

**145 INFORMATION NOT EVIDENCE**

(An information) (A complaint) is nothing more than a written, formal accusation against a defendant charging the commission of one or more criminal acts. You are not to consider it as evidence against the defendant in any way. It does not raise any inference of guilt.<sup>1</sup>

**COMMENT**

Wis JI-Criminal 145 was originally published in 1962. Footnote 1 was added in 1976. It was republished without substantive change in 1992 and 2000.

1. Where two or more charges are joined in a single information, there may be a need for a cautionary instruction to cure the possible prejudice to the defendant. Peters v. State, 70 Wis.2d 22, 223 N.W.2d 420 (1975). The instruction is most effective if given at the time the verdict is submitted. Give Wis JI-Criminal 484.