

**13.39A**  
**Definition Of Forgery**

*Use For Cases Where The Offense Is Alleged To Have Occurred After December 31, 2011*

A person commits the offense of forgery when he, with intent to defraud, knowingly

[1] [makes a false document] [or] [alters any document to make it false] apparently capable of defrauding another so that it appears to have been made [(by another) (at another time) (with different provisions) (by authority of one who did not give such authority)].

[or]

[2] [issues] [or] [delivers] a \_\_\_\_\_ apparently capable of defrauding another which he knows has been made or altered so that it appears to have been made [(by another) (at another time) (with different provisions) (by authority of one who did not give such authority)].

[or]

[3] possesses, with intent to [(issue) (deliver)], a \_\_\_\_\_ apparently capable of defrauding another which he knows has been made or altered so that it appears to have been made [(by another) (at another time) (with different provisions) (by authority of one who did not give such authority)].

[or]

[4] unlawfully uses the digital signature of another.

[or]

[5] unlawfully uses the signature device of another to create an electronic signature of that other person.

**Committee Note**

720 ILCS 5/17-3 (West 2015), amended by P.A. 90-575, effective March 20, 1998, which added subsection (a)(4), amended by P.A. 90-759, effective July 1, 1999, which added subsection (a)(5); amended by P.A. 97-231, changing the language of subsection (a)(1) and adding the definition of “false document or document that is false”.

Give Instruction 13.40.

When applicable, give Instruction 13.42, defining “document”.

When applicable, give Instruction 5.12, defining “digital signature”.

When applicable, give Instruction 5.13, defining “electronic signature”.

When applicable, give Instruction 5.14, defining “signature device”.

When applicable, give Instruction 5.15, defining “false document” or “document that is false”.

In *People v. Kent*, 40 Ill. App.3d 256, 260, 350 N.E.2d 890 (5th Dist. 1976), the appellate court found that a check was apparently capable of defrauding another where it was complete in every respect except its genuineness.

Insert in the blanks the appropriate descriptions of the documents involved, *e.g.* check, note, mortgage.

Use applicable paragraphs and bracketed material.

The bracketed numbers are present solely for the guidance of court and counsel and should not be included in the instruction submitted to the jury.