

IMPROPER VESSEL<sup>1</sup> REGISTRATION. MISDEMEANOR. N.C.G.S. 75A-4.

The defendant has been charged with improper vessel registration.

For you to find the defendant guilty of this offense, the State must prove two things beyond a reasonable doubt.

First, that the defendant [operated] [gave permission for the operation of] any vessel on the waters of this State<sup>2</sup>.

And Second, that

- a. [the vessel was not numbered in accordance with [applicable State law] [applicable federal law] [a federally approved numbering system of another state.]
- b. [the certificate of number<sup>3</sup> awarded to the vessel was not in effect.]
- c. [the identification number set forth in the certificate of number was not displayed on each side of the bow of the vessel.]

If you find from the evidence beyond a reasonable doubt that on or about the alleged date the defendant [operated] [gave permission for the operation of] any vessel on the waters of this State and that

- a. [the vessel was not numbered in accordance with [applicable State law] [applicable federal law] [a federally approved numbering system of another state,]
- b. [the certificate of number awarded to the vessel was not in effect,]

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1. "Vessel" means every description of watercraft or structure, other than a seaplane on the water, used or capable of being used as a means of transportation or habitation on water. See N.C.G.S. 75A-2(5).

2. "Waters of this State" means any waters within the territorial limits of the State, and the marginal sea adjacent to this State and the high seas when navigated as part of a journey or ride to or from the shore of this State, but does not include private ponds as defined in G.S. 113-129. See N.C.G.S. 75A-2(6).

3. "Certificate of number" means the document and permanent identification number issued by the Wildlife Resources Commission for the purpose of registering a vessel in this State. See N.C.G.S. 75A-2(1a).

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- c. [the identification number set forth in the certificate of number was not displayed on each side of the bow of the vessel,]

it would be your duty to return a verdict of guilty. If you do not so find or have a reasonable doubt as to one or both of these things, it would be your duty to return a verdict of not guilty.