

The following scenarios illustrate the proper application of the hierarchy rule in reporting a multiple-offense incident.

SCENARIO	CRIMES COMMITTED	CRIME REPORTED
Two women broke into a new car dealership after closing hours. They took the cash from the dealership's office safe and two new automobiles from the garage.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A Burglary (Forcible Entry)</li> <li>2. Motor Vehicle Theft</li> </ol>	Following the hierarchy rule, only the Burglary (Forcible Entry), the highest of the offenses on the list of Part I offenses, must be scored.
A burglar broke into a home, stole several items, and placed them in a car belonging to the owner of the home. The homeowner returned and surprised the thief, who in turn knocked the owner unconscious by hitting him over the head with a chair. The burglar drove away in the homeowner's car.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A Burglary (Forcible Entry)</li> <li>2. Robbery (Other Dangerous Weapon)</li> <li>3. Aggravated Assault (Other Dangerous Weapon)</li> <li>4. Motor Vehicle Theft (Auto)</li> </ol>	After classifying the offenses, the reporting agency scores only one offense—Robbery (Other Dangerous Weapon)—the crime appearing first in the list of Part I offenses.
A white female, aged 23, was being arrested on charges of soliciting for prostitution. During the arrest, she pepper-sprayed the arresting officer's face. The officer's search incident to the arrest resulted in the recovery of a credit card belonging to an individual who had previously reported it stolen. There was no indication that the card had been used fraudulently.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Prostitution and Commercialized Vice</li> <li>2. Stolen Property (Buying, Receiving, Possessing)</li> <li>3. Aggravated Assault (Other Dangerous Weapon)</li> </ol>	Following the hierarchy rule, only the Part I offense, Aggravated Assault (Other Dangerous Weapon), must be classified and scored. The Part II offenses are ignored in using the hierarchy rule.
EXCEPTIONS TO THE HIERARCHY RULE		
Someone stole a pickup truck that had a camper containing camping equipment attached to it. The police recovered the truck and camper but not the equipment.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Motor Vehicle Theft</li> <li>2. Larceny-Theft</li> </ol>	Motor Vehicle Theft is a special type of Larceny-Theft. It is a separate classification because of the volume of such thefts and the prevailing need of law enforcement for specific statistics on this offense. Therefore, when classifying, the reporting agency chooses between Larceny-Theft and Motor Vehicle Theft. In cases such as this, the agency classifies and scores the offense as Motor Vehicle Theft.
As a result of arson in an apartment building, six persons were found dead.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Murder</li> <li>2. Arson</li> </ol>	The Part I crimes of Murder and Arson are involved in this multiple-offense situation. The reporting agency counts six Criminal Homicide offenses (one for each victim) and Arson.