

How to Deal with Grand Theft Charges

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Author: [Andrew Stine](#)

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By Florida law, there are several different degrees of theft. However, regardless of the type of theft, or the value of the stolen item, it is a serious offense and will be on a permanent criminal record. If you have been charged with a [theft-related crime](#), contact an experienced [criminal defense lawyer](#) that can help you through the process.

Miami, FL is the 5th highest city for grand theft incidences.

According to [WPTV News Channel 5](#), West Palm Beach Police are investigating a carjacking that led to a shooting. It happened just before 3 a.m. Friday around 45th Street and Village Boulevard. Authorities say a man was shot in the leg and taken to St. Mary's Medical Center where he is expected to survive. Police are searching for as many as three men who they say are responsible.

Florida Law

According to [Florida Statute 812.014](#) on theft:

(1) A person commits theft if he or she knowingly obtains or uses, or endeavors to obtain or to use, the property of another with intent to, either temporarily or permanently:

(a) Deprive the other person of a right to the property or a benefit from the property.

(b) Appropriate the property to his or her own use or to the use of any person not entitled to the use of the property.

(2)(a)1. If the property stolen is valued at \$100,000 or more; or

2. If the property stolen is cargo valued at \$50,000 or more that has entered the stream of interstate or intrastate commerce from the shipper's loading platform to the consignee's receiving dock; or

3. If the offender commits any grand theft and:

a. In the course of committing the offense the offender uses a motor vehicle as an instrumentality, other than merely as a getaway vehicle, to assist in committing the offense and thereby damages the real property of another; or

b. In the course of committing the offense the offender causes damage to the real or personal property of another in excess of \$1,000, the offender commits grand theft in the first degree, punishable as a felony of the first degree with a fine of \$10,000 and 30 years to life imprisonment.

Grand Theft

Grand theft determines the severity of the crime solely on the value of the property stolen. If stolen property has a monetary value of \$300 or more, it can be considered grand theft, which is a third degree felony, punishable by up to 5 years imprisonment. Consult a [criminal defense lawyer](#) who can help you understand your rights and everything that might happen as a result of your trial.

If you did not commit the crime of theft, a criminal defense attorney can help you prepare an aggressive defense and force the state to prove its case. Many theft charges can be resolved through a diversion program called pre-trial intervention.

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