

**CRIMINAL POSSESSION OF A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE  
THIRD DEGREE  
(Intent to Sell a Narcotic Drug)  
Penal Law § 220.16(1)  
(Committed on or after Sept. 1, 1979)**

The (specify) count is Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the Third Degree.

Under our law, a person is guilty of Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the Third Degree when that person knowingly and unlawfully possesses a narcotic drug with the intent to sell it.

The following terms used in that definition have a special meaning:

The term NARCOTIC DRUG includes (specify).<sup>1</sup>

POSSESS means to have physical possession or otherwise to exercise dominion or control over tangible property.<sup>2</sup>

A person KNOWINGLY possesses (specify) when that person is aware that he or she is in possession of (specify).<sup>3</sup>

A person UNLAWFULLY possesses (specify) when that person has no legal right to possess it.<sup>4</sup> Under our law, with certain exceptions not applicable here, a person has no legal right to possess (specify).

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<sup>1</sup>See Penal Law § 220.00(7).

<sup>2</sup>See Penal Law § 10.00(8). Where constructive possession is alleged, or where the People rely on a statutory presumption of possession, insert the appropriate instruction from the "Additional Charges" section at the end of this article.

<sup>3</sup>See Penal Law § 15.05(2). An expanded definition of "knowingly" is available in the General Charges section under Culpable Mental States.

<sup>4</sup>See Penal Law § 220.00(2) and Public Health Law § 3396(1).

SELL means to sell, exchange, give or dispose of to another.<sup>5</sup>

INTENT means conscious objective or purpose. Thus, a person possesses (specify) with intent to sell it when his or her conscious objective or purpose is to sell the (specify).<sup>6</sup>

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, each of the following three elements:

1. That on or about (date), in the county of (county), the defendant, (defendant's name), possessed (specify);
2. That the defendant did so knowingly and unlawfully; and
3. That the defendant possessed the (specify) with the intent to sell it.

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

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

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<sup>5</sup>See Penal Law § 220.00(1). *People v. Samuels*, 90 N.Y.2d 20 (2002).

<sup>6</sup>See Penal Law § 15.05(1).