

**FORGERY OF A VEHICLE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER**  
**(Affixing of Vehicle Identification Number to Vehicle)**  
**Penal Law § 170.65(3)**  
**(Committed on or After April 1, 1971)**

The (*specify*) count is Forgery of a Vehicle Identification Number.

Under our law, a person is guilty of Forgery of a Vehicle Identification Number when he or she affixes a vehicle identification number to a vehicle except in accordance with the provisions of the vehicle and traffic law.<sup>1</sup>

The following term used in that definition has a special meaning:

A VEHICLE means a motor vehicle [or trailer], [or semi-trailer], [or snowmobile], [or aircraft], [or any vessel equipped for propulsion by mechanical means or by sail].<sup>2</sup>

In order for you to find the defendant guilty of this crime, the people are required to prove, from all of the evidence in the case, beyond a reasonable doubt, both of the following two elements:

1. That on or about \_\_\_\_\_, in the county of \_\_\_\_\_ (*county*), the defendant, \_\_\_\_\_ (*defendant's name*), affixed a vehicle identification number to a vehicle
2. That the defendant did so not in accordance with the provisions of the

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<sup>1</sup>See Vehicle & Traffic Law article 17 (§ 420, et seq.). See also, e.g., Vehicle & Traffic Law § 422.

<sup>2</sup>See Penal Law §10.00(14); See also, Vehicle and Traffic Law §125 for the definition of motor vehicle; VTL §156 for the definition of a trailer, VTL §143 for the definition of a semi-trailer, Parks and Recreation Law §21.05(3) for the definition of a snowmobile.

vehicle and traffic law.

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.