# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF RHODE ISLAND

THERESA SEPE, Plaintiff,

v.

RED ROBIN GOURMET BURGERS, INC., Defendant. C. A. No. 13-511-M

### JURY INSTRUCTIONS

## I. GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

Now that you have heard all of the evidence and the arguments of counsel, it is my job to instruct you on the law that is applicable to this case.

I will send a written copy of my instructions into the jury room.

### A. PROVINCE OF THE COURT AND JURY

It is your duty as jurors to follow the law as I shall state it to you. It is your duty to apply that law to the facts of the case as you determine those facts to be from the evidence in this case. You are not to single out one instruction alone as stating the law, but must consider the instructions as a whole.

You are not to be concerned with the wisdom of any rule of law stated by me.

Further, nothing I say in these instructions is to be taken as an indication that I have any opinion about the facts of the case. Also, nothing that I have said or done during the trial is to be taken as an indication that I have any opinion about the facts of the case. I do not. It is not my function to determine the facts, but rather it is your function to do so.

You must perform your duties as jurors without bias or prejudice as to any party. The law does not permit you to be governed by sympathy, prejudice, or public opinion. All parties --

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and the law -- expect that you will carefully and impartially consider all the evidence, follow the law as it is now being given to you, and reach a just verdict, regardless of the consequences.

This case should be considered and decided by you as an action between persons of equal standing in the community, of equal worth, and holding the same or similar stations of life. All parties are entitled to the same fair trial at your hands. All parties stand equal before the law, and are to be dealt with as equals in a court of justice.

### B. EVIDENCE IN THE CASE

The evidence from which you are able to decide what the facts are consists of: the sworn testimony of witnesses; the exhibits which have been received into evidence; and any facts to which the lawyers have agreed or stipulated.

In determining the facts in this case, you are to consider only the evidence that has been properly put before you. Evidence that the court admits in full is properly before you for your consideration; evidence that this court has stricken or refused to admit is not a proper subject for your deliberations and should not be given consideration by you. Admitted evidence will be available to you in the jury room for consideration during your deliberations.

It is the duty of counsel to protect the rights and interests of his client, and in the performance of that duty he freely may make objections to the admission of proffered evidence and should not, in any manner, be penalized for doing so.

The fact that the Court admitted evidence over objection should not influence you in determining the weight you should give such evidence. Nor should statements made by counsel, either for or against the admission of such evidence, influence your determination of the weight you will give the evidence, if admitted. In other words, you should determine the weight you

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