

**CRIMINAL CONTEMPT
SECOND DEGREE
(A Misdemeanor)
(False or Inaccurate Reporting of Court Proceedings)
PENAL LAW 215.50(5)
(Committed on or after Sept. 1, 1972)**

The _____ 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 term "knowingly" used in this definition has a special meaning in our law. I will now give you the definition of that term.

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.

Therefore, if you find that the People have proven beyond a reasonable doubt both of those elements, you must find the defendant guilty of the crime of Criminal Contempt in the Second Degree as charged in the _____ count.

On the other hand, if you find that the People have not proven beyond a reasonable doubt either one or both of those

elements, you must find the defendant not guilty of Criminal Contempt in the Second Degree, as charged in the _____ count.