

210.84 HUMAN TRAFFICKING OF A MINOR INVOLVING INVOLUNTARY  
SERVITUDE. FELONY.

*NOTE WELL: Each violation of this section constitutes a separate offense and shall not merge with any other offense. Evidence of failure to deliver benefits or perform services standing alone shall not be sufficient to support a conviction a conviction under this section.*

The defendant has been charged with human trafficking of a minor involving involuntary servitude.

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

First, that the defendant [willfully] [in reckless disregard of the consequences of the action] held a minor, a person who was less than 18 years of age<sup>1</sup> in involuntary servitude.

And Second, that in so doing, the defendant intentionally used violence or the threat of violence to [deceive] [coerce] [intimidate] that person to perform labor, whether or not for compensation, and whether or not for satisfaction of a debt.<sup>2</sup>

*NOTE WELL: For offenses occurring on or after December 1, 2018, if the defendant claims the defendant was a victim, and there is evidence to support this affirmative defense, the following language should be used:*

(There is evidence in this case tending to show that the defendant was [coerced] [deceived] into committing this offense as a direct result of the defendant's status as a victim.<sup>3</sup> The burden of proving [coercion] [deceit] as a defense is upon the defendant. It need not be proved beyond a reasonable

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doubt, but only to your satisfaction. The defendant would not be guilty of human trafficking of a minor involving involuntary servitude if:

First, the defendant was a victim of [human trafficking]<sup>4</sup> [involuntary servitude]<sup>5</sup> (or) [sexual servitude]<sup>6</sup> at the time of the offense.

And Second, that the defendant was [coerced] [deceived] into committing the offense as a direct result of the defendant's status as a victim.

The defendant's assertion of [coercion] [deceit] is a denial that the defendant has committed any crime. The burden remains on the State to prove the defendant's guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.)

If you find from the evidence beyond a reasonable doubt that on or about the alleged date, the defendant [willfully] [in reckless disregard of the consequences of the action] held a minor, and that in so doing, the defendant intentionally used violence or the threat of violence to [deceive] [coerce] [intimidate] the minor to perform labor, whether or not for compensation, and whether or not for satisfaction of a debt, (and that the defendant was not a victim [coerced] [deceived] into committing the offense of human trafficking of a minor involving involuntary servitude), 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 more of these things, it would be your duty to return a verdict of not guilty.

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1 Mistake of age is not a defense to prosecution under this section. Consent of a minor is not a defense to prosecution under this section.

2 See N.C. Gen. Stat. § 14-43.10 for the definition of coercion, deception, and involuntary servitude.

3 N.C. Gen. Stat. § 14-43.16

4 See N.C. Gen. Stat. § 14-43.11 for a definition of human trafficking.

5 See N.C. Gen. Stat. § 14-43.12 for a definition of involuntary servitude.

6 See N.C. Gen. Stat. § 14-43.13 for a definition of sexual servitude.