

## Chapter 2 – Criminal Law

### I-Study

In this chapter you learned about criminal law. A crime is an act against the public good. A felony is a major crime punishable by imprisonment or death. A less serious crime is called a misdemeanor. An infraction is a minor offense punishable by a fine. Both federal and state courts can make and enforce criminal laws. A crime is defined by two elements: the criminal act and the required state of mind. Criminal defendants can use the following defenses: insanity, entrapment, self-defense, and defense of family members.

Crimes against people include murder, manslaughter, assault, battery, kidnapping, sex offenses, and domestic violence. Crimes against property include burglary, larceny, embezzlement, robbery, arson, vandalism, and shoplifting. Business crimes include embezzlement, shoplifting, fraud, money laundering, arson, and forgery. Crimes against the government include treason, perjury, obstruction of justice, contempt of court, and bribery. Crimes against society includes disorderly conduct and rioting.

### I-Quiz

1. Which of the following plays no part in proving criminal liability?
  - A. Motive
  - B. State of mind
  - C. The criminal act
2. Perjury is a crime against
  - A. people.
  - B. business.
  - C. the government.
3. A crime that is less serious, and carries a lesser penalty, than a felony is called
  - A. an infraction.
  - B. a capital crime.
  - C. a misdemeanor.
4. The unintentional killing of another person is called
  - A. murder.
  - B. manslaughter.
  - C. aggravated assault.

## **Answer Key**

- 1. A**
- 2. C**
- 3. C**
- 4. B**