

NIBRS Coding Scenarios

Smoking Ban Law

Issue #1: How would you code violations of the new non-smoking law? [34-46-14. Smoking in public or place of employment prohibited--Petty offense. No person may smoke tobacco or carry any lighted tobacco product in any public place or place of employment. A violation of this section is a petty offense.]

Coding: If a person is cited or physically arrested for violating the Smoking Ban Law, it would be coded to "90Z - All Other Offenses". 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.

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

