

## **FALSE REPORT OF A CRIME**

G.L. c. 269, § 13A

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

**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.**

*Commonwealth v. Salyer*, 84 Mass. App. Ct. 346, 351-352 (2013).

**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).*