

Ala. Code 1975, §13A-8-151(a)(4)
Publishing Number or Code

The defendant is charged with publishing the number or code of a telephone number, credit number or other credit device.

A person commits the crime of publishing the number or code of a telephone number, credit number or other credit device if he/she knowingly publishes the number or code of an existing, cancelled, revoked or nonexistent telephone number, credit number, or other credit device, or method of numbering or coding which is employed in the issuance of telephone numbers, credit numbers or other credit devices with knowledge or reason to believe that it may be used to avoid the payment of any lawful telephone or telegraph toll charge under circumstances evincing an intent to have such telephone number, credit number, credit device or method of numbering or coding so used.

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

(1) The defendant published the number or code of an existing, cancelled, revoked or nonexistent telephone number, credit number, or other credit device, or method of numbering or coding which was employed in the issuance of telephone numbers, credit numbers or other credit devices;

(2) The Defendant did so with knowledge or reason to believe that it may be used to avoid the payment of any lawful telephone or telegraph toll charge under circumstances evincing an intent to have such telephone number, credit number, credit device or method of numbering or coding so used.

A manufacture of an unlawful telecommunication device is the production or assembly of an unlawful telecommunication device or the modification, alteration, programming, or reprogramming of a telecommunication device to be capable of acquiring or facilitating the acquisition of telecommunication service without the consent of the telecommunication service provider. [13A-8-150(1)]

To *publish* means the communication or dissemination of information to any one or more persons, either orally in person, or by telephone, computer network, radio, television, or in a writing of any kind, including, without limitation, a letter or memorandum, circular, handbill, newspaper, magazine article, or book. [13A-8-150(2)]

A telecommunication device is any type of instrument, device, machine, or equipment that is capable of transmitting or receiving telephonic, electronic, or radio communications, or any part of such instrument, device, machine or equipment, or any computer circuit, computer chip, electronic mechanism, or other component that is capable of facilitating the transmission or reception of telephonic, electronic, or radio communication. [13A-8-150(3)]

A telecommunication service is any service provided for a charge or compensation to facilitate the origination, transmission, emission, or reception of signs,

signals, data, writings, images, sounds, or intelligence of any nature by telephone, including cellular telephones, wire, radio, electromagnetic, photoelectronic, or photo-optical system. [13A-8-150(4)]

A *telecommunication service provider* is a person or entity providing telecommunication service including, but not limited to, a cellular, paging, or other wireless communications company or other person or entity which, for a fee, supplies the facility, cell site, mobile telephone switching office, or other equipment or telecommunication service. [13A-8-150(5)]

An *unlawful telecommunication device* is any electronic serial number, mobile identification number, personal identification number, or any telecommunication device that is capable, or has been altered, modified, programmed, or reprogrammed alone or in conjunction with another access device or other equipment so as to be capable of acquiring or facilitating the acquisition of a telecommunication service without the consent of the telecommunication service provider. The term includes, but is not limited to, telecommunication devices altered to obtain service without the consent of the telecommunication service provider, tumbler phones, counterfeit or illegally cloned microchips, scanning receivers of wireless telecommunication service of a telecommunication service provider, and other instruments capable of disguising their identity or location or of gaining access to a communication system operated by a telecommunication service provider. Excluded from being classified as unlawful is a common piece of telephone installation and maintenance equipment known as a dial set or butt-in-ski. [13A-8-150(6)]

A person acts *knowingly* with respect to conduct or to a circumstance described by a statute defining an offense he/she is aware that his/her 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 elements of publishing the number or code of a telephone number, credit number or other credit device, then you shall find the defendant guilty of publishing the number or code of a telephone number, credit number or other credit device.

If you find from the evidence that the State has failed to prove beyond a reasonable doubt any one or more of the elements of publishing the number or code of a telephone number, credit number or other credit device, then you shall find the defendant not guilty of publishing the number or code of a telephone number, credit number or other credit device.

If you find the defendant guilty of publishing the number or code of a telephone number, credit number or other credit device, then it shall be your duty to determine if the State has proved beyond a reasonable doubt that the offense involved 5 or more unlawful telecommunication devices. You shall enter your verdict on a special verdict form which I will provide you. If you do not find the

defendant guilty of publishing the number or code of a telephone number, credit number or other credit device, then you need not proceed further.

[Approved October 18, 2019].