

FALSE REPORT OF A CRIME

The defendant is charged with making a false report of a crime.

Section 13A of Chapter 269 of our General Laws provides as follows:

**“Whoever
intentionally and knowingly
makes or causes to be made a false report of a crime
to police officers
shall be punished...”**

In order to prove the defendant guilty of this offense, the Commonwealth must prove four things beyond a reasonable doubt:

First: That the defendant reported a crime to a police officer, or caused such a report to be made;

Second: That the report was false;

Third: That the defendant intended to make the false report to a police officer and it was not made merely by accident or through negligence; and

Fourth: That the defendant knew that the report he (she) was making or causing to be made was false.

If the Commonwealth has proved all four elements beyond a reasonable doubt, you should return a verdict of guilty. If the Commonwealth has failed to prove any element of the offense beyond a reasonable doubt, you must return a verdict of not guilty.

See Instructions 3.120 (Intent) and 3.140 (Knowledge).