

PL ARTICLE 55: CLASSES OF OFFENSES.

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This classification system applies to ALL offenses, including those defined *outside* Penal Law.

Felonies = Class A, B, C, D, E; Class A felonies are divided into AI and AII for sentencing purposes.

Any *non*-P.L. felony which is unspecified shall be Class E; also any offense not specifically designated, but where allowable sentence = prison > 1 year.

All P.L. misdemeanors are either Class A or B. Unspecified non-P.L. misdemeanor is Class A. Undesignated non-P.L. offense (except if a violation) where allowable prison sentence of more than 15 days but less than 1 year = "Unclassified Misdemeanor".

Regardless of actual designation, non-P.L. offenses are violations where prison sentence must be less than 15 days, or where only authorized sentence is a fine; or: where prison can be more than 15 days, but statute pre-dates Penal Law, and the offense was not previously considered a crime.

Traffic Infractions so designated are NOT violations or misdemeanors, despite any sentence which can be imposed.