

Ala. Code 1975, §13A-6-152(a)(1)

Human Trafficking First Degree *
(Coercion or Deception)

[*These instructions apply to offenses committed before July 1, 2018.]

The defendant is charged with human trafficking in the first degree.

A person commits the crime of human trafficking in the first degree if he/she knowingly subjects another person to labor servitude or sexual servitude through use of coercion or deception.

To convict, the State must prove beyond a reasonable doubt each of the following elements:

1. The defendant subjected another person, **[Insert name of victim]**, to labor servitude or sexual servitude;
2. The defendant did so through use of coercion or deception; **(AND)**
3. The defendant acted knowingly.

[Read as appropriate]:

Labor servitude is work or service of economic or financial value which is performed or provided by another person and is induced or obtained by coercion or deception. [13A-6-151(3)]

Sexual Servitude is any of the following:

[Read as appropriate]:

(a) Any sexual conduct as defined in subdivision (3) of Section 14-11-30, Code of Alabama 1975, for which anything of value is directly or indirectly given, promised to, or received by any person, which conduct is induced or obtained by coercion or deception from a person.

(b) Sexual conduct includes: **[Read as appropriate]:**

- (1) Sexually explicit performances, meaning an act or show intended

- to arouse, satisfy the sexual desires of, or appeal to the prurient interests of patrons or viewers, whether public or private, live, photographed, recorded, videotaped, or projected over the Internet.
- (2) Commercial sex acts, meaning any sex act on account of which anything of value is given, promised to, or received, directly or indirectly by any person.
 - (3) Acts defined in subdivision (3) of Section 14-11-30, Code of Alabama 1975.
- [13A-6-151(7)]

[Read as appropriate]: Section 14-11-30(3) defines sexual conduct as any of the following acts:

[Read as appropriate]:

- a. Sexual intercourse. This term shall have its ordinary meaning and occurs upon a penetration, however slight; emission is not required.
- b. Sexual contact. Any known touching for the purpose of sexual arousal, gratification, or abuse of the following:
 - 1. The sexual or other intimate parts of the victim by the actor.
 - 2. The sexual or other intimate parts of the actor by the victim.
 - 3. The clothing covering the immediate area of the sexual or other intimate parts of the victim or actor.
- c. Sexual intrusion. Any intrusion, however slight, by any object or any part of the body of a person into the genital, anal, or oral opening of the body of another person if that sexual intrusion can reasonably be construed as being for the purposes of sexual arousal, gratification, or abuse.

[14-11-30(3)]

[Read as appropriate]:

Coercion is any of the following:

[Read as appropriate]:

- (a) Causing or threatening to cause physical injury or mental suffering to any person, physically restraining or confining any person, or threatening to physically restrain or confine any person or otherwise causing the person

performing or providing labor or services to believe that the person or another person will suffer physical injury or mental suffering.

- (b) Implementing any scheme, plan, or pattern intended to cause a person to believe that failure to perform an act would result in physical injury, mental suffering, or physical restraint of any person.
- (c) Destroying , concealing, removing, confiscating, or withholding from the person or another person, or threatening to destroy, conceal, remove, confiscate, or withhold from the person or another person, the person's or any person's actual or purported government records, immigration documents, identifying information, or person or real property.
- (d) Exposing or threatening to expose any fact or information that if revealed would tend to subject a person to criminal prosecution, criminal or immigration proceedings, hatred, contempt, or ridicule.
- (e) Threatening to report the person or another person to immigration officials or to other law enforcement officials or otherwise blackmailing or extorting the person or another person.
- (f) Controlling a person's access to a controlled substance, as the term is defined in Section 20-2-2, Code of Alabama 1975.
Section 20-2-2 defines a controlled substance as a drug, substance, or immediate precursor in Schedules I through V of Article 2 of this chapter. **[Determine if the substance is on one of the Schedules and so state to the jury unless it is a fact question]**
- (g) Rape or sodomy or threatened rape or sodomy of any person, as defined by Title 13A, Code of Alabama 1975. **[Insert instruction for appropriate rape or sodomy statute]**
[13A-6-151(1)]

Physical injury is impairment of physical condition or substantial pain. [13A-6-151(6)]

Mental suffering is a high degree of mental pain or emotional disturbances, such as distress, anxiety, public humiliation, or psychosomatic physical symptoms. It is more than mere disappointment, anger, resentment, wounded pride, or embarrassment and must be a direct result of the crime of human trafficking. [13A-6-151(4)]

Deception is any of the following: **[Read as appropriate]:**

(a) Creating or confirming an impression of any existing fact or past event which is false and which the accused knows or believes to be false.

(b) Exerting financial control over the person or another person by placing the person or another person under the actor's control as a security or payment of a debt, if the value of the services as reasonably assessed is not applied toward the liquidation of the debt or the length and nature of those services are not respectively limited and defined or the principal amount of the debt does not reasonably reflect the value of the items or services for which debt was incurred or by preventing a person from acquiring information pertinent to the disposition of the debt, referenced in this paragraph.

(c) Promise benefits or the performance of services which the accused does not intend to be delivered. Evidence of failure to deliver benefits or perform services standing alone shall not be sufficient to authorize a connection under this Article.

(d) Using any scheme, plan, or pattern, whether overt or subtle, intended to cause any person to believe that, if the person did not perform such labor, services, acts or performances, the person or another person would suffer physical injury or mental suffering.

[13A-6-151(2)]

A person acts *knowingly* with respect to conduct or to a circumstance described by a statute defining an offense when he is aware that his conduct is of that nature or that the circumstance exists. [13A-2-2(2)]

If you find from the evidence that the State has proved beyond a reasonable doubt each of the above elements of human trafficking in the first degree, then you shall find the defendant guilty of the offense of human trafficking in the first degree.

If you find that the State has failed to prove beyond a reasonable doubt any one or more of the elements of human trafficking in the first degree, then you cannot find the defendant guilty of human trafficking in the first degree.

[If lesser-included offenses are included, the Court should instruct on those offenses at this point.]

Use Notes

Evidence of the following facts or conditions shall not constitute a defense in a prosecution for human trafficking in the first degree, nor shall the evidence preclude a finding of a violation:

- (1) A human trafficking victim's sexual history or history of commercial sexual activity.
- (2) A human trafficking victim's connection by blood or marriage to a defendant in the case or to anyone involved in the victim's trafficking.
- (3) Consent of or permission by a victim of human trafficking or anyone else on the victim's behalf to any commercial sex act or sexually explicit performance.
- (4) Age of consent to sex, an act defined by paragraph b. of subdivision (7) of Section 1 [i.e. Section 13A-6-151] of the definition for sexual servitude, legal age of marriage, or other discretionary age.
- (5) Mistake as to the human trafficking victim's age, even if the mistake is reasonable.

If any apply, a charge should be given setting out the prohibited defense or defenses followed by the phrase: "is no defense to a prosecution for this offense." [13A-6-154]

A corporation, or any other legal entity other than an individual, may be prosecuted for human trafficking in the first degree for an act or omission only if an agent of the corporation or entity performs the conduct which is an element of the crime while acting within the scope of his or her office or employment and on behalf of the corporation or entity, and the commission of the crime was either authorized, requested, commanded, performed, or within the scope of the person's employment on behalf of the corporation or entity or constituted a pattern of conduct that an agent of the corporation or entity knew or should have known was occurring. [13A-6-152(a)(4)]

If a corporation is charged with Human Trafficking First Degree, see jury instructions for 13A-6-152(a)(4).

[Approved April 26, 2024].