# **Vehicle Theft Investigation**

# I. REGISTRATION

- A. Describe class goals
- B. Advise participants of safety during class and injury reporting
- C. Introduce Instructors

## **II. GENERAL & ALTERED VEHICLE IDENTIFICATION**

- A. Vehicle Identification Number
  - 1. Vehicle Identification Number History Past & Present
  - 2. Vehicle Identification Number Labels
  - 3. Vehicle Identification Number Decoding Resources
- B. Methods Of Identification
  - 1. Public VIN
  - 2. Vin Labels
  - 3. Confidential Identifiers
  - 4. Component Part Serial Numbers
- C. Locating Stolen Vehicles
  - 1. Initial Indicators
  - 2. Tampered Identification Numbers
  - 3. Replaced Identification Numbers
  - 4. Removed Identification Numbers
- D. Report writing

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- Omit "Confidential Locations & Information"
- E. Resources Available
  - 1. State Task Force
  - 2. Manufacture Contacts
  - 3. Insurance Company
  - 4. Training Seminars

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# III. VEHICLE THEFT LAWS

- A. Applicable State Penal Code
  - 1. 487 d (1) P.C.
  - 2. 499 b P.C.
  - 3. 496 d (a) P.C.
  - 4. 548 (a) P.C.
- B. Applicable State Vehicle Code
  - 1. 2805 C.V.C.
  - 2. 10751 C.V.C.
  - 3. 10801 C.V.C.
  - 4. 10802 C.V.C.
  - 5. 10803 C.V.C.
  - 6. 10851 (a) C.V.C.
- C. Applicable State Evidence Code
  - 1. 1040
- D. Search & Seizure
  - 1. Warrant
  - 2. Consent
  - 3. Auto Searches
- E. Defendant Statements
  - 1. Showing Intent

#### **IV. VEHICLE THEFT M. O. 's**

- A. Statistics
  - 1. Stolen
  - 2. Recovered
  - 3. Outstanding
  - 4. High Theft vehicles
- B. Reasons For Vehicle Theft
  - 1. Easy to steal
  - 2. Easy to sell
  - 3. Interchangeable
- C. Trends In Vehicle Thefts
  - 1. V.I.N. Switching
  - 2. Cold Plated Vehicles
  - 3. Chop Shop

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- D. Methods Of Vehicle Theft
  - 1. Tools used to gain entry
  - 2. Tools used to steal vehicles
  - 3. Use of tow trucks and car carriers
  - 4. Locations where thefts occur
- E. In The Field Investigations
  - 1. Interview Techniques
- F. Scenario and Closing Discussion

## V. SUBPLATING AND V.I.N. SWITCHING

- A. Explain Subplating
  - 1. Passenger Vehicle License Plate Sequential Issuance
  - 2. Commercial Vehicle License Plate Sequential Issuance
- B. DMV Codes
  - 1. On Registration Forms
  - 2. On Mobile Digital Terminals
- C. Subplating Scenario
  - 1. Break into groups and discuss scenario
- D. V.I.N. Plate Examination
  - 1. Examine Manufacturer VIN Plates
  - 2. Examine Counterfeit VIN Plates
  - 3. Discuss Security Features
- E. Video Depicting a Suspect VIN Switching a Vehicle
  - 1. Removing VIN's
  - 2. Replacing VIN's
  - 3. Changing Confidential VIN's

#### VI. WATERCRAFT IDENTIFICATION

- A. Hull Identification Numbers HIN
  - 1. History
  - 2. Format Variations
  - 3. Current Format
  - 4. HIN Breakdown
  - 5. Altered HIN's
- B. Locations For HIN's & Secondary HIN's

- 1. Boats
- 2. Personal Watercraft
- C. Vessel Component Identification
  - 1. Mercury Outdrive
  - 2. Volvo OMC Outdrive
  - 3. Gimble Numbers
  - 4. Inboard Engine Numbers
  - 5. Outboard Engine Numbers
- D. CF an Registration Numbers
  - 1. CF Number Breakdown
  - 2. Non-California Registration
- E. Special Construction Watercraft
  - 1. CFZ Numbers
- F. Applicable Laws Pertaining to Watercraft
  - 1. 9845 C.V.C.
  - 2. Other Vehicle Code Sections
- G. Trailer Identification
  - 1. Manufacturer Markings and Labels
  - 2. Special Construction Labels
  - 3. Secondary Locations

# **VII. IDENTITY THEFT & FRAUD**

- A. How Does Identity Theft Begin
  - 1. Through Theft
  - 2. How Identity Thieves Use Your Personal Information
  - 3. Through Purchases
- B. Resources
  - 1. Credit Bureaus
  - 2. Social Security
  - 3. U.S. Postal Service
  - 4. Mail Box Drops
  - 5. Department Of Motor Vehicles
  - 6. Direct Marketers
  - 7. Banks & Lenders
- C. Applicable State & Federal Laws

#### VIII. BAIT CAR OPERATIONS

- A. Nomenclature of TRAP's (Taskforce for Regional Autotheft Prevention) Vehicles
  - 1. Audio & Video Capabilities
  - 2. Ignition shut-off
  - 3. Controlled Environment
- B. Requirements Necessary for an Operation
  - 1. Operation Plan
  - 2. Local Statistics
  - 3. Reporting Procedures
- C. Video of Past Operations

## IX. CARGO THEFT & COMMERCIAL VEHICLE IDENTIFICATION

- A. Applicable State Laws
  - 1. 487 h (a) P.C.
  - 2. 487 h (b) P.C.
- B. Cargo Crime Classification
  - 1. Larceny
  - 2. Grand Theft
  - 3. Burglary
  - 4. Robbery
- C. Cargo crime Impact
  - 1. Monetary Loss
  - 2. Delay in Supply Chain
  - 3. Passed-On Cost To Customers
  - 4. Devastating To Smaller Businesses & Independents
- D. Methods Of Thefts
  - 1. Hi-Jacking
  - 2. Driver Give-Ups
  - 3. Burglaries
  - 4. False Documentation
- E. Reporting & Tracking

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- 1. Enter Vehicles in S.V.S
- 2. Enter Property in A.P.S.
- 3. Make Immediate Notifications

- F. Cargo Theft Investigations
  - 1. Informants
  - 2. Surveillance
  - 3. Buy/Bust Operations
  - 4. Undercover Operations
  - 5. Search Warrants
  - 6. Filing/Prosecutions
- G. Vehicle Identification Numbers Pertaining To Cargo
  - 1. Equipment I.D.
  - 2. Tractors
  - 3. Trailers
  - 4. Containers
  - 5. Chassis
  - 6. Cargo Vans
- H. Indicators of Theft
  - 1. Broken Seal
  - 2. Broken Door
  - 3. Illegally Parked
  - 4. Un-Attended

# X. CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT IDENTIFICATION

- A. Problem Awareness
  - 1. Statistics
- B. Different Types of Equipment
  - 1. Track-Type Tractors
  - 2. Wheel-Type Tractors
  - 3. Skidders
  - 4. Graders
  - 5. Compactors
  - 6. Lift Trucks
  - 7. Rippers
  - 8. Backhoes
- C. Different Manufacturers
- D. Product Identification Number P.I.N.
  - 1. P.I.N. History
  - 2. P.I.N. Labels

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- 3. P.I.N. Plates
- E. Methods Of Identification
  - 1. National Insurance Crime Bureau (NICB)
  - 1. Crime Prevention Program (CPP)
  - 2. National Equipment Registry (NER)
  - 3. Stolen Vehicle System (SVS)
- B. DMV Registration Requirements
- C. Locating Stolen Equipment
  - 1. Types of Transporters
  - 2. Late hour Transporting
  - 3. Initial Indicators
  - 4. Tampered Product Identification Numbers
  - 5. Replaced Product Identification Numbers
  - 6. Removed Product Identification Numbers
- D. Report writing
  - 1. Omit "Confidential Locations & Information"
- E. Resources Available
  - 1. State Task Force
  - 2. Manufacture Contacts
  - 3. Insurance Company
  - 4. Training Seminars

# I. MOTORCYCLE IDENTIFICATION

- A. Vehicle Identification Number
  - 1. Vehicle Identification Number History Past & Present
  - 2. Vehicle Identification Number Labels
  - 3. Vehicle Identification Number Decoding Resources
- B. Methods Of Identification
  - 1. Frame VIN
  - 2. Vin Labels
  - 3. Engine Numbers
  - 4. Confidential Identifiers
  - 5. Component Part Serial Numbers
- C. Locating Stolen Vehicles

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# Training Bureau Material: Vehicle Theft Investigation

- 1. Tampered Identification & Engine Numbers
- 2. Replaced Identification & Engine Numbers
- 3. Removed Identification & Engine Numbers
- D. Report writing
  - 1. Omit "Confidential Locations & Information"
- E. Resources Available
  - 1. State Task Force
  - 2. Manufacture Contacts
  - 3. Insurance Company

# I. PRACTICAL APPLICATION

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- A. Individual Scenario Stations
  - 1. The student will demonstrate his ability to apply his new acquired knowledge at each of the six stations
  - 2. The instructor will pass or fail each of the assigned learning activities

# **I. WRITTEN TEST & COURSE EVALUATION**

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