

People v. Hall – Column-Style Case Brief Example

Court	Colorado Supreme Court
Year	2004
Procedural History	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Trial court dismissed the case for lack of probable cause• Prosecution appealed the dismissal• Appellate court opinion reversed the dismissal• Case was remanded for further proceedings
Facts	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Defendant was a former ski racer trained in ski safety• Defendant skied at a high rate of speed• Slope was steep and crowded• Defendant lost control and flew off a mogul• Defendant struck another skier• Collision caused death
Issue	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• How should Colorado law define recklessness• Was there probable cause that the defendant acted recklessly
Rule	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Recklessness requires conscious disregard of a substantial and unjustifiable risk• Conduct must represent a gross deviation from reasonable behavior
Holding	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Probable cause existed• Defendant's conduct demonstrated sufficient awareness and disregard of risk• Reckless manslaughter charge was supported
Reasoning	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Court relied on statutory definitions• Court compared recklessness with criminal negligence• Defendant's training was legally relevant• Speed and awareness of conditions supported conscious risk-taking
Disposition	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reversed• Remanded