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Florida Standard Jury Instructions



Criminal Jury Instructions

Read FIRST: How to Use the Standard Instructions

HOME: Alerts & Pending Cases

Part 1 General Instructions

- 1 Instructions Before Trial
- 2 Instructions During Trial
- 3 Final Charge to Jury (includes reclassifications and defenses)
- 4 Supplemental Instructions

Part 2 Instructions on Crimes

- 5 Inchoate Crimes
- 6 Attempted Homicide
- 7 Homicide
- 8 Assault, Battery, Stalking, Culpable Negligence, and Violation of Injunctions
- 9 Kidnapping & False Imprisonment
- 10 Weapons Offenses
- 11 Sex Offenses
- 12 Arson & Criminal Mischief
- 13 Burglary & Trespass
- 14 Theft & Dealing in Stolen Property
- 15 Robbery
- 16 Child Abuse
- 17 Forgery & Worthless Checks
- 18 Perjury
- 19 Bribery
- 20 Fraud
- 21 Obstruction of Justice
- 22 Gambling
- 23 Prostitution
- 24 Obscenity
- 25 Drug Abuse & Contraband in Facilities
- 26 Racketeering
- 27 Escape
- 28 Transportation Offenses
- 29 Miscellaneous Crimes

Search the Site

Search

CRIMINAL Menu Links

Read Alerts & Pending Cases (Criminal Home) Go to Instructions How to Use the Standard Instructions Entire Document (including list of opinions): RTF Committee Members

CIVIL Menu Links

Go to Civil Jury Instructions
How to Use the Standard Instructions
Amendments: Recent and Pending
Entire Document: PDF and RTF
Public Comments
Former Civil Jury Instructions (Prereorg)
Book Conversion Table (rtf)
Committee Members
Civil Instructions Home

CONTRACT & BUSINESS Menu Links

Links

Go to Contract & Business Instructions How to Use the Standard Instructions Amendments: Recent and Pending Entire Document: PDF and RTF Public Comments Committee Members Contract & Business Instructions Home

JIMMY RYCE (Involuntary Civil Commitment) Menu Links

Go to Jimmy Ryce Instructions How to Use the Standard Instructions Entire Document: **RTF**

Part 3 Grand Jury Proceedings

30 Grand Jury Handbook

31 Grand Jury Instructions

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About Florida Jury Instructions

This web site contains standard jury instructions prepared by the Florida Supreme Court Standard Jury Instructions Committees and approved for publication by the Florida Supreme Court.

Please contact the relevant committee or staff person if you have questions or are interested in the work of the committee.

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25.2 SALE, PURCHASE, MANUFACTURE, DELIVERY, OR POSSESSION WITH INTENT TO SELL, PURCHASE, MANUFACTURE, OR DELIVER A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE

§ 893.13(1)(a), Fla. Stat.; § 893.13(2)(a), Fla. Stat.

Certain drugs and chemical substances are by law known as "controlled substances." (Specific substance alleged) is a controlled substance.

To prove the crime of (crime charged), the State must prove the following three elements beyond a reasonable doubt:

- 1. (Defendant) [sold] [manufactured] [delivered] [purchased] [possessed with intent to [sell] [manufacture] [deliver] [purchase]] a certain substance.
- 2. The substance was (specific substance alleged).
- 3. (Defendant) had knowledge of the presence of the substance.

Delivery of 20 Grams or Less of Cannabis without consideration is a misdemeanor. See § 893.13(3), Fla. Stat. If the State charges the felony of Delivery of More Than 20 Grams of Cannabis, the jury must make a finding as to the weight. Give if applicable.

If you find that (defendant) is guilty of Delivery of Cannabis, you must then determine if the State proved beyond a reasonable doubt that the cannabis weighed more than 20 grams.

Definitions. Give as applicable.

Cannabis. § 893.02(3), Fla. Stat.

See Comment section for medical marijuana.

Cannabis means all parts of any plant of the genus *Cannabis*, whether growing or not and the seeds thereof; and the resin extracted from any part of the plant; and every compound, manufacture, salt, derivative, mixture, or preparation of the plant or its seeds or resin.

Sell.

"Sell" means to transfer or deliver something to another person in exchange for money or something of value or a promise of money or something of value.

Manufacture. § 893.02(15)(a), Fla. Stat.

"Manufacture" means the production, preparation, propagation, compounding, cultivating, growing, conversion, or processing of a controlled substance, either directly or indirectly, by extraction from substances of natural origin, or independently by means of chemical synthesis, or by a combination of extraction and chemical synthesis, and includes any packaging of the substance or labeling or relabeling of its container.

Give if applicable.

The term "manufacture" does not include the preparation, compounding, packaging, or labeling of a controlled substance by:

- 1. A practitioner or pharmacist as an incident to his or her administering or delivering of a controlled substance in the course of his or her professional practice.
- 2. A practitioner, or by his or her authorized agent under the practitioner's supervision, for the purpose of, or as an incident to, research, teaching, or chemical analysis, and not for sale.

Deliver. § 893.02(6), Fla. Stat.

"Deliver" or "delivery" means the actual, constructive, or attempted transfer from one person to another of a controlled substance, whether or not there is an agency relationship.

Possession.

To prove (defendant) "possessed a substance," the State must prove beyond a reasonable doubt that [he] [she] a) knew of the existence of the substance and b) intentionally exercised control over that substance.

Give if applicable.

Control can be exercised over a substance whether the substance is carried on a person, near a person, or in a completely separate location. Mere proximity to a substance does not establish that the person intentionally exercised control over the substance in the absence of additional evidence. Control can be established by proof that (defendant) had direct personal power to control the substance or the present ability to direct its control by another.

Joint possession. Give if applicable.

Possession of a substance may be sole or joint, that is, two or more persons may possess a substance.

Affirmative defense: Lack of knowledge of illicit nature. Give if applicable. § 893.101(2) and (3), Fla. Stat.

Lack of knowledge of the illicit nature of a controlled substance is a defense to (crime charged).

You may but are not required to infer that (defendant) was aware of the illicit nature of the controlled substance if you find that [he] [she] possessed the controlled substance.

Give if applicable. See McMillon v. State, 813 So. 2d 56 (Fla. 2002).

You may but are not required to infer that a person who sells a controlled substance knows of its illicit nature.

If you are convinced beyond a reasonable doubt that (defendant) knew of the illicit nature of the controlled substance, and all of the elements of the charge have been proved, you should find [him] [her] guilty of (crime charged).

If you have a reasonable doubt on the question of whether (defendant) knew of the illicit nature of the controlled substance, you should find [him] [her] not guilty of (crime charged).

Lesser Included Offenses

SALE, PURCHASE, MANUFACTURE, DELIVERY OR POSSESSION WITH INTENT—			
893.13(1)(a) and (2)(a)			
CATEGORY ONE	CATEGORY TWO	FLA. STAT.	INS. NO.
*Possession of a		893.13(6)	25.7
Controlled			
Substance, if			
Possession With			
Intent is charged			
*Delivery of 20		893.13(3)	25.2
Grams or Less of			
Cannabis, if			
Delivery of More			
than 20 Grams of			
Cannabis is charged			
	Attempt, except when delivery is charged	777.04(1)	5.1

Comments

*The crime of Possession of a Controlled Substance is not a necessarily lesser-included crime of Manufacture of a Controlled Substance. *Anderson v. State*, 447 So. 2d 236 (Fla. 1st DCA 1983). Also, Possession of a Controlled Substance is not a necessary lesser-included offense of Sale of a Controlled Substance. *State v. McCloud*, 577 So. 2d 939 (Fla. 1991). It is unclear if the courts will determine that a person charged with Purchase or Delivery of a Controlled Substance is necessarily charged with Possession of a Controlled Substance.

If the State alleges the defendant possessed cannabis, in an amount more than 20 grams, with intent to sell, purchase, deliver, or manufacture the cannabis, there will be both a felony necessary lesser-included offense of simple possession and a misdemeanor lesser-included offense of simple possession. § 893.13(6)(b), Fla. Stat.

There is no crime of Attempted Delivery because the definition of "delivery" in § 893.03(6), Fla. Stat. includes the attempt to transfer from one person to another.

Starting in 2014, the Legislature passed laws pertaining to "medical cannabis" or "low-THC cannabis," which is excluded from the definition of "cannabis" in § 893.02(3), Fla. Stat.; is defined in § 381.986(1), Fla. Stat.; and must be manufactured, possessed, sold, purchased, delivered, distributed, or dispensed in conformance with § 381.986, Fla. Stat. A special instruction will be necessary in cases where a defendant relies on a cannabis-related prescription defense.

This instruction was adopted in 1981 and amended in 1989 [543 So. 2d 1205], 1997 [697 So. 2d 84], 2007 [969 So. 2d 245], 2014 [153 So. 3d 192], 2016 [191 So. 3d 291], 2017 [216 So. 3d 497], and 2019.