

August 2009

NIBRS Coding Scenarios

Computer Crimes

Issue #1: How would you code internet crimes with the solicitation of minors and is the State the victim?

Scenario: A law enforcement officer creates a profile in an on-line chat program posing as a juvenile. Communication is initiated from a second party to the officer and the undercover officer is asked to meet for a sexual act. Officers go to the set time and place and arrest an adult male.

Solicitation to commit a felony and enticement are always reported as a "90Z – All Other Offenses". Therefore we would not list a victim.

Issue #2: How would you code an incident where a victim opened an email with a virus that destroyed files on their computer and damaged the operating system?

Scenario: A citizen opened an email from a person they did not know. It had an attachment that they clicked on. The attachment happened to be a virus that caused substantial damage to their computer.

This offense would be coded as a "290 – Destruction/Damage/Vandalism of Property". The offender willfully/maliciously destroyed and damaged another person's computer.

Issue #3: How would you code an incident where an employee stole proprietary information via their computer?

Scenario: An employee stole proprietary information and sold the information.

This offense would be coded as "270 – Embezzlement" if the employee stole the information from the company at which they were employed. However, if they stole the information from another company, one they did not work at, and sold the information it would be coded as a "23H – Larceny/Theft Offenses – All Other Larceny".

NOTE: Be sure to select "Computer Equipment" in the Offense Segment for the data element "Offender Suspected of Using".

Reference: NIBRS Volume I: Data Collection Guidelines (blue cover), Scenario #1: How to Classify Offenses of General Applicability – Solicitation to Commit, page 39 and Solicitation to Commit Felony, page 50. Scenario #2: Destruction/Damage/Vandalism of Property, page 25. Scenario #3: Embezzlement, page 26 and All Other Larceny, page 31.

2009 NIBRS Classes Scheduled
NIBRS I and NIBRS II – September 15 & 16, 2009
NIBRS Coding Scenarios (1/2 Day) – September 17, 2009



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