

222.32 INTERFERING WITH EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS.
MISDEMEANOR.

The defendant has been charged with interfering with an emergency communication.¹

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

First, that the defendant interfered²with an emergency communication³.

Second, that the defendant acted intentionally and with knowledge that the communication was an emergency communication.

And Third, that at the time the defendant was not making an emergency communication himself.

If you find from the evidence beyond a reasonable doubt that, on or about the alleged date, the defendant intentionally interfered with an emergency communication, that the defendant knew that the communication was an emergency communication, and that the defendant was not at the time making an emergency communication himself, 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.

1. The statute also makes it illegal for a person to interfere with a communications instrument or other emergency equipment with the intent to prevent an emergency communication.

2. "Intentional interference" is defined to include any "type of interference that makes it difficult or impossible to make an emergency communication or that conveys a false impression that emergency assistance is unnecessary when it is needed." Examples of illegal interference include removing, hiding, or disconnecting a communications instrument or other emergency equipment, disabling a theft-prevention alarm system, or providing false information to cancel an earlier call or otherwise falsely indicating that emergency assistance is no longer need when it is." G.S. 14-286.2(b1)(2).

3. "Emergency communication" is defined to include "communications to law enforcement agencies or other emergency personnel, or other individuals, relating or intending to relate that an individual is or is reasonably believed to be, or reasonably

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MAY 2002
N.C. Gen. Stat. § 14-286.2

believes himself or another person to be, in imminent danger of bodily injury, or that an individual reasonably believes that his property or the property of another is in imminent danger of substantial damage, injury or theft.” G.S. 14-286.2(b1)(1).