

Table of Contents

Chapter 1: Traditional Common Law Immunity and the Origins of Texas Dram Shop Liability	1
1-1 TRADITIONAL IMMUNITY	1
1-2 <i>EL CHICO V. POOLE</i>	2
1-3 THE STATUTE	4
1-4 COMMON LAW OR STATUTORY CAUSE OF ACTION.....	6
1-5 COMMENTARY	7
Chapter 2: The Statutory Cause of Action Section 2.02 Texas Alcoholic Beverage Code	9
2-1 “PROVIDER” DEFINED	9
2-2 SECTION 2.02(A).....	10
2-3 SECTION 2.02(B)	10
2-4 THE MEANING OF “OBVIOUS INTOXICATION” AND AT THE TIME THE PROVISION OCCURRED.”	15
Chapter 3: Traditional Common Law Social Host Immunity	19
3-1 TRADITIONAL IMMUNITY	19
3-2 COMMON LAW SOCIAL HOST IMMUNITY AFTER 1987 AND BEFORE 2005	19
3-3 THE ESTABLISHMENT OF CIVIL LIABILITY FOR CERTAIN SOCIAL HOSTS.....	21
Chapter 4: Statutory Social Host Liability, Texas Alcoholic Beverage Code Section 2.02c.....	23
4-1 THE STATUTE	23
4-2 THE EFFECTIVE DATE.....	24
4-3 THE PRACTICAL APPLICATION OF THE STATUTE	24

Table of Contents

Chapter 5: The Exclusivity of the Cause of Action, Texas Alcoholic Beverage Code Section 2.03	27
5-1 THE STATUTE	27
5-2 ATTEMPTS TO CIRCUMVENT THE EXCLUSIVITY	28
5-3 THE PRACTICAL EFFECT OF THE EXCLUSIVE REMEDY PROVISION	29
Chapter 6: The Recovery of Exemplary Damages.....	35
6-1 <i>STEAK & ALE OF TEXAS, INC. V. BORNEMAN</i>	35
6-2 TEXAS CIVIL PRACTICE AND REMEDIES CODE 41.005 AND <i>WILSON V. KWG</i>	36
6-3 WRONGFUL DEATH AND THE TEXAS CONSTITUTION.....	39
Chapter 7: The Safe Harbor Affirmative Defense, Texas Alcoholic Beverage Code Section 106.14	45
7-1 THE STATUTE	45
7-2 THE FIRST PRONG AND THE EVIDENCE	46
7-3 THE SECOND PRONG AND THE EVIDENCE	47
7-4 THE THIRD PRONG AND THE EVIDENCE BEFORE <i>PARKER</i>	47
7-5 <i>20801 V. PARKER</i>	52
7-6 COMMENTARY— <i>PARKER</i> SHIFTS THE BURDEN OF PROOF AND STANDS TRADITIONAL NOTIONS OF AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES ON THEIR HEAD	53
7-7 USING THE TEXAS ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CODE RULES TO DEFEAT THE SAFE HARBOR DEFENSE	54
7-8 DEFEATING THE SAFE HARBOR DEFENSE BY SUING THE INDIVIDUAL SERVER IN ADDITION TO THE LICENSED ESTABLISHMENT	56
Chapter 8: <i>Duenez</i> and the Proportionate Responsibility Act: Application to Dram Shop Cases.....	59
8-1 BACKGROUND OF THE <i>DUENEZ</i> CASE	59
8-2 THE COURT'S PRETRIAL RULING	60
8-3 THE TRIAL RESULT	61
8-4 THE COURT OF APPEALS AFFIRMS	62
8-5 THE SUPREME COURT ISSUES THREE OPINIONS	63
8-6 THE PRACTICAL EFFECT OF THE ULTIMATE HOLDING AND THE COMPARATIVE RESPONSIBILITY ACT	64

Table of Contents

8-7 COMMENTARY64
8-8 THE DRUNK DRIVER DEFENDANT AS
A RESPONSIBLE THIRD PARTY65

Chapter 9: Evaluating the Potential Dram Shop Case

From the Plaintiff's Perspective.....69
9-1 THIRD PARTY CASES69
9-2 FIRST PARTY CASES.....71
9-3 SECOND PARTY CASES.....73

Chapter 10: Pre-Litigation Investigation and Preparation75

10-1 WITNESS STATEMENTS AND EXAMINATION
UNDER OATH: EYEWITNESSES AND SERVERS75
10-2 CONTACT WITH THE DRUNK DRIVER'S
CRIMINAL DEFENSE LAWYER:
NON-DISCOVERABLE WITNESS INTERVIEW80
10-3 ONSITE INVESTIGATION AND THWARTING
THE SAFE HARBOR DEFENSE PRE-LITIGATION81
10-4 POLICE REPORT AND BLOOD ALCOHOL
CONCENTRATION82
10-5 FILING SUIT AGAINST THE DRUNK DRIVER IN
THE CASE OF A SECOND PARTY OR THIRD PARTY
ACTION PRIOR TO SUING THE ESTABLISHMENT83
10-6 PRE-LITIGATION INVESTIGATION ON
BEHALF OF THE ESTABLISHMENT84
10-7 AVOIDING THE MISTAKES MOST OFTEN MADE
BY PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEYS85

Chapter 11: Preparation of Plaintiff's Original Petition and

Strategic Considerations From the Plaintiff's Perspective91
11-1 PARTIES TO BE NAMED
IN THE PETITION AND WHY91
11-2 REQUEST FOR DISCLOSURE.....93
11-3 REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION96
11-4 INTERROGATORIES99
11-5 STRATEGIC CONSIDERATIONS FROM
THE PLAINTIFF'S PERSPECTIVE103

Chapter 12: The Filing of a Contemporaneous Complaint

With the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Code.....109
12-1 INTRODUCTION.....109
12-2 COLLATERAL ESTOPPEL CONSIDERATIONS.....111

Table of Contents

Chapter 13: Defendant's Original Answer and Strategic Considerations for the Defense	115
13-1 INTRODUCTION.....	115
13-2 THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE PLAINTIFF	116
13-3 NO EXEMPLARY DAMAGES	117
13-4 DESIGNATION OF RESPONSIBLE THIRD PARTY—DO IT PREEMPTIVELY TO NULLIFY LATER NONSUIT BY THE PLAINTIFF.....	118
13-5 ASSERT THE SAFE HARBOR DEFENSE? MAYBE	120
13-6 STRATEGIC CONSIDERATIONS FOR THE DEFENSE.....	121
13-7 THE SEATBELT DEFENSE IN DRAM SHOP CASES	124
 Chapter 14: Written Discovery.....	127
14-1 TO THE PLAINTIFF.....	127
14-1:1 Sample List of Items to Include in Request for Production to Plaintiff(s).....	128
14-2 INTERROGATORIES	132
14-2:1 Sample Interrogatories for Defense Counsel.....	132
14-3 TO THE DEFENDANT.....	135
14-3:1 Sample List of Items to Include in Request for Production to Defendant Provider	135
14-3:2 Sample List of Items to Include in Request for Production to Defendant Bartender	141
14-3:3 Sample List of Items to Include in Request for Production to Defendant Drunk Driver or Intoxicated Person.....	142
14-4 SAMPLE INTERROGATORIES FOR PLAINTIFF COUNSEL	144
14-4:1 Sample Interrogatories for Individual Defendants	148
14-4:2 Sample Interrogatories for Drunk Driver Litigant.....	152
 Chapter 15: Depositions.....	157
15-1 DEPOSING THE FIRST PARTY PLAINTIFF	157
15-2 DEPOSING THE SECOND PARTY PLAINTIFF	161
15-3 DEPOSING THE THIRD PARTY PLAINTIFF.....	163
15-4 DEPOSING THE DRUNK DRIVER.....	165
15-5 DEPOSING THE DEFENSE WITNESSES	170

Table of Contents

Chapter 16: Toxicology and Expert Testimony	175
16-1 BACKGROUND	175
16-2 RETROGRADE EXTRAPOLATION	176
16-3 THE DUBOWSKI CHART AND EXPECTED SIGNS OF INTOXICATION AT VARIOUS LEVELS OF BLOOD ALCOHOL CONCENTRATION	178
16-4 METABOLIC AND PHYSIOLOGIC TOLERANCE TO ALCOHOL	179
16-5 DEPOSING THE PLAINTIFF'S TOXICOLOGIST	180
16-6 THE RETENTION AND UTILIZATION OF THE DEFENSE TOXICOLOGIST.....	183
16-7 THE SELECTION AND USE OF LIABILITY EXPERTS, IF ANY	186
16-7:1 Liability Experts for the Plaintiff	186
16-7:2 Liability Experts for the Defense	189
16-8 DEPOSING THE DEFENSE TOXICOLOGIST.....	190
 Chapter 17: Motion in Limine.....	195
17-1 THE PLAINTIFF'S MOTION IN LIMINE	195
17-2 THE DEFENDANT'S MOTION IN LIMINE	202
 Chapter 18: Jury Selection.....	209
18-1 JURY SELECTION IN THE TRIAL OF DRAM SHOP CASES.....	209
18-2 THE PLAINTIFF'S VOIR DIRE AND JURY SELECTION.....	211
18-3 VOIR DIRE AND JURY SELECTION FOR THE DEFENSE	218
 Chapter 19: Trying the Dram Shop Case to a Jury	223
19-1 TRYING THE PLAINTIFF'S CASE.....	223
19-2 TRYING THE DEFENDANT'S CASE	228
19-3 FINAL ARGUMENT FOR THE PLAINTIFF.....	235
19-4 FINAL ARGUMENT FOR THE DEFENSE	237
 Appendix: Forms	241
1:1 PLAINTIFF'S PETITION, SAMPLE A	243
1:2 PLAINTIFF'S PETITION, SAMPLE B.....	251
1:3 DEFENDANT'S MOTION TO TRANSFER VENUE AND ORIGINAL ANSWER	257

Table of Contents

1:4	DEFENDANT'S MOTION TO TRANSFER VENUE, ANSWER AND MOTION FOR LEAVE TO DESIGNATE RESPONSIBLE THIRD PARTY, SUBJECT THERETO	262
1:5	DEFENDANT'S ANSWER TO MULTIPLE PLAINTIFFS AND MOTION FOR LEAVE TO DESIGNATE RESPONSIBLE THIRD PARTY	268
1:6	PLAINTIFF'S OBJECTIONS TO DEFENDANT'S MOTION FOR LEAVE TO DESIGNATE RESPONSIBLE THIRD PARTY	275
1:7	DEFENDANT'S REPLY TO OBJECTION TO MOTION FOR LEAVE TO DESIGNATE RESPONSIBLE THIRD PARTY	280
1:8	REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION TO PLAINTIFF, SAMPLE A	286
1:9	REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION TO PLAINTIFF, SAMPLE B	293
1:10	REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION TO DRAM SHOP DEFENDANT	299
1:11	REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION TO DEFENDANT DRUNK DRIVER.....	307
1:12	INTERROGATORIES TO PLAINTIFF, SAMPLE A	312
1:13	INTERROGATORIES TO PLAINTIFF, SAMPLE B.....	318
1:14	INTERROGATORIES TO DRAM SHOP DEFENDANT	325
1:15	INTERROGATORIES TO DEFENDANT DRUNK DRIVER.....	330
1:16	DEFENDANT'S NO EVIDENCE MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT.....	335
1:17	DEFENDANT'S MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT	341
1:18	DEFENDANT'S TRADITIONAL AND NO EVIDENCE MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT	351
1:19	PLAINTIFF'S MOTION IN LIMINE.....	385
1:20	DEFENDANT'S MOTION IN LIMINE.....	392
1:21	DRAM SHOP JURY CHARGE (CHARGE OF THE COURT).....	399
1:22	DIRECT AND CROSS EXAMINATION OF PLAINTIFF'S LIABILITY EXPERT WITNESS AT TRIAL	417

Table of Contents

1:23 STAGES OF ACUTE ALCOHOLIC
INFLUENCE/INTOXICATION (DUBOWSKI) 577

Appendix: Texas Alcoholic Beverage Code 579

1 Section 2.02. Causes of Action 580

2 Section 2.03. Exclusivity of Statutory Remedy 581

3 Section 106.14. Actions of Employee..... 581

Table of Cases 585

Index 589

