

**1317 INTERFERING WITH A FIRE ALARM SYSTEM — § 941.12(1)****Statutory Definition of the Crime**

Interfering with a fire alarm system, as defined in § 941.12(1) of the Criminal Code of Wisconsin, is committed by one who intentionally interferes with the proper functioning of a fire alarm system.

**State's Burden of Proof**

Before you may find the defendant guilty of this offense, the State must prove by evidence which satisfies you beyond a reasonable doubt that the following two elements were present.

**Elements of the Crime That the State Must Prove**

1. The defendant interfered with the proper functioning of a fire alarm system.
2. The defendant intentionally interfered with the proper functioning of a fire alarm system.

"Intentionally" requires that the defendant acted with the mental purpose<sup>1</sup> to interfere with the proper functioning of a fire alarm system.

**Deciding About Intent**

You cannot look into a person's mind to find intent. Intent must be found, if found at all, from the defendant's acts, words, and statements, if any, and from all the facts and circumstances in this case bearing upon intent.

**Jury's Decision**

If you are satisfied beyond a reasonable doubt that both elements of this offense have been proved, you should find the defendant guilty.

If you are not so satisfied, you must find the defendant not guilty.

**COMMENT**

Wis JI-Criminal 1317 was originally published in 1974 and revised in 1977 and 1995. This revision was approved by the Committee in December 2006 and involved adoption of a new format and nonsubstantive changes to the text.

Section 941.12(1) also prohibits interference with the efforts of the fire fighters. See Wis JI-Criminal 1318.

1. When appropriate add: "or was aware that his conduct was practically certain to cause that result. See § 939.23(3) and Wis JI-Criminal 923B.