

CRIMINAL CONTEMPT IN THE SECOND DEGREE
(False or Inaccurate Reporting of Court Proceedings)
Penal Law § 215.50(5)
(Committed on or after Sept. 1, 1972)

The (*specify*) count is Criminal Contempt in the Second Degree.

Under our law, a person is guilty of criminal contempt in the second degree when he or she engages in the following conduct: knowingly publishing a false or grossly inaccurate report of a court's proceedings.

The following term used in that definition has a special meaning:

A person KNOWINGLY publishes a false or grossly inaccurate report of a court's proceedings when that person is aware that he or she is doing so.

In order for you to find the defendant guilty of this crime, the People are required to prove, from all the evidence in the case, beyond a reasonable doubt, both of the following elements:

1. That on or about (*date*) in the county of (*specify*), the defendant, (*defendant's name*), published a false or grossly inaccurate report of a court's proceedings.
2. That the defendant did so knowingly.

If you find the People have proven beyond a reasonable doubt both of those elements, you must find the defendant guilty of this crime.

If you find the People have not proven beyond a reasonable doubt either one or both of those elements, you must find the defendant not guilty of this crime.