

N.C.P.I.-Crim. 208.72
ASSAULT BY [INFLICTING SERIOUS INJURY] [USING A DEADLY WEAPON]
IN THE PRESENCE OF A MINOR. MISDEMEANOR.
GENERAL CRIMINAL VOLUME
JUNE 2017
N.C. Gen. Stat. § 14-33(d)

208.72 ASSAULT BY [INFLICTING SERIOUS INJURY] [USING A DEADLY WEAPON] IN THE PRESENCE OF A MINOR. MISDEMEANOR.

NOTE WELL: This instruction is to be used for offenses occurring on or after December 1, 2015. See N.C. Gen. Stat. § 14-33(d).

The defendant has been charged with assault on the alleged victim by [inflicting serious injury] [using a deadly weapon] in the presence of a minor.

For you to find the defendant guilty of this offense, the State must prove four things beyond a reasonable doubt:

First, that the defendant assaulted the alleged victim by intentionally¹ (and without justification or excuse)² (*describe assault*).

Second, that the defendant [inflicted serious injury]³ [used a deadly weapon] upon the alleged victim.

Third, that the alleged victim is a person with whom the defendant has a personal relationship (*describe personal relationship*).⁴

And Fourth, that the defendant committed the assault in the presence of a minor⁵. A minor is any person under the age of 18 years who is [residing with] [under the care and supervision of] and who has a personal relationship with the [alleged victim] [defendant].

*NOTE WELL: If self-defense is an issue, use N.C.P.I.—Crim. 308.40 or 308.45, as appropriate.*⁶

If you find from the evidence beyond a reasonable doubt that on or about the alleged date, the defendant intentionally assaulted the alleged victim inflicting serious injury by (*describe assault*), (nothing else appearing) it would be your duty to return a verdict of guilty. If you do not so find or have a reasonable doubt as to one or more of these things, it would be your duty to return a verdict of not guilty.⁷

1 If a definition of intent is required, see N.C.P.I.—Crim. 120.10.

2 The parenthetical phrase should be used only where there is some evidence of justification or excuse, such as self-defense.

3 Serious injury may be defined as "such physical injury as causes great pain and suffering." See *S. v. Jones*, 258 N.C. 89 (1962), and *S. v. Ferguson*, 261 N.C. 558 (1964).

If there is evidence as to injuries which could not conceivably be considered anything but serious, the trial judge may instruct the jury as follows: "*Describe injury* would be a serious injury." *S. v. Johnson*, 320 N.C. 746, 751 (1987).

4 See *N.C. Gen. Stat.* § 50B-1(b). A "personal relationship" means a relationship wherein the parties involved:

(1) Are current or former spouses;

(2) Are persons of opposite sex who live together or have lived together;

(3) Are related as parents and children, including others acting in loco parentis to a minor child, or as grandparents and grandchildren. For purposes of this subdivision, an aggrieved party may not obtain an order of protection against a child or grandchild under the age of 16;

(4) Have a child in common;

(5) Are current or former household members;

(6) Are persons of the opposite sex who are in a dating relationship or have been in a dating relationship. For purposes of this subdivision, a dating relationship is one wherein the parties are romantically involved over time and on a continuous basis during the course of the relationship. A casual acquaintance or ordinary fraternization between persons in a business or social context is not a dating relationship.

5 See *N.C. Gen. Stat.* § 14-33(d)(3).

6 Including self-defense in the mandate is required by *S. v. Dooley*, 285 N.C. 158 (1974).

7 If there is to be instruction on lesser included offenses, the last phrase should be: ". . . you will not return a verdict of guilty of assault inflicting serious injury."