# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN SOUTHERN DIVISION

United Stat	es of America,		
	Plaintiff,		No.
٧.			Hon. Nancy G. Edmunds
	Defendant.	/	
		JURY INSTRUCTIONS	
Dato:			

#### Introduction

- (1) Members of the jury, now it is time for me to instruct you about the law that you must follow in deciding this case.
- (2) I will start by explaining your duties and the general rules that apply in every criminal case.
- (3) Then I will explain the elements, or parts, of the crime that the defendant is accused of committing.
  - [(4) Then I will explain the defendant's position.]
- (5) Then I will explain some rules that you must use in evaluating particular testimony and evidence.
- (6) And last, I will explain the rules that you must follow during your deliberations in the jury room, and the possible verdicts that you may return.
  - (7) Please listen very carefully to everything I say.

### **Copy of Instructions**

I will give you a copy of these instructions for your use while deliberating. It is available to each of you. If you have questions about the law or your duties as jurors, you should consult the copy of the instructions as given to you.

#### **Jurors' Duties**

- (1) You have two main duties as jurors. The first one is to decide what the facts are from the evidence that you saw and heard here in court. Deciding what the facts are is your job, not mine, and nothing that I have said or done during this trial was meant to influence your decision about the facts in any way.
- (2) Your second duty is to take the law that I give you, apply it to the facts, and decide if the government has proved the defendant guilty beyond a reasonable doubt. It is my job to instruct you about the law, and you are bound by the oath that you took at the beginning of the trial to follow the instructions that I give you, even if you personally disagree with them. This includes the instructions that I gave you before and during the trial, and these instructions. All the instructions are important, and you should consider them together as a whole.
- [(3) The lawyers have talked about the law during their arguments. But if what they said is different from what I say, you must follow what I say. What I say about the law controls.]
- (4) Perform these duties fairly. Do not let any bias, sympathy or prejudice that you may feel toward one side or the other influence your decision in any way.

#### Presumption of Innocence, Burden of Proof, Reasonable Doubt

- (1) As you know, the defendant has pleaded not guilty to the crime charged in the indictment. The indictment is not any evidence at all of guilt. It is just the formal way that the government tells the defendant what crime he is accused of committing. It does not even raise any suspicion of guilt.
- (2) Instead, the defendant starts the trial with a clean slate, with no evidence at all against him, and the law presumes that he is innocent. This presumption of innocence stays with him unless the government presents evidence here in court that overcomes the presumption, and convinces you beyond a reasonable doubt that he is guilty.
- (3) This means that the defendant has no obligation to present any evidence at all, or to prove to you in any way that he is innocent. It is up to the government to prove that he is guilty, and this burden stays on the government from start to finish. You must find the defendant not guilty unless the government convinces you beyond a reasonable doubt that he is guilty.
- (4) The government must prove every element of the crime charged beyond a reasonable doubt. Proof beyond a reasonable doubt does not mean proof beyond all possible doubt. Possible doubts or doubts based purely on speculation are not reasonable doubts. A reasonable doubt is a doubt based on reason and common

sense. It may arise from the evidence, the lack of evidence, or the nature of the evidence.

(5) Proof beyond a reasonable doubt means proof which is so convincing that you would not hesitate to rely and act on it in making the most important decisions in your own lives. If you are convinced that the government has proved the defendant guilty beyond a reasonable doubt, say so by returning a guilty verdict. If you are not convinced, say so by returning a not guilty verdict.

#### **Evidence Defined**

- (1) You must make your decision based only on the evidence that you saw and heard here in court. Do not let rumors, suspicions, or anything else that you may have seen or heard outside of court influence your decision in any way.
- (2) The evidence in this case includes only what the witnesses said while they were testifying under oath; the exhibits that I allowed into evidence; the stipulations that the lawyers agreed to; and the facts that I have judicially noticed.
- (3) Nothing else is evidence. The lawyers' statements and arguments are not evidence. Their questions and objections are not evidence. My legal rulings are not evidence. And my comments and questions are not evidence.
- (4) During the trial I did not let you hear the answers to some of the questions that the lawyers asked. I also ruled that you could not see some of the exhibits that the lawyers wanted you to see. And sometimes I ordered you to disregard things that you saw or heard, or I struck things from the record. You must completely ignore all of these things. Do not even think about them. Do not speculate about what a witness might have said or what an exhibit might have shown. These things are not evidence, and you are bound by your oath not to let them influence your decision in any way.
- (5) Make your decision based only on the evidence, as I have defined it here, and nothing else.

### **Evidence Introduced for a Limited Purpose**

Whenever evidence was received for a limited purpose or limited to [one party/certain parties], you must not consider it for any other purpose or as to any other [party/parties].

M Civ JI 3.07

#### **Consideration of Evidence**

You should use your common sense in weighing the evidence. Consider it in light of your everyday experience with people and events, and give it whatever weight you believe it deserves. If your experience tells you that certain evidence reasonably leads to a conclusion, you are free to reach that conclusion.

#### **Direct and Circumstantial Evidence**

(1) Now, some of you may have heard the terms "direct evidence" and "circumstantial evidence."

(2) Direct evidence is simply evidence like the testimony of an eyewitness which, if you believe it, directly proves a fact. If a witness testified that he saw it raining outside, and you believed him, that would be direct evidence that it was raining.

(3) Circumstantial evidence is simply a chain of circumstances that indirectly proves a fact. If someone walked into the courtroom wearing a raincoat covered with drops of water and carrying a wet umbrella, that would be circumstantial evidence from which you could conclude that it was raining.

(4) It is your job to decide how much weight to give the direct and circumstantial evidence. The law makes no distinction between the weight that you should give to either one, or say that one is any better evidence than the other. You should consider all the evidence, both direct and circumstantial, and give it whatever weight you believe it deserves.

#### **Credibility of Witnesses**

- (1) Another part of your job as jurors is to decide how credible or believable each witness was. This is your job, not mine. It is up to you to decide if a witness's testimony was believable, and how much weight you think it deserves. You are free to believe everything that a witness said, or only part of it, or none of it at all. But you should act reasonably and carefully in making these decisions.
- (2) Let me suggest some things for you to consider in evaluating each witness's testimony.
- (A) Ask yourself if the witness was able to clearly see or hear the events.

  Sometimes even an honest witness may not have been able to see or hear what was happening, and may make a mistake.
- (B) Ask yourself how good the witness's memory seemed to be. Did the witness seem able to accurately remember what happened?
- (C) Ask yourself if there was anything else that may have interfered with the witness's ability to perceive or remember the events.
- (D) Ask yourself how the witness acted while testifying. Did the witness appear honest? Or did the witness appear to be lying?
- (E) Ask yourself if the witness had any relationship to the government or the defendant, or anything to gain or lose from the case, that might influence the witness's testimony. Ask yourself if the witness had any bias, or prejudice, or reason

for testifying that might cause the witness to lie or to slant the testimony in favor of one side or the other.

- [(F) Ask yourself if the witness testified inconsistently while on the witness stand, or if the witness said or did something [or failed to say or do something] at any other time that is inconsistent with what the witness said while testifying. If you believe that the witness was inconsistent, ask yourself if this makes the witness's testimony less believable. Sometimes it may; other times it may not. Consider whether the inconsistency was about something important, or about some unimportant detail. Ask yourself if it seemed like an innocent mistake, or if it seemed deliberate.]
- (G) And ask yourself how believable the witness's testimony was in light of all the other evidence. Was the witness's testimony supported or contradicted by other evidence that you found believable? If you believe that a witness's testimony was contradicted by other evidence, remember that people sometimes forget things, and that even two honest people who witness the same event may not describe it exactly the same way.
- (3) These are only some of the things that you may consider in deciding how believable each witness was. You may also consider other things that you think shed some light on the witness's believability. Use your common sense and your everyday experience in dealing with other people. And then decide what testimony you believe, and how much weight you think it deserves.

#### **Number of Witnesses**

(1) One more point about the witnesses. Sometimes jurors wonder if the number of witnesses who testified makes any difference.

(2) Do not make any decisions based only on the number of witnesses who testified. What is more important is how believable the witnesses were, and how much weight you think their testimony deserves. Concentrate on that, not the numbers.

#### Lawyers' Objections

(1) There is one more general subject that I want to talk to you about before I begin explaining the elements of the crime charged.

(2) The lawyers for both sides objected to some of the things that were said or done during the trial. Do not hold that against either side. The lawyers have a duty to object whenever they think that something is not permitted by the rules of

evidence. Those rules are designed to make sure that both sides receive a fair trial.

(3) And do not interpret my rulings on their objections as any indication of how I think the case should be decided. My rulings were based on the rules of evidence, not on how I feel about the case. Remember that your decision must be based only on the evidence that you saw and heard here in court.

#### Introduction

(1) That concludes the part of my instructions explaining your duties and the general rules that apply in every criminal case. In a moment, I will explain the elements of the crime that the defendant is accused of committing.

(2) But before I do that, I want to emphasize that the defendant is only on trial for the particular crime charged in the indictment [and the lesser charges that I will explain to you]. Your job is limited to deciding whether the government has proved the crime charged [or one of those lesser charges].

[(3) Also keep in mind that whether anyone else should be prosecuted and convicted for this crime is not a proper matter for you to consider. The possible guilt of others is no defense to a criminal charge. Your job is to decide if the government has proved this defendant guilty. Do not let the possible guilt of others influence your decision in any way.]

# Separate Consideration-Single Defendant Charged With Multiple Crimes

- (1) The defendant has been charged with several crimes. The number of charges is no evidence of guilt, and this should not influence your decision in any way. It is your duty to separately consider the evidence that relates to each charge, and to return a separate verdict for each one. For each charge, you must decide whether the government has presented proof beyond a reasonable doubt that the defendant is guilty of that particular charge.
- (2) Your decision on one charge, whether it is guilty or not guilty, should not influence your decision on any of the other charges.

# Separate Consideration-Multiple Defendants Charged With a Single Crime

(1) The defendants have all been charged with one crime. But in our system of justice, guilt or innocence is personal and individual. It is your duty to separately consider the evidence against each defendant, and to return a separate verdict for each one of them. For each defendant, you must decide whether the government has presented evidence proving that particular defendant guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

(2) Your decision on one defendant, whether it is guilty or not guilty, should not influence your decision on any of the other defendants.

# Separate Consideration-Multiple Defendants Charged With the Same Crimes

- (1) The defendants have all been charged with several crimes. The number of charges is no evidence of guilt, and this should not influence your decision in any way. And in our system of justice, guilt or innocence is personal and individual. It is your duty to separately consider the evidence against each defendant on each charge, and to return a separate verdict for each one of them. For each one, you must decide whether the government has presented proof beyond a reasonable doubt that a particular defendant is guilty of a particular charge.
- (2) Your decision on any one defendant or charge, whether it is guilty or not guilty, should not influence your decision on any of the other defendants or charges.

# Separate Consideration-Multiple Defendants Charged With Different Crimes

(1) The defendants have been charged with different crimes. I will explain to you in more detail shortly which defendants have been charged with which crimes.

But before I do that, I want to emphasize several things.

(2) The number of charges is no evidence of guilt, and this should not influence your decision in any way. And in our system of justice, guilt or innocence is personal and individual. It is your duty to separately consider the evidence against each defendant on each charge, and to return a separate verdict for each one of them. For each one, you must decide whether the government has presented proof beyond a reasonable doubt that a particular defendant is guilty of a particular charge.

(3) Your decision on any one defendant or one charge, whether it is guilty or not guilty, should not influence your decision on any of the other defendants or charges.

#### Unindicted, Unnamed or Separately Tried Co-Conspirators

(1) Now, some of the people who may have been involved in these events are not on trial. This does not matter. There is no requirement that all members of a conspiracy be charged and prosecuted, or tried together in one proceeding.

[(2) Nor is there any requirement that the names of the other conspirators be known. An indictment can charge a defendant with a conspiracy involving people whose names are not known, as long as the government can prove that the defendant conspired with one or more of them. Whether they are named or not does not matter.]

#### **INSERT ELEMENTS OF CRIME HERE**

#### Introduction

That concludes the part of my instructions explaining the elements of the crime [the defendant's position]. Next I will explain some rules that you must use in considering some of the testimony and evidence.

#### **Defendant's Election Not to Testify or Present Evidence**

(1) A defendant has an absolute right not to testify [or present evidence]. The fact that he did not testify [or present any evidence] cannot be considered by you in any way. Do not even discuss it in your deliberations.

(2) Remember that it is up to the government to prove the defendant guilty beyond a reasonable doubt. It is not up to the defendant to prove that he is innocent.

#### **Defendant's Testimony**

(1) You have heard the defendant testify. Earlier, I talked to you about the "credibility" or the "believability" of the witnesses. And I suggested some things for you to consider in evaluating each witness's testimony.

(2) You should consider those same things in evaluating the defendant's testimony.

### Witness Other Than the Defendant Invoking the Fifth Amendment

(1) You have heard	(Insert witness's name) exercise his righ
under the Fifth Amendment to the l	United States Constitution to refuse to answe
questions because the testimony m	ight tend to incriminate him.

(2) You must not infer anything at all, for or against either the government or the defendant, because the witness did not answer

#### **Opinion Testimony**

(1) You have heard the testimony of _	, who testified
as an opinion witness.	

- (2) You do not have to accept \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_'s opinion. In deciding how much weight to give it, you should consider the witness's qualifications and how he reached his conclusions. Also consider the other factors discussed in these instructions for weighing the credibility of witnesses.
- (3) Remember that you alone decide how much of a witness's testimony to believe, and how much weight it deserves.

#### Impeachment by Prior Inconsistent Statement Not Under Oath

(1) You have heard the testimony of	You have
also heard that before this trial he made a statement that m	ay be different from his
testimony here in court.	

(2) This earlier statement was brought to your attention only to help you decide how believable his testimony was. You cannot use it as proof of anything else. You can only use it as one way of evaluating his testimony here in court.

### Impeachment of Defendant by Prior Conviction

(1) You have heard that before this trial the defendant was convicted of a crime.

(2) This earlier conviction was brought to your attention only as one way of helping you decide how believable his testimony was. You cannot use it for any other purpose. It is not evidence that he is guilty of the crime that he is on trial for now.

# Impeachment of a Witness Other Than Defendant by Prior Conviction

(1) You have heard the testimony of	You have
also heard that before this trial he was convicted of a crime.	

(2) This earlier conviction was brought to your attention only as one way of helping you decide how believable his testimony was. Do not use it for any other purpose. It is not evidence of anything else.

## **Testimony of a Paid Informant**

(1) You have heard the testimony of	You have
also heard that he received money [or	]
from the government in exchange for providing information.	
(2) The use of paid informants is common and permissible. But yo	ou should
consider's testimony with more caution	than the
testimony of other witnesses. Consider whether his testimony may ha	ave been
influenced by what the government gave him.	
(3) Do not convict the defendant based on the unsupported testimon	ıy of such
a witness, standing alone, unless you believe his testimony beyond a rea	asonable
doubt.	
Sixth Circuit Pattern Criminal Jury Instruction 7.06A	

### Testimony of an Addict-Informant Under Grant of Immunity or Reduced Criminal Liability

(1) You have heard the testimony of You have
also heard that he was using during the time that he
testified about, and that the government has promised him that he will not be
prosecuted for [or will
] in exchange for his testimony.
(2) It is permissible for the government to make such a promise. But you
should consider's testimony with more
caution than the testimony of other witnesses. An addict may have a constant need
for drugs, and for money to buy drugs, and may also have a greater fear of
imprisonment because his supply of drugs may be cut off. Think about these things
and consider whether his testimony may have been influenced by the government's
promise.
(3) Do not convict the defendant based on the unsupported testimony of such
a witness, standing alone, unless you believe his testimony beyond a reasonable
doubt.
Sixth Circuit Pattern Criminal Jury Instruction 7.06B

# Testimony of a Witness Under Grant of Immunity or Reduced Criminal Liability

(1) You have heard the testimony of	You have
also heard that the government has promised him that [he will not be	prosecuted for]
[he will	] in
exchange for his cooperation.	
(2) It is permissible for the government to make such a pro	omise. But you
should consider's testimo	ny with more
caution than the testimony of other witnesses. Consider whether his	testimony may
have been influenced by the government's promise.	
(3) Do not convict the defendant based on the unsupported tes	stimony of such
a witness, standing alone, unless you believe his testimony beyond	d a reasonable
doubt.	
Sixth Circuit Pattern Criminal Jury Instruction 7.07	

## **Testimony of an Accomplice**

(1) You have heard the testimony of You h	ave
also heard that he was involved in the same crime that the defendant is charged	with
committing. You should consider's testimony	with
more caution than the testimony of other witnesses.	
(2) Do not convict the defendant based on the unsupported testimony of s	uch
a witness, standing alone, unless you believe his testimony beyond a reasona	able
doubt.	
[(3) The fact that has plea	ded
guilty to a crime is not evidence that the defendant is guilty, and you cannot cons	ider
this against the defendant in any way.]	
Sixth Circuit Pattern Criminal Jury Instruction 7.08	

#### **Character and Reputation of Defendant**

You have heard testimony about the defendant's good character. You should consider this testimony, along with all the other evidence, in deciding if the government has proved beyond a reasonable doubt that he committed the crime charged.

## Age of Witness

You have heard the testimony of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, a young witness. No witness is disqualified just because of age. There is no precise age that determines whether a witness may testify. With any witness, young or old, you should consider not only age, but also the witness's intelligence and experience, and whether the witness understands the duty to tell the truth and the difference between truth and falsehood.

## **Identification Testimony**

(1) You have heard the testimony of	, who has
identified the defendant as the person who	You
should carefully consider whether this identification was accurate and i	reliable.

- (2) In deciding this, you should especially consider if the witness had a good opportunity to see the person at that time. For example, consider the visibility, and the distance, and whether the witness had known or seen the person before, and how long the witness had to see the person.
- [(3) You should also consider the circumstances of the earlier identification that occurred outside of court. For example, consider how that earlier identification was conducted, and how much time passed after the alleged crime before the identification was made.]
- [(4) You may take into account any occasions in which the witness failed to make an identification of defendant, or made an identification that was inconsistent with his identification at trial.]
- (5) Consider all these things carefully in determining whether the identification was accurate and reliable.
- (6) Remember that the government has the burden of proving beyond a reasonable doubt that the defendant was the person who committed the crime charged.

### **Summaries and Other Materials Not Admitted in Evidence**

(1) During the trial you have seen counsel use [summaries, charts, drawings, calculations, or similar material] which were offered to assist in the presentation and understanding of the evidence. This material is not itself evidence and must not be considered as proof of any facts.

## Secondary-Evidence Summaries Admitted in Evidence

- (1) During the trial you have seen or heard summary evidence in the form of [a chart, drawing, calculation, testimony, or similar material]. This summary was admitted in evidence, in addition to the material it summarizes, because it may assist you in understanding the evidence that has been presented.
- (2) But the summary itself is not evidence of the material it summarizes, and is only as valid and reliable as the underlying material it summarizes.

#### Other Acts of Defendant

(1) You have heard testimony that the defendant committed [crimes, acts, wrongs] other than the ones charged in the indictment. If you find the defendant did those [crimes, acts, wrongs], you can consider the evidence only as it relates to the government's claim on the defendant's [intent, motive, opportunity, preparation, plan, knowledge, identity, absence of mistake, absence of accident]. You must not consider it for any other prupose.

(2) Remember that the defendant is on trial here only for \_\_\_\_\_\_, not for the other acts. Do not return a guilty verdict unless the government proves the crime charged in the indictment beyond a reasonable doubt.

# Flight, Concealment of Evidence, False Exculpatory Statements

(1) You have heard testimony that after the crime was supposed to have been
committed, the defendant
(2) If you believe that the defendant
, then you may consider this conduct, along with
all the other evidence, in deciding whether the government has proved beyond a
reasonable doubt that he committed the crime charged. This conduct may indicate
that he thought he was guilty and was trying to avoid punishment. On the other
hand, sometimes an innocent person may
for some other reason.

## **Possession of Recently Stolen Property**

(1) You have heard testimony that the defendant had possession of some property that was recently stolen.

(2) If you believe that the defendant had possession of this property, you may consider this, along with all the other evidence, in deciding whether the defendant knew that the property was stolen [or stole the property]. But the longer the period of time between the theft and his possession, the less weight you should give this evidence.

(3) You do not have to draw any conclusion from the defendant's possession of the property. You may still have a reasonable doubt based on all the other evidence. Remember that the burden is always on the government to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the defendant committed the crime charged.

## **Transcriptions of Tape Recordings**

(1) You have heard some tape recordings that were received in evidence, and you were given some written transcripts of the tapes.

(2) Keep in mind that the transcripts are not evidence. They were given to

you only as a guide to help you follow what was being said. The tapes themselves

are the evidence. If you noticed any differences between what you heard on the

tapes and what you read in the transcripts, you must rely on what you heard, not

what you read. And if you could not hear or understand certain parts of the tapes,

you must ignore the transcripts as far as those parts are concerned.

# Separate Consideration-Evidence Admitted Against Certain Defendants Only

(1) You have heard testimony from	that
(2) You can only consider this testimony against	in
deciding whether the government has proved him guilty. You cannot consider	r it in
any way against any of the other defendants.	
Sixth Circuit Pattern Criminal Jury Instruction 7.18	

## **Judicial Notice**

I have decided to accept as proved the fact that,
even though no evidence was presented on this point. You may accept this fact as
true, but you are not required to do so.

## Witness Who Has Been Interviewed by an Attorney

It has been brought out that an attorney (or a representative of an attorney) has talked with a witness. There is nothing wrong with an attorney (or a representative of an attorney) talking with a witness for the purpose of learning what the witness knows about the case and what testimony the witness will give.

M Civ JI 4.06

#### Introduction

- (1) That concludes the part of my instructions explaining the rules for considering some of the testimony and evidence. Now let me finish up by explaining some things about your deliberations in the jury room, and your possible verdicts.
- (2) The first thing that you should do in the jury room is choose someone to be your foreperson. This person will help to guide your discussions, and will speak for you here in court.
- (3) Once you start deliberating, do not talk to the jury officer, or to me, or to anyone else except each other about the case. If you have any questions or messages, you must write them down on a piece of paper, sign them, and then give them to the jury officer. The officer will give them to me, and I will respond as soon as I can. I may have to talk to the lawyers about what you have asked, so it may take me some time to get back to you. Any questions or messages normally should be sent to me through your foreperson.
- [(4) If you want to see any of the exhibits that were admitted in evidence, you may send me a message, and those exhibits will be provided to you.]
- (5) One more thing about messages. Do not ever write down or tell anyone how you stand on your votes. For example, do not write down or tell anyone that you are split 6-6, or 8-4, or whatever your vote happens to be. That should stay secret until you are finished.

## **Experiments, Research and Investigation**

(1) Remember that you must make your decision based only on the evidence

that you saw and heard here in court. Do not try to gather any information about the

case on your own while you are deliberating.

(2) For example, do not conduct any experiments inside or outside the jury

room; do not bring any books, like a dictionary, or anything else with you to help you

with your deliberations; do not conduct any independent research, reading or

investigation about the case; and do not visit any of the places that were mentioned

during the trial. This includes using the internet for any purpose regarding this case.

(3) Make your decision based only on the evidence that you saw and heard

here in court.

Sixth Circuit Pattern Criminal Jury Instruction 8.02; MJI2d 2.16

### **Unanimous Verdict**

- (1) Your verdict, whether it is guilty or not guilty, must be unanimous.
- (2) To find the defendant guilty, every one of you must agree that the government has overcome the presumption of innocence with evidence that proves his guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.
- (3) To find him not guilty, every one of you must agree that the government has failed to convince you beyond a reasonable doubt.
  - (4) Either way, guilty or not guilty, your verdict must be unanimous.

## **Duty to Deliberate**

- (1) Now that all the evidence is in and the arguments are completed, you are free to talk about the case in the jury room. In fact, it is your duty to talk with each other about the evidence, and to make every reasonable effort you can to reach unanimous agreement. Talk with each other, listen carefully and respectfully to each other's views, and keep an open mind as you listen to what your fellow jurors have to say. Try your best to work out your differences. Do not hesitate to change your mind if you are convinced that other jurors are right and that your original position was wrong.
- (2) But do not ever change your mind just because other jurors see things differently, or just to get the case over with. In the end, your vote must be exactly that--your own vote. It is important for you to reach unanimous agreement, but only if you can do so honestly and in good conscience.
- (3) No one will be allowed to hear your discussions in the jury room, and no record will be made of what you say. So you should all feel free to speak your minds.

(4) Listen carefully to what the other jurors have to say, and then decide for yourself if the government has proved the defendant guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

## **Punishment**

- (1) If you decide that the government has proved the defendant guilty, then it will be my job to decide what the appropriate punishment should be.
- (2) Deciding what the punishment should be is my job, not yours. It would violate your oaths as jurors to even consider the possible punishment in deciding your verdict.
- (3) Your job is to look at the evidence and decide if the government has proved the defendant guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

### **Verdict Form**

(1) I have prepared a	verdict form that you should	use to record your verdict
The form reads as follows:		

(2) If you decide that the government has proved the charge against the defendant beyond a reasonable doubt, say so by having your foreperson mark the appropriate place on the form. If you decide that the government has not proved the charge against him beyond a reasonable doubt, say so by having your foreperson mark the appropriate place on the form. Your foreperson [Each of you] should then sign the form, put the date on it, and return it to me.

# Lesser Offense, Order of Deliberations, Verdict Form

(1) As I explained to you earlier, the charge of
includes the lesser charge of
(2) If you find the defendant not guilty of[or
if after making every reasonable effort to reach a unanimous verdict on that charge,
you find that you cannot agree], then you must go on to consider whether the
government has proved the lesser charge of
(3) If you decide that the government has proved this lesser charge beyond
a reasonable doubt, say so by having your foreperson mark the appropriate place
on the verdict form. If you decide that the government has not proved this lesser
charge beyond a reasonable doubt, say so by having your foreperson mark the
appropriate place on the form. Your foreperson [Each of you] should then sign the
form, put the date on it and return it to me.
Sixth Circuit Pattern Criminal Jury Instruction 8.07

## **Verdict Limited to Charges Against This Defendant**

(1) Remember that the defendant is only on trial for the particular crime charged in the indictment [and the lesser charges which I described]. Your job is

limited to deciding whether the government has proved the crime charged [or one

of those lesser charges].

[(2) Also remember that whether anyone else should be prosecuted and

convicted for this crime is not a proper matter for you to consider. The possible guilt

of others is no defense to a criminal charge. Your job is to decide if the government

has proved this defendant guilty. Do not let the possible guilt of others influence

your decision in any way.]

## **Court Has No Opinion**

Let me finish up by repeating something that I said to you earlier. Nothing that I have said or done during this trial was meant to influence your decision in any way. You decide for yourselves if the government has proved the defendant guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.