

**8.24**

**Affirmative Defenses To The Charge Of Unlawful Visitation Or  
Parenting Time Interference**

It is a defense to the charge of unlawful visitation or parenting time interference that the defendant committed the act to protect \_\_\_\_\_ from imminent physical harm, (child) provided that the defendant's belief that there was physical harm imminent was reasonable and that the defendant's conduct in withholding [(visitation rights) (parenting time) or (custody time)] was a reasonable response to the harm believed to be imminent.

[or]

the act was committed with the mutual consent of all parties having a right to custody and [(visitation of) or (parenting time with)] \_\_\_\_\_.  
(child)

[or]

the act was otherwise authorized by law.

**Committee Note**

*Instruction and Note Approved January 18, 2013.*

720 ILCS 5/10-5.5 (West 2013).

Give this instruction when any of these issues are raised by the evidence.

Use applicable bracketed material.

The brackets are present solely for the guidance of court and counsel and should not be included in the instructions submitted to the jury.