

Michelle Sparrow:

So whenever you have assault charges with weapons, they can escalate from assault with a deadly weapon, that's when you had a weapon of some sort. Or it can be, if there's serious injury, it's going to be assault with a deadly weapon, inflicting serious injury. Or if the person with the weapon intended to kill the person, it's going to be, we call that assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill inflicting serious injury. They go from their misdemeanor to high-level felonies. You see some of these escalate like, assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill inflicting serious injury. Someone may get charged with that and then the victim dies, or the alleged victim dies, and then those are escalated into murder cases. The thing about serious injury is it doesn't have to be broken bones, it doesn't have to be hospitalization. I mean, I've seen in serious injury cases, cuts and bruises being the serious injury. So it can be something that normally you wouldn't think.