



GRADES 9-12 | LESSON 9

ARKANSAS

GOOD SAMARITAN LAW

CRASH PREVENTION & EMERGENCY RESPONSE

GENERAL EMERGENCY AID (ARKANSAS CODE § 17-95-101)

Arkansas law protects people who voluntarily provide emergency assistance in good faith.

If someone renders emergency care at the scene of an accident or emergency without expecting compensation, they are generally protected from civil liability for ordinary negligence, provided they act in good faith. The protection does not apply in cases of gross negligence or willful misconduct.

EXAMPLES

- **Medical Professionals:** Healthcare professionals who provide emergency care in good faith and without compensation at the scene of an accident are immune from civil damages, barring gross negligence or willful misconduct.
- **General Public:** Non-medical bystanders are protected as long as they believe the person is in imminent danger, the assistance is a reasonable emergency procedure and they act as a “reasonable and prudent” person would under similar circumstances.

EXCEPTIONS

- Immunity does not cover reckless behavior, intentional harm or instances where the volunteer caused the initial danger. It also does not cover care provided in a hospital or medical facility.