



TIBRS TRAINING TIPS

CLASSIFYING MOTOR VEHICLE THEFTS

The seal of the Tennessee Department of Transportation is visible in the background. It is a circular emblem with a blue and gold color scheme. The words "TENNESSEE" and "DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION" are written around the perimeter. In the center, there is a scale of justice, a map of Tennessee, and the letters "TBI". The words "TRUTH" and "INTEGRITY" are also present.



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It's easy to classify a stolen vehicle when it is parked on a street, driveway, or parked in a parking lot.

Question: But what if a motor vehicle is stolen *from another motor vehicle, from a motor vehicle's trailer or any other TIBRS Larceny offense?*

(The answers will be revealed on Page 3.)





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Even though, by NIBRS definitions, other offenses could technically be applicable, NIBRS does not allow you to enter a motor vehicle as property in any of the eight larceny categories. The offenses that allow vehicles as stolen property are:

Motor Vehicle Theft, Bribery, Embezzlement, Extortion, Fraud and Robbery.





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Answer from Page 1: **Motor Vehicle Theft.**

This will allow you to classify the property as a motor vehicle (i.e. Automobile, Bus, Truck, etc.), which is the desired data.

When a vehicle is stolen in connection with a Burglary, add a Motor Vehicle Theft offense to the incident.

Stealing a vehicle is not an element of all burglaries.

(Some, yes – but not all.)

So the offense is reportable to TIBRS (along with Burglary and any other applicable offense(s) that occurred.





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EXAMPLE

The offender stole a motorcycle from the bed of a pickup truck.

This crime fits two TIBRS larceny definitions:
Theft From a Vehicle and Motor Vehicle Theft.

For TIBRS, the correct offense is:

MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT





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MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT VICTIMS

John let Fred borrow his car (1969 Camaro).

Fred drove to a local gas station to fill the tank.

When he finished pumping gas, a white male subject approached and produced a handgun, pointed it at Fred and said “Give me the keys or else.” Fred gave the offender the keys to John’s car and the carjacker drove away.

The vehicle has not been recovered.





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WHO IS THE VICTIM FOR TIBRS? IS IT JOHN OR IS IT FRED?

This would be reported to TIBRS as one incident with two offenses (Robbery, Weapon Law Violation).

The victim in this scenario is Fred. Even though John is the actual owner of the vehicle, he was not present when the robbery occurred. Assault is an element of robbery, and John was not assaulted. Thus, he cannot be a victim for TIBRS.

The TIBRS victim in this scenario is Fred.





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Contact anyone in the CJIS Support Office today! Staff names and contact information appear in all monthly TIBRS Newsletters!

