

NIBRS Coding Scenarios

Destruction/Damage/ Vandalism of Property – Motor Vehicles

Issue: Should the destroyed property listed for offense “290” (Destruction/Damage/Vandalism of Property) be “Automobile” or “Vehicle Parts/ Accessories”.

Details: If there is a choice between using the actual vehicle or vehicle parts as the property description, usually the best description is the actual vehicle. For example, if the tires on a car are slashed the property description should be “03” (Automobile) because the tires are attached to the vehicle.

If a windshield was broken out of a vehicle, the property description should be “03” (Automobile) because the windshield is attached to the vehicle.

Examples of Vehicle Parts/Accessories: If a pile of tires in an auto yard is set on fire, the property description should be “38” (Vehicle Parts/Accessories).

If vehicle windshields sitting next to an auto glass replacement business are broken with a blunt object, the property description should be “38” (Vehicle Parts/Accessories).

Reference: *Uniform Crime Reporting Handbook, NIBRS Edition, Page 14, (tan cover)* – defines ‘Destruction/Damage/Vandalism of Property’ (Offense 290). Page 41 defines “Automobiles” and page 42 defines “Vehicle Parts/Accessories”.



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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