

# Andrews University

## Office of Campus Safety

### Theft Deterrence

Theft can occur at any time in any place. Typically theft is seen in crimes of opportunity where little action is needed for property to be taken, such as a laptop being left on a table in a public area or a room left unsecured.

Property crime, as defined by the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) program, includes "the offenses of burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson."

Statistics taken from the FBI's National Property Crime report in 2011 indicated the following:

- There were an estimated 9,063,173 property crime offenses.
- Larceny-theft accounted for 68% of all property crime offenses.
- Property crimes resulted in losses estimated at \$15.6 billion.

While it is not possible to eliminate theft, we can reduce the likelihood for it to occur by removing the opportunities for theft. The following are steps recommended to reduce the potential for theft.

- Never leave property unsecured and unattended.
- When possible, always secure your property. (Secure bicycle with lock, lock dormitory desk drawer, etc.)
- Never leave property in plain view (store items in a drawer, glove box, etc.).
- Always keep your residence locked (house, apartment, dorm room, etc.).
- Always keep your vehicle locked.
- Report/repair broken security devices (Door locks, padlocks, window locks, etc.)
- Be discreet about monetary use and storage.

Taking simple steps to reduce the risk is a general approach to your safety that can have a dramatic positive affect.

For more information on Uniform Crime Reporting, please refer to the Federal Bureau of Investigation's website:

<http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr>

For more information on how to reduce the risk, feel free to contact local law enforcement or the Office of Campus Safety.

#### **Berrien Springs Oronoko Twp. Police Department**

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#### **Andrews University Office of Campus Safety**

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