**INSTRUCTION NO. 25**

**False Exculpatory Statements**

You have heard testimony that after the crimes were supposed to have been committed, Defendant Vance provided false exculpatory statements to FBI Special Agent Christopher Hubbuch.

If you believe that Defendant Vance provided false exculpatory statements to Special Agent Hubbuch, then you may consider this conduct, along with all the other evidence, in deciding whether the government has proved beyond a reasonable doubt that he committed the crimes charged. This conduct may indicate that he thought he was guilty and was trying to avoid punishment. On the other hand, sometimes an innocent person may offer implausible explanations for some other reason. The defendant has no obligation to prove that he had an innocent reason for his conduct.