



**Domestic Assault by a Habitual Offender**  
**18 USCS § 117**

**§ 117. DOMESTIC ASSAULT BY A HABITUAL OFFENDER**

- (a) **IN GENERAL.** Any person who commits a domestic assault within the special maritime and territorial jurisdiction of the United States or Indian country and who has a final conviction on at least 2 separate prior occasions in Federal, State, or Indian tribal court proceedings for offenses that would be, if subject to Federal jurisdiction--
- (1) any assault, sexual abuse, or serious violent felony against a spouse or intimate partner; or
  - (2) an offense under chapter 110A,
- shall be fined under this title, imprisoned for a term of not more than 5 years, or both, except that if substantial bodily injury results from violation under this section, the offender shall be imprisoned for a term of not more than 10 years.
- (b) **DOMESTIC ASSAULT DEFINED.** In this section, the term "domestic assault" means an assault committed by a current or former spouse, parent, child, or guardian of the victim, by a person with whom the victim shares a child in common, by a person who is cohabitating with or has cohabitated with the victim as a spouse, parent, child, or guardian, or by a person similarly situated to a spouse, parent, child, or guardian of the victim.