



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE  
STATE OF IDAHO IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF KOOTENAI

STATE OF IDAHO,	)	
	)	
<i>Plaintiff,</i>	)	Case No. « <b>Case_Number</b> »
vs.	)	<b>VERDICT</b>
«DEFENDANT_NAME»,	)	
<i>Defendant.</i>	)	
_____	)	

We, the Jury, unanimously find the defendant, «**Defendant\_Name**»,

**COUNT I**

**(MARK ONLY ONE OF THE FOLLOWING VERDICTS)**

\_\_\_\_\_ **NOT GUILTY** of «**CrimeCt\_1**».

\_\_\_\_\_ **GUILTY** of «**CrimeCt\_1**».

**DATED** this \_\_\_\_\_ day of April, 2016.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Presiding Officer**

## INSTRUCTION NO. 1

Now that you have been sworn as jurors to try this case, I want to go over with you what will be happening. I will describe how the trial will be conducted and what we will be doing. At the end of the trial, I will give you more detailed guidance on how you are to reach your decision.

Because the state has the burden of proof, it goes first. After the state's opening statement, the defense may make an opening statement, or may wait until the state has presented its case.

The state will offer evidence that it says will support the charge against the defendant. The defense may then present evidence, but is not required to do so. If the defense does present evidence, the state may then present rebuttal evidence. This is evidence offered to answer the defense's evidence.

After you have heard all the evidence, I will give you additional instructions on the law. After you have heard the instructions, the state and the defense will each be given time for closing arguments. In their closing arguments, they will summarize the evidence to help you understand how it relates to the law. Just as the opening statements are not evidence, neither are the closing arguments. After the closing arguments, you will leave the courtroom together to make your decision. During your deliberations, you will have with you my instructions, the exhibits admitted into evidence and any notes taken by you in court.

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Judge

INSTRUCTION NO. 2

The Information charges «**CrimeCt\_1**» and alleges that the defendant, «**Defendant\_Name**», on or about the «**DateOfOffense**», in the County of Kootenai, State of Idaho, did \_\_\_\_\_.

To this charge the Defendant has pled not guilty.

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Judge

INSTRUCTION NO. 3

The Information in this case is of itself a mere accusation or charge against the defendant and does not of itself constitute any evidence of the defendant's guilt; you are not to be prejudiced or influenced to any extent against the defendant because a criminal charge has been made.

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Judge

#### INSTRUCTION NO. 4

Your duties are to determine the facts, to apply the law set forth in my instructions to those facts, and in this way to decide the case. In so doing, you must follow my instructions regardless of your own opinion of what the law is or should be, or what either side may state the law to be. You must consider them as a whole, not picking out one and disregarding others. The order in which the instructions are given has no significance as to their relative importance. The law requires that your decision be made solely upon the evidence before you. Neither sympathy nor prejudice should influence you in your deliberations. Faithful performance by you of these duties is vital to the administration of justice.

In determining the facts, you may consider only the evidence admitted in this trial. This evidence consists of the testimony of the witnesses, the exhibits offered and received, and any stipulated or admitted facts. The production of evidence in court is governed by rules of law. At times during the trial, an objection may be made to a question asked a witness, or to a witness' answer, or to an exhibit. This simply means that I am being asked to decide a particular rule of law. Arguments on the admissibility of evidence are designed to aid the Court and are not to be considered by you nor affect your deliberations. If I sustain an objection to a question or to an exhibit, the witness may not answer the question or the exhibit may not be considered. Do not attempt to guess what the answer might have been or what the exhibit might have shown. Similarly, if I tell you not to consider a particular statement or exhibit you should put it out of your mind, and not refer to it or rely on it in your later deliberations.

During the trial I may have to talk with the parties about the rules of law which should apply in this case. Sometimes we will talk here at the bench. At other times I will excuse you from the courtroom so that you can be comfortable while we work out any

problems. You are not to speculate about any such discussions. They are necessary from time to time and help the trial run more smoothly.

Some of you have probably heard the terms "circumstantial evidence," "direct evidence" and "hearsay evidence." Do not be concerned with these terms. You are to consider all the evidence admitted in this trial.

However, the law does not require you to believe all the evidence. As the sole judges of the facts, you must determine what evidence you believe and what weight you attach to it.

There is no magical formula by which one may evaluate testimony. You bring with you to this courtroom all of the experience and background of your lives. In your everyday affairs you determine for yourselves whom you believe, what you believe, and how much weight you attach to what you are told. The same considerations that you use in your everyday dealings in making these decisions are the considerations which you should apply in your deliberations.

In deciding what you believe, do not make your decision simply because more witnesses may have testified one way than the other. Your role is to think about the testimony of each witness you heard and decide how much you believe of what the witness had to say.

A witness who has special knowledge in a particular matter may give an opinion on that matter. In determining the weight to be given such opinion, you should consider the qualifications and credibility of the witness and the reasons given for the opinion. You are not bound by such opinion. Give it the weight, if any, to which you deem it entitled.

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Judge

## INSTRUCTION NO. 5

Under our law and system of justice, the defendant is presumed to be innocent.

The presumption of innocence means two things.

First, the state has the burden of proving the defendant guilty. The state has that burden throughout the trial. The defendant is never required to prove his or her innocence, nor does the defendant ever have to produce any evidence at all.

Second, the state must prove the alleged crime beyond a reasonable doubt. A reasonable doubt is not a mere possible or imaginary doubt. It is a doubt based on reason and common sense. It may arise from a careful and impartial consideration of all the evidence, or from lack of evidence. If after considering all the evidence you have a reasonable doubt about the defendant's guilt, you must find the defendant not guilty.

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Judge

INSTRUCTION NO. 6

If during the trial I may say or do anything which suggests to you that I am inclined to favor the claims or position of any party, you will not permit yourself to be influenced by any such suggestion. I will not express nor intend to express, nor will I intend to intimate, any opinion as to which witnesses are or are not worthy of belief; what facts are or are not established; or what inferences should be drawn from the evidence. If any expression of mine seems to indicate an opinion relating to any of these matters, I instruct you to disregard it.

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Judge

INSTRUCTION NO. 7

Do not concern yourself with the subject of penalty or punishment. That subject must not in any way affect your verdict. If you find the defendant guilty, it will be my duty to determine the appropriate penalty or punishment.

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Judge

INSTRUCTION NO. 8

If you wish, you may take notes to help you remember what witnesses said. If you do take notes, please keep them to yourself until you and your fellow jurors go to the jury room to decide the case. You should not let note-taking distract you so that you do not hear other answers by witnesses. When you leave at night, please leave your notes in the jury room.

If you do not take notes, you should rely on your own memory of what was said and not be overly influenced by the notes of other jurors. In addition, you cannot assign to one person the duty of taking notes for all of you.

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Judge

## INSTRUCTION NO. 9

It is important that as jurors and officers of this court you obey the following instructions at any time you leave the jury box, whether it be for recesses of the court during the day or when you leave the courtroom to go home at night.

First, do not talk about this case either among yourselves or with anyone else during the course of the trial. Not discussing this case with “anyone else” also means you cannot discuss this case with your family and friends. You must not communicate with anyone about this case in any way, and this includes use of your cell phone, by text message, by web page posting, or through email. You should keep an open mind throughout the trial and not form or express an opinion about the case. You should only reach your decision after you have heard all the evidence, after you have heard my final instruction and after the final arguments. You may discuss this case with the other members of the jury only after it is submitted to you for your decision. At that time, all such discussion should take place in the jury room.

Second, do not let any person talk about this case in your presence. If anyone does talk about it, tell them you are a juror on the case. If they won't stop talking, report that to the bailiff as soon as you are able to do so and do not tell any of your fellow jurors about what was said to you.

Third, during this trial do not talk with any of the parties, their lawyers or any witnesses. By this, I mean not only do not talk about the case, but do not talk at all, even if just to pass the time of day. In no other way can all parties be assured of the fairness they are entitled to expect from you as jurors.

Fourth, during this trial do not make any investigation of this case or inquiry outside of the courtroom on your own. Do not go any place mentioned in the testimony without an explicit order from me to do so. You must not consult any books, dictionaries, encyclopedias or any other source of information unless I specifically authorize you to do so. **You must not use the internet or any other tools of technology to in any way make an investigation of any aspect of this case. You must not attempt to find out any information from any source outside this courtroom.**

Fifth, do not read about the case in the newspapers. Do not listen to radio or television broadcasts about the trial. You must base your verdict solely on what is presented in court and not upon any newspaper, radio, television or other account of what may have happened.

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Judge

**INSTRUCTION NO. 10**

You have now heard all the evidence in the case. My duty is to instruct you as to the law.

You must follow all the rules as I explain them to you. You may not follow some and ignore others. Even if you disagree or don't understand the reasons for some of the rules, you are bound to follow them. If anyone states a rule of law different from any I tell you, it is my instruction that you must follow.

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Judge

INSTRUCTION NO. 11

As members of the jury it is your duty to decide what the facts are and to apply those facts to the law that I have given you. You are to decide the facts from all the evidence presented in the case.

The evidence you are to consider consists of:

1. Sworn testimony of witnesses;
2. Exhibits which have been admitted into evidence; and
3. Any facts to which the parties have stipulated.

Certain things you have heard or seen are not evidence, including:

1. Arguments and statements by lawyers. The lawyers are not witnesses. What they say in their opening statements, closing arguments and at other times is included to help you interpret the evidence, but is not evidence. If the facts as you remember them differ from the way the lawyers have stated them, follow your memory;
2. Testimony that has been excluded or stricken, or which you have been instructed to disregard;
3. Anything you may have seen or heard when the court was not in session.

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Judge

**INSTRUCTION NO. 16**

It is alleged that the crime charged was committed "on or about" a certain date. If you find the crime was committed, the proof need not show that it was committed on that precise date.

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Judge

## INSTRUCTION NO. 17

I have outlined for you the rules of law applicable to this case and have told you of some of the matters which you may consider in weighing the evidence to determine the facts. In a few minutes counsel will present their closing remarks to you, and then you will retire to the jury room for your deliberations.

The arguments and statements of the attorneys are not evidence. If you remember the facts differently from the way the attorneys have stated them, you should base your decision on what you remember.

The attitude and conduct of jurors at the beginning of your deliberations are important. It is rarely productive at the outset for you to make an emphatic expression of your opinion on the case or to state how you intend to vote. When you do that at the beginning, your sense of pride may be aroused, and you may hesitate to change your position even if shown that it is wrong. Remember that you are not partisans or advocates, but are judges. For you, as for me, there can be no triumph except in the ascertainment and declaration of the truth.

As jurors you have a duty to consult with one another and to deliberate before making your individual decisions. You may fully and fairly discuss among yourselves all of the evidence you have seen and heard in this courtroom about this case, together with the law that relates to this case as contained in these instructions.

During your deliberations, you each have a right to re-examine your own views and change your opinion. You should only do so if you are convinced by fair and honest discussion that your original opinion was incorrect based upon the evidence the jury saw and heard during the trial and the law as given you in these instructions.

Consult with one another. Consider each other's views, and deliberate with the objective of reaching an agreement, if you can do so without disturbing your individual

judgment. Each of you must decide this case for yourself; but you should do so only after a discussion and consideration of the case with your fellow jurors.

However, none of you should surrender your honest opinion as to the weight or effect of evidence or as to the innocence or guilt of the defendant because the majority of the jury feels otherwise or for the purpose of returning a unanimous verdict.

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Judge

**INSTRUCTION NO. 18**

The original instructions and the exhibits will be with you in the jury room. They are part of the official court record. For this reason please do not alter them or mark on them in any way.

You will each receive a copy of the instructions. The copies will be presented to you in booklet form.

The instructions are numbered for convenience in referring to specific instructions. There may or may not be a gap in the numbering of the instructions. If there is, you should not concern yourselves about such gap.

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Judge

**INSTRUCTION NO. 19**

You have been instructed as to all the rules of law that may be necessary for you to reach a verdict. Whether some of the instructions apply will depend upon your determination of the facts. You will disregard any instruction which applies to a state of facts which you determine does not exist. You must not conclude from the fact that an instruction has been given that the Court is expressing any opinion as to the facts.

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Judge

**INSTRUCTION NO. 20**

Upon retiring to the jury room, select one of you as a presiding officer, who will preside over your deliberations. It is that person's duty to see that discussion is orderly; that the issues submitted for your decision are fully and fairly discussed; and that every juror has a chance to express himself or herself upon each question.

In this case, your verdict must be unanimous. When you all arrive at a verdict, the presiding juror will sign it and you will return it into open court.

Your verdict in this case cannot be arrived at by chance, by lot, or by compromise.

If, after considering all of the instructions in their entirety, and after having fully discussed the evidence before you, the jury determines that it is necessary to communicate with me, you may send a note by the bailiff. You are not to reveal to me or anyone else how the jury stands until you have reached a verdict or unless you are instructed by me to do so.

A verdict form suitable to any conclusion you may reach will be submitted to you with these instructions.

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Judge