

ASSAULT IN THE THIRD DEGREE
(Physical Injury; Intent)
Penal Law § 120.00(1)

Under our law, a person is guilty of Assault in the Third Degree when, with intent to cause physical injury to another person, he or she causes such injury to that person [or to a third person].

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

PHYSICAL INJURY means impairment of physical condition or substantial pain.¹

INTENT means conscious objective or purpose. Thus, a person acts with intent to cause physical injury to another when that person's conscious objective or purpose is to cause physical injury to another.²

[NOTE: In a case of "transferred intent," add the following paragraph:

Under our law, it is not required that the person who is injured be the same person who was intended to be injured.]

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 two elements:

1. That on or about (date), in the county of (county), the defendant, (defendant's name), caused physical injury to (specify); and

2. That the defendant did so with the intent to cause physical injury to (specify).

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

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

¹ Penal Law ' 10.00(9); See *People v. Chiddick*, 8 NY3d 445 (2007).

² See Penal Law ' 15.05(1).