

**460 CLOSING INSTRUCTION**

Now, members of the jury, the duties of counsel and the court have been performed. The case has been argued by counsel. The court has instructed you regarding the rules of law which should govern you in your deliberations. The time has now come when the great burden of reaching a just, fair, and conscientious decision of this case is to be thrown wholly upon you, the jurors, selected for this important duty. You will not be swayed by sympathy, prejudice, or passion. You will be very careful and deliberate in weighing the evidence. I charge you to keep your duty steadfastly in mind and, as upright citizens, to render a just and true verdict.

You are to decide only whether the defendant is guilty or not guilty of the offense[s] charged. Any consequences of your verdict are matters for the court alone to decide and must not affect your deliberations.

[Give instructions on the verdicts submitted.]

**COMMENT**

Wis JI-Criminal 460 was originally published in 1962 and republished without change in 1994 and 2000. This revision was approved by the Committee in July 2009; it added the last two sentences regarding consequences of the verdict.

See Wis JI-Criminal 465 for a shorter, less formal closing.