

### **CV930 Easement by Necessity. Introduction.**

An easement by necessity arises when there is a transfer of property from one owner to another that results in a tract of land becoming landlocked.

[Plaintiff] and [Defendant] are adjoining landowners. [Plaintiff] asserts that because [his/her/its] property is completely landlocked, [he/she/it] should be granted an “easement by necessity” across [Defendant’s] property so that [Plaintiff] can get to or from [his/her/its] property from the [public road]. [Defendant] asserts that [Plaintiff] has no right to enter or use [Defendant’s] property to access [Plaintiff’s] property.

#### **References**

*Tschaggeny v. Union Pac. Land Res. Corp.*, 555 P.2d 277, 280 (Utah 1976).

*Abraham & Assocs. Trust v. Park*, 2012 UT App 173, ¶ 12, 282 P.3d 1027, 1030–31.

#### **Committee Notes**

The term “public road” is meant to be illustrative only and it may be appropriate to replace it with a more specific description in a given case.

### **CV931 Easement by Necessity. Elements of a claim for access to landlocked property.**

To succeed on this claim, [Plaintiff] must prove by clear and convincing evidence each of the following elements:

- (1) All of the property was once owned by a single landowner who then divided the land and transferred away one tract of land, creating a landlocked property; and
- (2) The easement is reasonably necessary to the enjoyment of the landlocked property.

#### **References**

*Morris v. Blunt*, 49 Utah 243, 161 P. 1127, 1132 (1916).

*Savage v. Nielsen*, 114 Utah 22, 31–33, 197 P.2d 117, 121–22 (1948).

*Tschaggeny v. Union Pac. Land Res. Corp.*, 555 P.2d 277, 280 (Utah 1976).

*Potter v. Chadaz*, 1999 UT App 95, ¶ 18, 977 P.2d 533, 538.

David A. Thomas & James H. Backman on Utah Real Property Law, Easement by Necessity, § 12.02(b)(2)(ii), at 341 (ed. 2021).

#### **Committee Notes**

This instruction applies to cases based solely upon a claim of an easement by necessity. Other easement claims will require proof of additional elements. *Tschaggeny v. Union Pac. Land Res. Corp.*, 555 P.2d 277, 280 (Utah 1976).