

NIBRS Coding Scenarios

Computer System Security Breach

Issue: How would you code an incident where a local medical facility had someone breach their security and hack into their computer system? The IT (Information Technology) staff was able to trace it back to someone in another country. There is no idea what this person who hacked into the system wanted for sure or who they are. Would this be coded to "26E - Wire Fraud"?

Coding: The correct coding for this incident would be "90Z - All Other Offenses" **IF** an arrest or criminal citation was made. Remember, Group "B" offenses are reported only when an arrest is involved, and then only an arrest report is submitted. A criminal citation is the same as an arrest for reporting purposes. Being there is no idea who the offender was, this incident would not be reportable. This incident does not meet the criteria of Wire Fraud since we do not know the offender's intent.

Reference: *NIBRS Volume 1: Data Collection Guidelines (blue cover)*, explains Group B Arrest Report p. 8. For a definition of "90Z - All Other Offenses", p.37.

Please have all 2010 NIBRS data and all corrections completed by March 1, 2011.

Note that the preceding gives general examples. It is not meant to be all inclusive. Coding is based on individual case circumstances. Please direct NIBRS questions to:

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Photos by John Mitchell, DCI

