Assume that this description is correct and that the cruise line did not dispute it. The passenger claimed that the cruise line had been negligent and that its negligence resulted in the damage/injury.



If you were a juror and had to decide whether or not the passenger was entitled to some sort of compensation, you would have to make two decisions:

Was the cruise line negligent?

If it was negligent, what kind of compensation (money or other) should the passenger receive?

How would you decide and why? Your response should be around 200-250 words.