



# *TIBRS TRAINING TIPS*

*REPORTING  
BURGLARY  
TO TIBRS*



# *TIBRS TRAINING TIPS*

## *REPORTING BURGLARY TO TIBRS*

### TIBRS DEFINITION OF BURGLARY:

The unlawful entry into a building or other structure with the intent to commit a felony or a theft.

### TIBRS DEFINITION OF A STRUCTURE:

Four walls, a roof and a point of entry. It is made for human use.





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## *REPORTING BURGLARY TO TIBRS*

Elements of Burglary can include Vandalism, Trespassing and/or Larceny. The property gained in a Burglary is part of the Burglary, so an additional offense of Theft From a Building is not reported.





# *TIBRS TRAINING TIPS*

## *REPORTING BURGLARY TO TIBRS*

### WHEN TO REPORT BURGLARY AND VANDALISM IN THE SAME INCIDENT

Vandalism is a separate offense only under the following circumstances:

When the force used to break into/enter the structure causes more than 500 dollars or more in damage.

*OR*

If the act of vandalism committed inside or to the structure is more than necessary for the entry, regardless of the estimated amount of damage AND a felony or a theft was committed by the offender.





# *TIBRS TRAINING TIPS*

## *REPORTING BURGLARY TO TIBRS*

“STEPS” TO A COMPLETED BURGLARY  
FOR TIBRS REPORTING PURPOSES:

STEP 3:  
DID THEY COMMIT A  
FELONY OR A THEFT?

STEP 2:  
DID THEY GAIN ENTRY?

STEP 1:  
DOES THE BUILDING MEET THE  
TIBRS DEFINITION OF A STRUCTURE?  
(4 WALLS/ROOF/POINT OF ENTRY/FOR HUMAN USE)

If the answer to all three questions is YES, a completed Burglary is reportable to TIBRS.





# *TIBRS TRAINING TIPS*

## *REPORTING BURGLARY TO TIBRS*

### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTION #1:

What if an offender breaks into a structure and just commits Vandalism, under 500 dollars? (*entry gained, nothing stolen, no felony committed*)

***ONLY THE OFFENSE OF  
VANDALISM IS REPORTED\****

\*Agency discretion may be used here. You may report this as Attempted Burglary if your investigation determines the offender's intent was to commit a felony or a theft.





# *TIBRS TRAINING TIPS*

## *REPORTING BURGLARY TO TIBRS*

### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTION #2:

What if an offender breaks into a structure  
and does 500 dollars or more in damage?

*(entry gained, nothing stolen, felony is committed)*

***BOTH OFFENSES OF BURGLARY  
AND VANDALISM ARE REPORTED***

In Tennessee, 500 dollars or more in Vandalism is a felony, thus meeting the TIBRS definition of Burglary.





# *TIBRS TRAINING TIPS*

## *REPORTING BURGLARY TO TIBRS*

### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTION #3:

What if an offender tries, but fails, to break into a structure and does 500 dollars or more in damage?  
(*entry is not gained, nothing is stolen, felony is committed*)

***ONLY THE OFFENSE OF  
VANDALISM IS REPORTED\****

\*Once again, agency discretion may be used here.

You may report an additional offense of Attempted Burglary if your investigation determines the offender's intent was to enter the structure.





# *TIBRS TRAINING TIPS*

## *REPORTING BURGLARY TO TIBRS*

### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTION #4:

What about private offices in public buildings (colleges, hospitals, etc.)?

An offender went into a hospital, part of which is open to the public.

While there, he entered the private office of one of the doctors, and stole a Montblanc pen and pencil set from the doctor's desk.

*(entry is gained into the private office, property is stolen, felony is not committed)*

***ONLY THE OFFENSE OF  
BURGLARY IS REPORTED***

The offender had a right to be in the hospital, but did not have a right to enter the doctor's private office for the purpose of committing, in this case, a theft.





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Although it is reasonable to believe that, in the vast majority of cases, when a person illegally enters a structure, his/her intent is to commit a felony or a theft. However, people also illegally enter structures for other reasons (i.e., homeless persons looking for a warm place to sleep, couples looking for “intimacy,” etc.).

If we ignore those possibilities and do not allow discretion in the reporting of certain incidents, we are forcing the agencies to submit inaccurate data. Obviously, that would defeat our purpose.





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## REPORTING BURGLARY TO TIBRS

### SCENARIO:

A door to door solicitor knocked on the door of three houses in a row. No one answered the door at any of the houses. He knocked on the door of the fourth house.

Again, no one answered. Frustrated at his inability to make a sale, the man angrily kicked the front door.

*He had no intention of entering the home, and the door didn't open when he kicked it. However, he caused extensive damage (\$600) to the door and frame. A witness called the police and the man was arrested.*

*He made a full confession.*





# TIBRS TRAINING TIPS

## REPORTING BURGLARY TO TIBRS

### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTION #4:

How do you report an incident that involves unlawful entry with no damage and without an apparent intent to commit a felony or theft?

### TRESPASSING\*

\*Trespassing, however, is a Group B offense and is only reportable *if an arrest is made*.





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### HOME INVASION FOR TIBRS PURPOSES:

For TIBRS, the mere presence of someone in the structure does not constitute home invasion.

When a Residence/Home or Hotel/Motel is burglarized and the offender commits a second, serious offense against the victim (i.e., Assault\*, Rape, Robbery, Homicide\*, Kidnapping), the incident is submitted as a *Home Invasion*.

\*For TIBRS, Assault and Homicide are always reported as completed offenses. Rape, Robbery, Kidnapping, etc. may be reported as attempted or completed. Attempted Rape, Robbery, Kidnapping, etc. in this situation would be submitted as Home Invasion.





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### NUMBER OF PREMISES:

When a burglary occurs at a hotel, motel, or rental storage facility it is reported to TIBRS as one incident with the possibility of multiple victims. Each room or unit is counted as a premise.

The number of premises is NOT the apartment or storage unit number. It is the total number of apartments or storage units burglarized.

