

PROPOSED INSTRUCTION NO. 14
CONTEMPT – LAWFULNESS OR CONSTITUTIONALITY OF ORDER
NOT A DEFENSE

It is not a defense to the crime of contempt that the court order that the defendant is accused of violating was unlawful or unconstitutional.

United States v. United Mine Workers of Am., 330 U.S. 258, 294 (1947) (“It is for the court of first instance to determine the question of the validity of the law, and until its decision is reversed for error by orderly review, either by itself or by a higher court, its orders based on its decision are to be respected, and disobedience of them is contempt of its lawful authority, to be punished.”).