

Respondeat superior:

(Latin: "let the master answer")

Also called the "Master-Servant Rule."

Legal doctrine holding that an employer has **vicarious liability** (indirect liability) for the tortious acts of an employee performed within the scope of employment. Likewise, a principal may be held vicariously liable for the torts of an agent committed within the scope of their agency relationship. This is liability "without fault" of the principal or employer.

Generally, a principal is not liable for torts committed by an independent contractor unless the activity is "inherently dangerous."