#### Indemnities



D. C. Toedt III dc@toedt.com www.OnContracts.com/About





For a text version of these slides, see www.OnContracts.com/indemnities

#### INDEMNITIES, IN GENERAL

# What exactly *is* an indemnity obligation?

#### True or false:

The following is an acceptable conventional phrasing: *Alice hereby indemnifies Bob against any damage Bob might incur if it rains tomorrow*.

# Are indemnity obligations limited to third-party claims, as opposed to first-party claims?

# Is a "hold harmless" obligation any different?

# How does an *indemnity* relate to a *warranty*?

#### True or false:

IF: Alice agrees to indemnify Bob against damage arising from occurrence of Event X;
THEN: This reduces the risk to the parties associated with the (possible) occurrence of Event X.

Must a protected party prove negligence or other fault by the indemnifying party?

#### **FACTS:**

- 1. Alice's company is hiring Bob's company to do some work in her factory.
- 2. Alice's draft of the contract requires BobCo to indemnify AliceCo for any harm that might occur to any of his employees while at Alice's factory.

FILL IN THE BLANK: Alice should also consider inserting a provision requiring Bob to enter into and maintain this type of ancillary contract to make sure there is a pot of money available if necessary to support Bob's indemnity obligation.

Will a contractual indemnity be excluded from the indemnifying party's insurance coverage?

# Does an indemnity obligation extend to the protected party's own negligence?

# Do indemnity obligations extend beyond foreseeable, ordinary-course losses (etc.)?

# Is an indemnity obligation even a good idea?

### Should consequential damages, etc., be indemnified?

#### Must an indemnifying party carry insurance to cover the indemnity?

## Can liability for an indemnity obligation be limited?

#### Must an indemnifying party provide a defense against third-party claims?

#### DEFENSE OF CLAIMS

### How can a protected party invoke a defense obligation?

## What if the protected party doesn't timely ask for defense?

## What must an indemnifying party do to defend against a claim?

#### How much must an indemnifying party do to defend against a claim?

#### What if a protected person never *asks* for a claim defense?

#### What must a protected person do in its own defense?

#### Who pays for a protected person's cooperation in a claim defense?

Should an indemnifying party allow the protected party to conduct its own defense?

#### May a protected person engage its own counsel?

#### When may a protected person take over control of its defense?

#### Who should call the shots in settlement talks?

# Can an indemnifying party agree to a consent judgment?

#### What may a protected party admit or waive in the case?

#### May a protected person settle a defended claim?

### Can liability for a defense obligation be limited?

#### **Exercise**