

NIBRS Tip of the Month

Thefts Related to Motor Vehicles



Motor Vehicle Theft

- ◆ Theft of a motor vehicle; a motor vehicle is a self-propelled vehicle that runs on the surface of land and not on rails.
- ◆ The description includes automobiles (such as sedans, coupes, station wagons, taxicabs) that serve a primary purpose of transporting people; buses capable of transporting groups of people; recreational vehicles designed to transport people and also provide them temporary lodging for recreational purposes; trucks designed to transport cargo, and; other motor vehicles such as motorcycles, motorized scooters, snowmobiles, golf carts, etc.
- ◆ Note: Motor Vehicle Thefts do not include farm equipment (tractors, combines, etc.), which falls under a separate property description. (FBI NIBRS User Manual, Version 1.0, page 37)

Theft From Motor Vehicle

- ◆ The theft of articles from a locked or unlocked motor vehicle.

Theft of Motor Vehicle Parts and Accessories

- ◆ The theft of any part or accessory affixed to the interior or exterior of a motor vehicle in a manner which would make the item an attachment of the vehicle or necessary for its operation.

Theft of Gasoline

- ◆ Fuel stolen from a parked vehicle's gas tank is Theft of Motor Vehicle Parts or Accessories.
- ◆ Filling up the gas tank at a service station, then driving off without paying is Theft - All Other.
- ◆ Fuel stolen from a separate gas container within the vehicle is Theft From Motor Vehicle.