

**Rule 609. Impeachment by Evidence of a Criminal Conviction**

**(a) In General.** The following rules apply to attacking a witness's character for truthfulness by evidence of a criminal conviction:

- (1)** for a crime that, in the convicting jurisdiction, was punishable by death or by imprisonment for more than one year, the evidence:
  - (A)** must be admitted, **subject to Rule 403**, in a civil case or in a criminal case in which the witness is not a defendant; and
  - (B)** must be admitted in a criminal case in which the witness is a defendant, if the probative **value of the evidence outweighs its prejudicial effect** to that defendant; and
- (2)** for any crime regardless of the punishment, the evidence must be admitted if the court can readily determine that establishing the elements of the crime required proving — or the witness's admitting — a dishonest act or false statement.