

NIBRS Tip of the Month

Common Errors for Burglary

- ✓ **Number of Premises Entered** - When the location is a hotel, motel, or rental storage facility, enter only the number of those rooms or units burgled.
- ✓ **Motor Vehicle Taken** - When a motor vehicle is taken from the structure or garage during the Burglary, it should be included as property stolen in the Burglary. If the stolen vehicle is not inside the structure or garage, a second offense of Motor Vehicle Theft can be reported in the incident.
- ✓ **Burglary of a Fenced Area** - Although this is considered a Burglary in Washington statute, a fenced area is not a structure with four walls, a roof, and a door; for NIBRS, this should be classified as a Theft.
- ✓ **Forced Entry** - This occurs when the offender uses force of any degree to unlawfully enter a structure or building; unforced entry would be through an unlocked door or window.

