

NIBRS Tip of the Month

Another COVID-Related Crime

There has been a substantial increase in fraudulent unemployment benefit claims during the pandemic.

What offense is reported for NIBRS?

This is Fraud-Identity Theft (26F).

Who is the victim?

The victim is the person whose identity was used.

What is the Location Type?

The Type of Location is Cyberspace.



If we issue an incident number only but don't complete a report, do we still report these for NIBRS?

Yes, this is a call for service and should be submitted for NIBRS.

Can we assign one incident number to multiple victims?

No, this a Crime Against Property and is counted by each distinct operation rather than by victim. We recommended separate incident numbers or adding a suffix to the original number (i.e., 20-123A, 20-123B, etc.).