

# WEST VIRGINIA CODE: §61-2-13

## **§61-2-13. Extortion or attempted extortion by threats; penalties.**

(a) A person who threatens, by direct threat, indirect threat, or innuendo, injury to the character, person, property, or any other thing of value of another person, or to the character, person, property, or any other thing of value of his or her spouse, child, or family or household member, as defined in §48-27-204 of this code, residing in the household at the time of the offense, or accuses him or her or them of a criminal offense, and thereby obtains anything of value, or other consideration, or compels the other person, against the other person's will, to perform any act, he or she is guilty of a felony and, upon conviction thereof, shall be imprisoned in a state correctional facility for not less than one year nor more than 10 years. A person who makes such threat of injury or accusation of an offense as set forth in this subsection, but fails to obtain anything of value or other consideration, is guilty of a felony and, upon conviction thereof, shall be imprisoned in a state correctional facility for not less than one year nor more than three years and fined not less than \$1,000 nor more than \$5,000, or both fined and imprisoned.

(b) For purposes of this section, "consideration" includes sexual contact, sexual intercourse, and sexual intrusion as defined in §61-8B-1 of this code, and private images as defined in §61-8B-6 of this code.