

N.Y. Pattern Jury Instr.--Civil 2:70

PJI 2:70 Proximate Cause—In General

An act or omission is regarded as a cause of an injury [*in bifurcated trial, substitute: accident or occurrence*] if it was a substantial factor in bringing about the injury [*in bifurcated trial, substitute: accident or occurrence*], that is, if it had such an effect in producing the injury [*in bifurcated trial, substitute: accident or occurrence*] that reasonable people would regard it as a cause of the injury [*in bifurcated trial, substitute: accident or occurrence*]. [*The remainder of the charge should only be provided where there is evidence of comparative fault or concurrent causes.*] There may be more than one cause of an injury [*in bifurcated trial, substitute: accident or occurrence*], but to be substantial, it cannot be slight or trivial. You may, however, decide that a cause is substantial even if you assign a relatively small percentage to it.