Article Summaries

Vicarious liability: a case study in the failure of general principles?

Christine Beuermann

Prince Alfred College Inc v ADC [2016] HCA 37 stands as a cautionary tale for the increasingly prevalent search by courts and legal academics for disembodied general principles to guide the development of the law. This short article examines the lessons that can be drawn from the decision of the majority of the High Court of Australia in terms of the significance of the facts of decided cases to the development of the law of vicarious liability.

Solicitors and the scope of duty in the Supreme Court

Hugh Evans

The author argues that *BPE Solicitors v Hughes-Holland* provides some helpful clarification to the scope of duty principle. However, four major problems remain: the fate of *Aneco Reinsurance v Johnson & Higgs*; the status and applicability of the test of what loss would have been suffered if the information had been true; the valuation of information in very many solicitors' cases; and the burden of proof in relation to the scope of duty.