

Libel Law

■ Plaintiff Must Prove:

- Defamation
- Identification
- Publication
- Falsity
- Injury
- Fault
 - Negligence (private citizens)
 - Actual malice or reckless disregard for the truth (public figures)

■ Media Defenses:

- Truth
- Fair-Report Privilege
- Fair Comment and Criticism



Privacy Lawsuits

■ Four Kinds of Invasion of Privacy

- Intruding on a person's seclusion or solitude
- Giving publicity to private facts
- Placing a person in a false light
- Appropriating a person's name or likeness for one's own benefit

■ Major Media Defenses in Privacy Lawsuits

- Newsworthiness: is the public interested?
- Public places: did event occur in public or private place?
- Public records: info found in public record document cannot be deemed private
- Public proceedings: fair/accurate reporting from official meetings, trials, etc.
- Consent: permission given to use audio/video/photos?

