

22.19A Definition Of Material For Obstructing Justice

The term “material” in this offense means behavior that actually interferes with the administration of justice.

Committee Note

720 ILCS 5/31-4 (West 2025).

Note that this instruction is for use with obstruction of justice charges, not other offenses.

In *People v. Cassler*, 2020 IL 125117, the Illinois Supreme Court construed section 31-4(a)(1) (720 ILCS 5/31-4(a)(1)) to include a material impediment requirement. *Cassler*, 2020 IL 125117, ¶ 69. The court reasoned that the legislature intended to criminalize behavior that actually interferes with the administration of justice. *Cassler*, 2020 IL 125117, ¶ 35.