IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF [*county*] COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA,

v. [*case number*]

Hon. [*name*]

[*name-all caps*],

Defendant.

DEFENDANT’S INSTRUCTION NO. \_\_\_\_

Members of the Jury, you have informed the Court of your inability to reach a verdict in this case. At the outset, the Court wishes you to know that, although you have a duty to reach a verdict if possible, the Court has neither the power nor the desire to compel agreement upon a verdict. These remarks are to point out to you the importance and desirability of reaching a verdict in this case, provided, however, that you, as individual jurors, can do so without surrendering or sacrificing your conscientious scruples or personal convictions. You will recall that, upon assuming your duties in this case, each of you took an oath. That oath places upon each of you, as individuals, the responsibility of arriving at a true verdict upon the basis of your own opinion and not merely upon acquiescence in the conclusions of your fellow jurors. This allows for the possibility that opinions may be changed by conference in the jury room. The jury system’s object is to reach a verdict by a comparison of views and by a consideration of the proofs of your fellow jurors.

GIVEN:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

REFUSED:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

MODIFIED:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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JUDGE