

What is Operation Inventory? Historically, law enforcement agencies nationwide have experienced difficulty identifying, recovering, and returning stolen property. Operation Inventory is a crime reduction program designed to facilitate the identification, recovery, and return of stolen property.

How does Operation Inventory work?

It's based on a simple premise: persuade property owners to list their property to include make, model and serial number on a user-friendly pre-printed form then store the list in a safe place in the event of theft or loss. Items without a serial number may be marked with identifying marks and/or photographed. The information can be supplied to law enforcement agencies and insurance companies.

What does Law Enforcement do?

We take the information about your stolen property and enter it into the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) database maintained by the FBI.

Supplying the make, model and serial numbers of your stolen belongings gives law enforcement useful tools to recover property and arrest the criminals responsible for the theft. The Florida Pawnbroking Act (§539.001) compels pawnbrokers to provide law enforcement information about items pawned. They are also required to obtain government-issued photographic identification of individuals who pawn property and provide that information to law enforcement.

Pawned items reported by pawnbrokers are routinely checked against items reported stolen in the NCIC database. Those items listed as stolen in the database can be recovered and returned to their owner. Using the identification information provided by the pawnbroker law enforcement may be able to identify and arrest those responsible for the theft.

The Tampa Police Department is committed to reducing crime. By participating in Operation Inventory, you are taking an important step in protecting your property from burglary and theft. Together, we can make a difference!

You can get an Operation Inventory form from any Tampa Police facility or Tampa Police officer. You can also go to www.tampagov.net/police and choose "Information Resources" then select "Operation Inventory" from the center page list.



**TAMPA POLICE
TELEPHONE NUMBERS**

Emergency	9 - 1 - 1
Police / Fire / Medical	
Non-Emergency	231-6130
(accommodates TTY/TDD for the hearing impaired)	
Information	276-3200
Crime Prevention	
District 1	354-6600
District 2	931-6500
District 3	242-3800
Delayed Reporting	276-3205

You may obtain additional information about this subject, along with additional crime prevention programs by contacting the crime prevention unit at the number listed. You may also visit the Tampa Police Department's web site for crime prevention tips and information.



TAMPA POLICE DEPARTMENT
One Police Center
411 N. Franklin Street
Tampa, Florida 33602

Operation Inventory



TAMPA POLICE DEPARTMENT CRIME PREVENTION

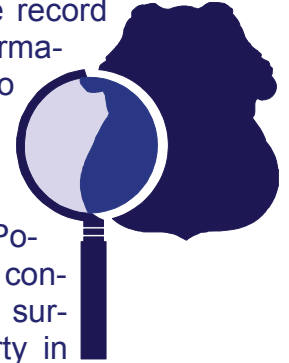
Find out more at:

www.tampagov.net/police

ITEM	ITEMTYPE (STEREO, COMPUTER, ETC.)	BRAND/MAKE	MODEL NUMBER	COLOR	SIZE/ CALIBER	SERIAL#	ENGRAVINGS OR MARKINGS	TOTAL VALUE
FURTHER DESCRIPTION								
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MYTHS and FACTS

Myth: Most people record their property's information and provide it to the police once it is stolen.



Fact: The Tampa Police Department conducted a nine-month survey of stolen property in 2003. Of the 18,737 articles reported stolen during the survey period, serial numbers were provided for only 719 articles or less than 4% of the property reported stolen.

Myth: All serial numbers are unique and belong to only the item it is attached to.

Fact: The same serial number may be found on multiple items. For example a camera may have the same serial number as a television. It is important to record the make, model and serial number together to properly identify the property.

Myth: Stolen property has to have a serial number before the police can recover it.

Fact: Law enforcement can recover any property that can be positively identified by serial number or other special markings.