

# ***NIBRS Coding Scenarios***

## **Age, Gender, Race, & Ethnicity**

**Issue:** *A female was raped when she was 17 years old; she is now reporting the crime at 25 years old. What age do we report in the Victim Segment?*

The victim's age is always reported as the age they were when the crime occurred. In the above example, the victim's age is 17. If the Offender is arrested, his age is to be reported as the age he is at the time of arrest.

**Issue:** *A transvestite was arrested for a crime. What should I list the gender as?*

An individual's gender is always reported as whatever they were assigned at birth. Even if an individual was born a male and he later had a sex change operation to become a female, this individual would be reported as a "male".

**Issue:** *An individual was the victim of a crime and it is hard to tell what their race is. What should be reported?*

Law enforcement has to make a judgment call on a person's race. If they are in doubt, they can always ask the individual.

**Issue:** *We had an individual whose race was Black but I see that someone wrote in the case file that they were Hispanic. Can this be correct?*

Hispanic is an ethnicity and not a race. There are White Hispanics and Black Hispanics. Ethnic origin is recorded at the discretion of the reporting agency. Hispanic Origin Definition - A person of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race.

**Reference:** *Uniform Crime Reporting Handbook NIBRS Edition (brown cover), page 48.*

***NIBRS I, NIBRS II &  
NIBRS Coding Scenarios  
will be held  
September 1 - 2, 2010.***



*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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