

## INMATE VIOLENCE



# Enhanced penalties for certain offenses committed by prisoner (UCA 76-3-203.6)

If the trier of fact finds beyond a reasonable doubt that a prisoner serving a sentence for a capital felony or a first degree felony commits any offense listed... the court shall sentence the defendant to life in prison without parole.



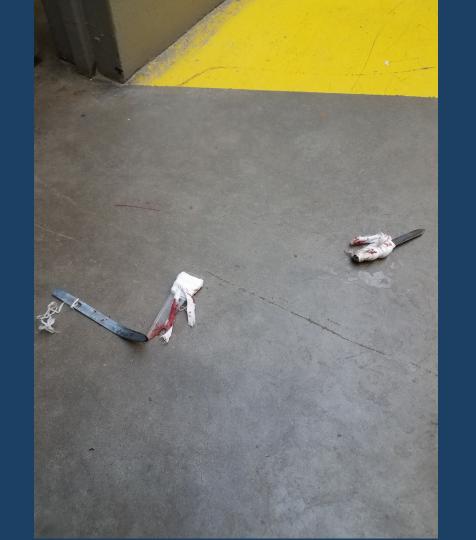
## Enhanced penalties for certain offenses committed by prisoner (UCA 76-3-203.6)

- Agg assault
- Mayhem
- Att Murder
- Kidnapping
- Child kidnapping A
- Agg kidnapping

- Rape/child
- Object rape/child
- Forcible sodomySodomy on child
  - Agg sex abuse of child
- Agg sex assault

- Agg arson
- Agg burglary
  - Agg robbery

### The Smith Incident





### Aggravated Assault versus Aggravated Assault by Prisoner

Aggravated Assault (76-5-103)

- Third-degree felony (2<sup>nd</sup> w/ serious injury)
- Reckless, Knowing, or Intentional
- No proof of intentional injury needed

Aggravated Assault by Prisoner (76-5-103.5)

- Second-degree felony (1<sup>st</sup> w/ serious injury)
- Prisoner element
- Must intentionally cause serous injury for 1st



## 3 Problems with agg assault as an enhanced penalty for prisoner

- 1. A third-degree felony (0-5) can lead to life without parole;
- 2. Including Aggravated Assault (and not agg assault by prisoner) means proving less to obtain a more serious sentence;
- 3. Assaultive F1/Capital prisoners will be charged more leniently than assaultive prisoners serving on lesser charges.



### 3 recommendations:

1. Amend 76-3-203.6(2):

If the trier of fact finds beyond a reasonable doubt that a prisoner serving a sentence for a capital felony or a first degree felony commits any offense listed in Subsection (5), that offense is a first-degree felony and the court shall sentence the defendant to life in prison without parole.



### 3 recommendations:

2. Amend 76-3-203.6(5)(a):

aggravated assault, Section 76-5-103 aggravated assault by a prisoner, Section 76-5-103.5;



### 3 recommendations:

#### 3. Amend 76-5-103.5:

Any prisoner who commits aggravated assault not amounting to a violation of Section 76-3-203.6 is guilty of:

- (1) a second degree felony if no serious bodily injury was intentionally caused; or
- (2) a first degree felony if serious bodily injury was intentionally caused.