

**IC 34-15**

**ARTICLE 15. CAUSES OF ACTION: DEFAMATION,  
LIBEL, AND SLANDER**

**IC 34-15-1**

**Chapter 1. Pleadings in Actions for Libel or Slander**

**IC 34-15-1-1**

**Allegation; burden of proof**

Sec. 1. In an action for libel or slander, it is sufficient to state generally that the defamatory matter published or spoken was about the plaintiff. If the defendant denies the allegation, the plaintiff must prove at trial the facts showing that the defamatory matter was published or spoken about the plaintiff.

*As added by P.L.1-1998, SEC.10.*

**IC 34-15-1-2**

**Truth; mitigating circumstances; evidence**

Sec. 2. In an action for libel or slander, the defendant may allege:

- (1) the truth of the matter charged as defamatory; and
- (2) mitigating circumstances to reduce the damages;

and give either or both in evidence.

*As added by P.L.1-1998, SEC.10.*