



Common Felonies

The Law

Crimes are defined by statute. The legislature also determines what the maximum penalty will be for each crime. The definitions and penalties for the most common felonies are listed below. The actual sentence a defendant gets in a case is decided by the court, according to the sentencing guidelines, which look at the severity of the offense and the defendant's past criminal involvement.

WHAT DOES INTENT MEAN?

Many of the crimes require that the defendant acted with intent. Intent means that the defendant had a purpose to do the act or cause the result or believed that the act, if successful, would cause the result.

Criminal intent does not

- Require that the defendant knew that the act was a crime, or
- Require that the defendant understood the meaning of the law, or
- Require proof that the defendant knew the age of a minor even though age is a material element in the crime in question. (There are some exceptions to this.)

COMMON FELONIES DESCRIBED IN THIS LESSON

- Murder, first degree
- Murder, second degree
- Murder, third degree
- Criminal Sexual Conduct, first degree
- Criminal Sexual Conduct, second degree
- Criminal Sexual Conduct, third degree
- Criminal Sexual Conduct, fourth degree
- Manslaughter, first degree
- Manslaughter, second degree
- Criminal Vehicular Homicide
- Assault, first degree
- Assault, second degree
- Assault, third degree
- Assault, fourth degree
- Assault, fifth degree
- Crime Committed for Benefit of a Gang
- Liability for the Crimes of Another
- Attempts
- Authorized Use of Force
- Justifiable Taking of Life
- Simple Robbery



- Aggravated Robbery, first degree
- Aggravated Robbery, second degree
- Kidnapping
- Nonsupport of Spouse or Child
- Depriving Another of Custodial or Parental Rights
- Leaving State to Evade Establishment of Paternity
- Malicious Punishment of a Child
- Neglect or Endangerment of a Child
- Solicitation of Juveniles
- Aiding an Offender
- Prostitution
- Solicitation, Inducement, and Promotion of Prostitution
- Receiving Profit Derived from Prostitution
- Arson, first degree
- Arson, second degree
- Theft
- Burglary, first degree
- Burglary, second degree
- Burglary, third degree
- Harassment
- Damage to Property, first degree
- Damage to Property, second degree
- Damage to Property, third degree

PENALTIES

Penalties are the maximum sentence provided by statute. They are listed as time in prison or amount of a fine. In most cases, the court can sentence to both prison and a fine.

MURDER, FIRST DEGREE

Causes death

- with premeditation and intent to cause death. (Premeditation is to consider, plan, and prepare to commit the crime)
- while committing or attempting to commit criminal sexual conduct in the first or second degree with force or violence, without or without intent
- while committing or attempting to commit burglary, aggravated robbery, kidnapping, arson, or other serious felonies, with intent
- of police officer or guard, with intent
- of a minor while committing child abuse when past pattern of child abuse exists
- while committing domestic abuse with past pattern of domestic abuse

Penalty: life imprisonment (without parole in some cases)



MURDER, SECOND DEGREE

Causes death

- With intent, but without premeditation
- Without intent while committing felony other than criminal sexual conduct in first or second degree with force or violence
- Without intent while intentionally inflicting or attempting to inflict bodily harm upon person with order for protection

Penalty: 40 years in prison

MURDER, THIRD DEGREE

Causes death

- Without intent but engages in dangerous act, without regard for human life
- By being involved in selling, giving away, bartering, delivering, exchanging, distributing, or administering a controlled Schedule I or II substance.

Penalty: 25 years and or \$40,000 (if drugs involved)

CRIMINAL SEXUAL CONDUCT, FIRST DEGREE

A person who engages in **sexual penetration** with another person is guilty if any if the following circumstances exist:

- The victim is under 13 and the actor is more than 36 months (3 years) older.
- The victim is at least 13 but less than 16 years and the actor is more than 48 months (4 years) older, and is in a position of authority.
- The victim has reasonable fear of great bodily harm.
- The actor is armed with a dangerous weapon and uses or threatens to use it.
- The actor causes personal injury and the actor uses force or knows the victim is mentally impaired, incapacitated, or physically helpless.
- The actor is aided or abetted by one or more accomplices and the accomplice uses force or has a weapon.
- The actor has a significant relationship to the victim and the victim is under 16.
- The actor has a significant relationship to the victim who is under 16 and the actor used force or coercion, the victim suffered personal injury and the sexual abuse involved multiple acts committed over an extended period of time.

Penalty: 30 years and or \$40,000

CRIMINAL SEXUAL CONDUCT, SECOND DEGREE

A person who engages in **sexual contact** with another person is guilty if any of the following circumstances exist:

- The victim is under 13 and the actor is more than 36 months (3 years) older.
- The victim is at least 13 but less than 16 years and the actor is more than 48 months (4 years) older, and is in a position of authority.
- The victim has reasonable fear of great bodily harm.
- The actor is armed with a dangerous weapon and uses or threatens to use it.
- The actor causes personal injury and the actor uses force or knows the victim is mentally impaired, incapacitated, or physically helpless.



- The actor is aided or abetted by one or more accomplices and the accomplice uses force or has a weapon.
- The actor has a significant relationship to the victim and the victim is under 16.
- The actor has a significant relationship to the victim who is under 16 and the actor used force or coercion, the complainant suffered personal injury and the sexual abuse involved multiple acts committed over an extended period of time.

Penalty: 25 years and or \$35,000.

CRIMINAL SEXUAL CONDUCT, THIRD DEGREE

A person who engages in **sexual penetration** with another person is guilty of criminal sexual conduct in the 3rd degree if any of the following exist:

- Victim is under 13 years and the actor is no more than 36 months (3 years) older.
- Victim is at least 13 years and less than 16 years and the actor is more than 24 months older. If the actor believes the victim to be 16 years old and is no more than 48 months (4 years) older, but more than 24 months (2 years) older, imprisonment may not be for more than 5 years.
- Actor uses force or coercion.
- Actor knows or has reason to know that the victim is mentally impaired.
- The victim is at least 16 years old but less than 18 years old and the actor is more than 48 months (4 years) older and in a position of authority and uses this authority.
- The actor has a significant relationship to the victim who is at least 16 years old but under 18 and the actor used force or coercion, the victim suffered person injury, or the sexual abuse involved multiple acts, committed over an extended period of time.

Penalty: 15 years and or \$30,000

CRIMINAL SEXUAL CONDUCT, FOURTH DEGREE

Person who engages in **sexual contact** with another and any of the following circumstances exist is guilty of criminal sexual conduct in the fourth degree:

- Victim is under 13 years and the actor is no more than 36 months (3 years) older.
- Victim is at least 13 years but less than 16 years and the actor is more than 48 months older.
- Actor uses force or coercion.
- Actor knows or has reason to know that the victim is mentally impaired.
- The victim is at least 16 years old but less than 18 years old and the actor is more than 48 months (4 years) older and in a position of authority and uses this authority.
- The actor has a significant relationship to the victim who is at least 16 years old but under 18 and the actor used force or coercion, the victim suffered person injury, or the sexual abuse involved multiple acts, committed over an extended period of time.

Penalty: 10 years and or \$20,000



MANSLAUGHTER, FIRST DEGREE

Causes death

- With intent in the heat of passion provoked by words or acts that would provoke the ordinary person, the crying child does not constitute provocation
- While committing a misdemeanor or gross misdemeanor with such force and violence that death is reasonably foreseeable
- With intent while being threatened with death by another
- Without intent by unlawfully selling, giving away, bartering, delivering, exchanging, distributing, or administering a Schedule III IV or V controlled substance

Penalty: 15 years and or \$30,000

MANSLAUGHTER, SECOND DEGREE

Causes death

- By negligence when person creates an unreasonable risk
- By negligently shooting another with a firearm or other dangerous weapon believing the other to be an animal
- By setting a spring gun, snare, or other dangerous device or weapon
- By negligently or intentionally permitting any dangerous animal to run uncontrolled off owner's property or negligently failing to keep it properly confined

Penalty: 10 years and or \$20,000

CRIMINAL VEHICULAR HOMICIDE

Causes death as a result of operating a motor vehicle

- In a grossly negligent manner
- In a negligent manner, while under the influence of alcohol, controlled substance, or combination of the two
- While having an alcohol concentration of 0.10 or more
- While having an alcohol concentration of 0.10 more as measured within two hours of driving

Penalty: 10 years and or \$20,000

ASSAULT, FIRST DEGREE

Assaults another

- Causes great bodily harm, which means bodily injury that creates a high probability of death, or serious permanent disfigurement.

Penalty: 20 years and/or \$30,000.



ASSAULT, SECOND DEGREE

Assaults another

- With dangerous weapon which means any firearm, or device designed as a weapon and able to produce death or great bodily harm.
- With flammable liquid that can produce death or great bodily harm
- Or any fire that can cause death or great bodily harm

Penalty: 7 years and/or \$14,000.

Assaults another

- Inflicts substantial bodily harm, which means bodily injury that involves a temporary but substantial disfigurement, or impairment of function of body part, or broken bones.

Penalty: 10 years and/or \$20,000.

ASSAULT, THIRD DEGREE

Assaults another

- Inflicts substantial bodily harm, or
- The person assaults a minor and has a past pattern of child abuse, or
- The person assaults a minor under the age of 4 and causes bodily harm to child's head, eyes, or neck or otherwise causes multiple bruises.

Penalty: 5 years, and/or \$10,000.

ASSAULT, FOURTH DEGREE

Assaults a peace officer and causing demonstrable bodily harm when that officer is effecting a lawful arrest or executing any other duty imposed by law.

Assaults the following persons and inflicts demonstrable bodily harm during the performance of their duties: firefighters, emergency medical personnel, physician, nurse or other persons providing health care services in an emergency department, or an employee of the department of natural resources who is engaged in forest fire activities.

Assaults a correctional employee while engaged in the performance of duty and inflicts demonstrable bodily harm.

Penalty: 2 years, and/or \$4,000.

Assaults another because of the victim's race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, disability, age or national origin.

Penalty: 1 year, and/or \$3000. (If the assault has occurred within five years of a previous conviction -1 year and a day, and/or \$3,000.)

Assaults on a school official (teachers, administrators and other employees, referee) that inflicts demonstrable bodily harm while the official is engaged in the performance of official duties.



Assaults on an agricultural inspector, child protection worker, public health nurse, or probation or parole officer that inflicts demonstrable bodily harm, while the victim is engaged in the performance of a duty mandated by law, court order, or ordinance.

Penalty: 1 year and/or \$3,000.

ASSAULT, FIFTH DEGREE

Someone commits an act

- With the intent to cause fear of bodily harm or death or
- Intentionally inflicts or attempts to inflict bodily harm.

Penalty:

- misdemeanor, 90 days and/or \$700.
- gross misdemeanor, 1-year imprisonment and/or \$3,000.

CRIME COMMITTED FOR BENEFIT OF A GANG

Person commits crime for benefit, at direction of, in association with a criminal gang, which is any ongoing organization, association, or group of three or more persons, formal or informal that commits criminal offenses, has a common name or common identifying sign, and includes a pattern of criminal activity.

- If crime is a felony, penalty maximum is increased three years
- If crime is a gross misdemeanor, person is guilty of a felony
- If crime is misdemeanor, person is guilty of a gross misdemeanor

LIABILITY FOR THE CRIMES OF ANOTHER

A person is criminally liable for a crime committed by another if the person intentionally aids, advises, hires, counsels, or conspires with the other.

Also liable for any other crime that is reasonably seen as a probable consequence.

- Includes an act committed by a juvenile if the act would be a crime if committed by an adult.
- Can be convicted even if the other person isn't convicted.
- A person who was aiding but changes his or her mind and tries to prevent the crime will not be liable.

ATTEMPTS

Whoever

- With intent to commit a crime
- Takes a substantial step toward committing the crime (more than preparation)
- Is guilty of attempted criminal behavior

Penalty: if the maximum sentence for the crime is life imprisonment, the sentence for the attempted crime is no more than 20 years.

For any other attempt, no more than one-half of the maximum sentence or fine or both for the crime attempted.



AUTHORIZED USE OF FORCE (Not a crime.)

Reasonable force may be used:

- by a police officer in a lawful arrest or legal process
- to resist or help another resist an offense against a person
- in resisting trespass
- by a parent, guardian, teacher or other lawful custodian of child in the exercise of lawful authority
- to expel a passenger who refuses to obey the law
- to restrain a mentally ill person
- by a treatment or custodial institution to compel compliance with rules

JUSTIFIABLE TAKING OF LIFE (Not a crime.)

The intentional taking of the life of another is not legal except

- when necessary in resisting or preventing an offense which the person reasonably believes exposes him or her or another to great bodily harm or death, or
- when preventing the commission of a violent felony in the person's home.

SIMPLE ROBBERY

Takes personal property belonging to another

- With force or threat of force

Penalty: 10 years, and/or \$20,000

AGGRAVATED ROBBERY, FIRST DEGREE

Commits robbery

- Armed with a dangerous weapon or item used as dangerous weapon, or
- Inflicts bodily harm

Penalty: 20 years and or \$35,000

AGGRAVATED ROBBERY, SECOND DEGREE

Commits robbery

- Claims to have a dangerous weapon

Penalty: 15 years and or \$30,000

KIDNAPPING

Removes a person from one place or another or confines a person without consent

- To hold for ransom
- To facilitate commission of any felony or flight from a felony
- To commit great bodily harm or terrorize the victim or another
- To hold in involuntary servitude

Penalty: if victim released without great bodily harm, 20 years and or \$35,000

If victim not released in safe place or suffers great bodily harm, of if victim is under age 16, 40 years and or \$50,000



NONSUPPORT OF SPOUSE OR CHILD

If legally obligated to provide care and support to spouse or child
Knowingly fails to do so

- Penalty: 90 days and or \$700

If violation continues for more than 90 days but less than 180

- Penalty: one year and or \$3,000

If violation continues for more than 180 days

- Penalty: two years and or \$5,000

DEPRIVING ANOTHER OF CUSTODIAL OR PARENTAL RIGHTS

Whoever

- Conceals a minor child from the child's parent with intent to deprive or conceals from another having the right to visitation or custody
- Takes or fails to return a minor child in violation of a court order
- Takes or fails to return a minor child after commencement of an action relating to visitation or custody but before a court order is issued
- Causes or contributes to a child being a habitual truant
- Causes or contributes to child being a runaway

Penalty varies from 2-4 years and or \$4,000-8,000.

LEAVING STATE TO EVADE ESTABLISHMENT OF PATERNITY

Intent to evade paternity proceedings

- Knowing of child or unborn child

Penalty: 2 years and or \$4,000

MALICIOUS PUNISHMENT OF A CHILD

Parent, legal guardian, or caretaker

- Intentional act or series of intentional acts
- Uses unreasonable force or cruel discipline

Penalty: one year and or \$3,000

- If punishment results in substantial bodily harm

Penalty: 5 years and or \$10,000

- If punishment results in great bodily harm

Penalty: 10 years and or \$20,000

- If punishment is to child under age four and causes bodily harm to head, eyes, neck, or multiple bruises

Penalty: 5 years and or \$10,000

NEGLECT OR ENDANGERMENT OF A CHILD

Neglect: parent, legal guardian, or caretaker who



- willfully deprives a child of necessary food, clothing, shelter, health care, or supervision
 - is reasonably able to provide
 - causing deprivation that harms child's physical, mental, or emotional health
- Penalty: one year and or \$3,000

- If deprivation results in substantial harm
- Penalty: 5 years and or \$10,000

- If knowingly permits continuing physical or sexual abuse of a child
- Penalty: one year and or \$3,000.

Endangerment: parent, legal guardian, or caretaker who endangers the child's person or health by

- Intentionally or recklessly causing or permitting a child to be placed in a situation likely to substantially harm the child's physical, mental, or emotional health or cause the child's death, or
 - Knowingly causing or permitting the child to be present where any person is selling or possessing a controlled substance
- Penalty: one year and or \$3,000

- If endangerment results in substantial harm to the child,
- Penalty: five years and or \$10,000

- Endangerment by firearm access: a person who intentionally or recklessly causes a child under 14 years of age to be placed in a situation likely to substantially harm the child's physical health or cause the child's death as a result of the child's access to a loaded firearm
- Penalty: one year and or \$3,000

- If endangerment results in substantial harm to the child
- Penalty: 5 years and or \$10,000

SOLICITATION OF JUVENILES

If adult solicits or conspires with a minor to commit a crime or delinquent act or is an accomplice to a minor in the commission of a crime or delinquent act. Solicit means attempting to persuade.

If intended criminal act is a misdemeanor

- The adult is guilty of a misdemeanor
- Penalty: 90 days and or \$700

If the intended criminal act is a gross misdemeanor

- The adult is guilty of a gross misdemeanor
- Penalty: one Year and or \$3,000



If the intended criminal act is a felony

- The adult is guilty of a felony

Penalty: one half the maximum for the intended criminal act

AIDING AN OFFENDER

- Whoever harbors, conceals, or aids another known to have committed a felony
- With the intent that the offender shall avoid or escape from arrest, trial, conviction, or punishment.
- Does not apply if offender is spouse, parent, or child.

Penalty: three years and or \$5,000

PROSTITUTION

Person agrees to engage in sex for money. Sex includes sexual penetration (any penetration by a body part or object, no matter how slight, into the genitalia or anal openings of prostitute or patron) or sexual contact (intentional touching of prostitute's or patron's intimate parts)

- Engaging in prostitution with an individual under age of 13 years

Penalty: 20 years and or \$40,000

- Engaging in prostitution with an individual under age 16 but at least 13 years old

Penalty: 10 years and or \$20,000

- Engaging in prostitution with an individual under age 18 but at least 16 years old

Penalty: 5 years and or \$10,000

- Engaging in prostitution with an individual age 18 or older

Penalty: 90 days and or \$700

Second violation within 2 years results in penalty of 1 year and or \$3,000.

SOLICITATION, INDUCEMENT, AND PROMOTION OF PROSTITUTION

Whoever (other than prostitute or patron)

- Solicits or promotes an individual under age 16 to practice prostitution

Penalty: 20 years and or \$40,000

- If individual is 16 to 18 years old

Penalty: 10 years and or \$20,000

- Over age 18

Penalty: 3 years and or \$5,000

- Solicits or promotes through fraud or deceit

Penalty: 5 years, and or \$10,000



RECEIVING PROFIT DERIVED FROM PROSTITUTION

Whoever (other than prostitute or patron)

- Intentionally receives profit from prostitution or the promotion of prostitution
- Prostitute is under age 16 years

Penalty 15 years and or \$30,000

- If prostitute is 16 to 18 years old

Penalty: 5 years and or \$10,000

ARSON, FIRST DEGREE

Subdivision 1

- Intentional destruction or damage to any building by means of fire or explosives
- Building is used as a place to live
- Whether or not person is present

Penalty: 20 years and or \$20,000

Subdivision 2

- Intentional destruction or damage to any building other than a house by means of fire or explosives
- Another person is in the building, or
- There is a reasonable possibility that there is another person in the building

Penalty: 20 year and or \$35,000

Subdivision 3

- Intentional destruction or damage to any building by means of fire or explosives
- With the use of a flammable material to start or accelerate the fire

Penalty: 20 years and or \$20,000

ARSON, SECOND DEGREE

- Whoever, by fire or explosives, intentionally destroys or damages building not included in first degree
- Real (land) or Personal property valued at more than \$1,000

Penalty: 10 years and or \$20,000

THEFT

Whoever intentionally and without claim of right takes, uses, transfers, conceals or retains possession of another's property without consent

- If property is a firearm or is valued at more than \$35,000

Penalty: 20 years and or \$100,000

- If property is valued at more than \$2,500 or if property was an explosive device or a Schedule I or II controlled substance

Penalty: 10 years and or \$20,000



- If property valued between \$500 and \$2,500 or if property was a Schedule III, IV, or V controlled substance

Penalty: 5 years and or \$10,000

BURGLARY, FIRST DEGREE

Whoever enters a building without consent and with intent to commit a crime, or enters a building without consent and commits a crime

- Building is a dwelling and an innocent person is in the building, or
- The burglar possesses dangerous weapon or item, or
- Burglar assaults a person within the building

Penalty: 20 years and or \$35,000

BURGLARY, SECOND DEGREE

Whoever enters a building without consent and with intent to commit a crime, or enters a building without consent and commits a crime

- Building is a dwelling, or
- Building is a bank or similar business and the entry is forcible, or
- Building is a pharmacy and the entry is forcible, or
- Burglar possesses a tool to gain entry

Penalty: 10 years and or \$20,000

BURGLARY, THIRD DEGREE

Whoever enters any other building without consent and with intent to steal or commit a felony or gross misdemeanor or enters a building without consent and steals or commits a felony or gross misdemeanor.

Penalty: 5 years and or \$10,000

HARASSMENT

An act, word, or gesture that is repeated and intrusive and is intended to have a harmful affect on the safety, security, or privacy of another person.

To harass someone means to engage in intentional conduct that would cause any ordinary person to feel oppressed, persecuted, or intimidated, and does cause this reaction in the victim.

Committing any of the following acts is harassment

- Directly or indirectly showing intent to injure the person, property, or rights of another, usually by doing something illegal
- Stalks, follows or pursues another
- Returns to the property of another without claim of right
- Repeatedly makes or forces another to make telephone calls to the victim, whether conversation ensues or not.
- Makes or causes the telephone of another to ring repeatedly or continuously
- Repeatedly uses the mail or delivers or causes the delivery of letters, telegrams, packages, or other objects



- Engages in any other harassing conduct that interferes with another person or intrudes on the person's privacy or liberty.

Penalty: one year and or \$3,000

Aggravated violations:

If the person commits any of the above acts under any of the following circumstances, that person could be found guilty of a felony.

- the harassment is based on the victim's perceived or actual race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, disability, age of national origin, or
- if the person possesses a dangerous weapon at the time of the offense, or
- If the victim is a minor and the offender is at least three years older than the victim.

Penalty: 5 years and or \$10,000

Subsequent violations:

- Commits any of the above gross misdemeanor offenses within 10 years of conviction

Penalty: 5 years or \$10,000

Pattern of harassing conduct

A person who engages in a pattern of harassing conduct with a single victim or one or more members of a single household in a manner that would cause a reasonable person under the circumstances to feel terrorized or to fear bodily harm and that does cause this reaction

Penalty: 10 years and or \$20,000

DAMAGE TO PROPERTY, FIRST DEGREE

Whoever intentionally causes damage and

- Damage to the property caused a reasonably foreseeable risk of bodily harm, or
- Property belongs to a public utility or a common carrier, or
- Damage reduces the value of the property by more than \$500 measured by the cost of repair and replacement, or
- Damage reduces the value by more than \$250 measured by the cost of replacement and the defendant has been convicted of similar crime within last three years.

Penalty: 5 years and or \$10,000

DAMAGE TO PROPERTY, SECOND DEGREE

Whoever intentionally causes damage to property in the third degree (reduces value more than \$250 but less than \$500) but does it because of the property owner's race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, disability, age or national origin

Penalty: one year and one day and or \$3,000 (felony)



DAMAGE TO PROPERTY, THIRD DEGREE

- Whoever intentionally causes damage to property and reduce value more than \$250 but less than \$500, or
- Damages reduce value less than \$250 and offender's action was motivated by the property owner's race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, disability, age, or national origin.

Penalty: one year and or \$3,000 (Gross Misdemeanor)

Common Felonies

Activity: Charging a crime

You are the county attorney. You are responsible for deciding if a crime has been committed, what the crime or crimes are, and what charges you would like to bring. Things to keep in mind:

- Different crimes carry different penalties. You want the offenders to serve as much time as possible to “get them off of the streets”. You might select the crimes you want to charge based on the possible penalty.
- The maximum penalties are the most a person can serve as decided by the legislature. But actual sentencing is done according to sentencing guidelines that provide recommended sentences. Judges can depart from the recommended sentences if there are very good reasons for the departure.
- You don’t want to make charges that you can’t prove.
- You must have evidence to support each of the elements of a crime.

For example, in the crime of “Aiding an offender” the elements are:

1. The person charged must have harbored, concealed, or aided another
 2. The person charged knew that the other person committed a felony
 3. The person charged intended that the offender avoid or escape from arrest, trial, conviction, or punishment.
 4. And that the person charged is not a spouse, parent, or child of the offender.
- The jury will be instructed to look at each element and determine if there is enough evidence to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the person charged did it.

Steps

1. Look at each case.
2. List the crimes that you believe were committed.
3. Find the crimes in the “Common Felonies” sheet.
4. Decide if the elements are present and select crimes you wish to charge.

Common Felonies

Activity: Charging a crime

For each case, write down all possible crimes. Then, using the descriptions and elements in the list of common felonies, decide which crimes you would charge.

1. Andrew needed money. He didn't see any other way to get the money he needed other than to steal it. He waited outside of a store, looking for someone who seemed to be an easy target. When he saw an older woman walking with a cane, he went up to her, said he had a gun, grabbed her purse and ran away from the store.

Possible Crimes:

Crimes charged:

2. Alisha and some other people were standing at the bus stop. Some kids came running down the street. They started pushing and shoving the people at the bus stop. They pulled a very expensive watch off of one of the men. Then, just as a car was driving down the street, they pushed Alisha out into the road in front of the car. Alisha was in critical condition for several weeks. She is confined to a wheelchair.

Possible crimes:

Crimes charged:

3. Ron was very angry with some kids at school because they kept teasing him about his clothes. He decided that he wasn't going to take it anymore and if they teased him again, he would be prepared. He brought a knife to school and kept it in his locker. When Julian started to tease him, Ron went to his locker and got out the knife. He went after Julian to stab him. He said he was going to kill him. Other students tried to stop him, but not before he stabbed Julian in the arm.

Possible crimes

Crimes charged:

4. Tony and Sam were out causing trouble. They thought it would be funny to burn a cross in the yard of the only African American family in town. They built the cross out of some scrap lumber, climbed over the fence and set in on fire. It burned quickly also starting some lawn furniture on fire. The value of the furniture was approximately \$300.

Possible crimes:

Crimes charged:

5. A group of students were spotted throwing soda cans out on the floor during a basketball game. One of the referees was hit by a full can of soda, striking him in the head, knocking him unconscious. He is suffering from seizures related to the incident.

Possible crimes:

Crimes charged:

6. Tanya's boyfriend is always getting into trouble. She knows that he was recently involved in a major theft ring. He came home one night and showed her a jewelry chest filled with diamond and other gems, pearls, etc. She wants him to stop, but he says "don't worry, I won't get caught." His luck ran out. He was arrested one evening in their home. The police arrested Tanya too. Has Tanya committed a crime?

Possible crimes (boyfriend):

Possible crimes (Tanya):

Crimes charged (boyfriend):

Crimes charged (Tanya):

7. Taneesha's boyfriend belongs to a gang. One night the gang asks Taneesha to repeatedly call a telephone number. They tell her to wait until the phone is answered and then hang up. They ask her to do this on three other occasions.

Possible crimes:

Crimes charged: