Street Law: A Course in Practical Law

Chapter 10
Crimes Against Property
• **Arson**- the willful and malicious burning of a person’s property, even if the person who burns the structure owns it.

• **Vandalism**- *malicious mischief*, the willful destruction of, or damage to, the property of another.
  - Includes: breaking windows, ripping down fences, flooding basements, breaking off car aerial, etc
• **Larceny** - the unlawful taking and carrying away of the property of another with intent to steal it.
  ◦ Grand Larceny: the theft of anything above a certain value ($100 or more) - Felony
  ◦ Petty Larceny: the theft of anything of small value ($100 or less) - Misdemeanor

• **Shoplifting** - taking items from a store without paying or intending to pay for them

• **Concealment** - attempted shoplifting
  ◦ What are some ways that businesses deter shoplifters?

**Larceny, Shoplifting & Concealment**
**Embezzlement** - the unlawful taking of property by someone to whom it was entrusted.

**Robbery** - the unlawful taking of property from a person’s immediate possession by force or intimidation.

- Robbery involves two harms: theft of property and actual or potential physical harm to the victim.
• **Extortion**—blackmail, the use of threats to obtain the property of another.
• **Burglary**—unauthorized entry into any structure with the intent to commit a crime, regardless of the time of day.
• ** Forgery**—a person falsely makes or alters a writing or document with intent to defraud.
• **Uttering**—offering to someone a *genuine* document known to be a fake.
• Receiving stolen property - receiving or buying property that you know or have reason to believe is stolen
• Unauthorized use of a vehicle (UUV)- committed if the person only intends to take the vehicle temporarily
• Carjacking- occurs if a person uses force or intimidation to steal a car from a driver.
  ◦ Carjacking is a federal crime and is punishable by a sentence of up to life in prison
Computer crime has been defined broadly to include any violation of criminal law that involves the use of computer technology to commit the prohibited act.

**Hackers** - gaining illegal access to government or corporate computer systems.