

235.20 GOING ABOUT ARMED WITH UNUSUAL AND DANGEROUS WEAPONS
TO THE TERROR OF THE PEOPLE. (COMMON LAW MISDEMEANOR).¹

The defendant has been charged with going about armed with unusual and dangerous weapons to the terror of the people.

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

First, that the defendant armed himself with (an) unusual and dangerous weapon(s). [A (*name weapon*) is an unusual and dangerous weapon.] [A weapon is an unusual weapon if it is not usually carried by a person while on the public highways.] [A weapon is a dangerous weapon if it is likely to cause death or serious bodily injury.]

Second, that the purpose of the defendant in so arming himself was to terrorize the people of (*name town or county*).

Third, that, thus armed, he went about the public highways² of (*name town or county*).

And Fourth, that the manner in which he was armed and in which he went about on the highways was such as to naturally cause terror to the people.

If you find from the evidence beyond a reasonable doubt that on or about the alleged date the defendant armed himself with (an) unusual and dangerous weapon(s) for the purpose of terrorizing the people of (*name town or county*), and that thus armed he went about the public highways of the (*name town or county*) in such a manner as naturally to cause terror to the people, 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.

N.C.P.I.—CRIMINAL 235.20
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GENERAL CRIMINAL VOLUME
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1. *State v. Dawson*, 272 N.C. 535 (1967).

2. *State v. Dawson*, footnote 1 supra, the court said that being on a public highway was an essential element. This may have been dictum to the extent that being in a public place may be sufficient.