



## Applying Theory to Crime: **ROBBERY**

Again, referring to the King of Babylon, Hammurabi, and the “Code of Laws,” there are a few references to the crime of robbery:

- If a man has committed highway robbery and has been caught, that man shall be put to death.
- If the highwayman has not been caught, the man that has been robbed shall state on oath what he has lost and the city or district governor in whose territory or district the robbery took place shall restore to him what he lost.<sup>163</sup>

According to the FBI’s Uniform Crime Reports, robbery is defined as “the taking or attempting to take anything of value from the care, custody, or control of a person or persons by force or threat of force or violence and/or by putting the victim in fear.”<sup>164</sup> Below are some key findings on robbery; these are based on the FBI’s report *Crime in the United States, 2014*:

- An estimated 325,802 robberies occurred nationwide in 2014.
- When comparing the 2013 and 2014 robbery rates, the rate decreased by 5.6%.

- An estimated \$400 million in losses were attributed to robberies in 2014.
- The average dollar value amount of property stolen per reported robbery was \$1,227. Banks were listed as the highest average dollar loss at \$3,816 per offense.
- Strong-arm tactics were used in 43.0% of the robberies, firearms were used in 40.3%, knives and cutting instruments were used in 7.9%, and other dangerous weapons were used in 8.8% of robberies in 2014.