

Tennessee Theft Statutes

39-14-101. Consolidation of theft offenses.

Conduct denominated as theft in this part constitutes a single offense embracing the separate offenses referenced before 1989 as embezzlement, false pretense, fraudulent conversion, larceny, receiving or concealing stolen property, and other similar offenses.

39-14-103. Theft of property.

A person commits theft of property if, with intent to deprive the owner of property, the person knowingly obtains or exercises control over the property without the owner's effective consent.

39-14-104. Theft of services.

A person commits theft of services who:

- (1) Intentionally obtains services by deception, fraud, coercion, false pretense or any other means to avoid payment for the services;
- (2) Having control over the disposition of services to others, knowingly diverts those services to the person's own benefit or to the benefit of another not entitled thereto; or
- (3) Knowingly absconds from establishments where compensation for services is ordinarily paid immediately upon the rendering of them, including, but not limited to, hotels, motels and restaurants, without payment or a bona fide offer to pay.

39-14-105. Grading of theft.

Theft of property or services is:

- (1) A Class A misdemeanor if the value of the property or services obtained is five hundred dollars (\$500) or less;
- (2) A Class E felony if the value of the property or services obtained is more than five hundred dollars (\$500) but less than one thousand dollars (\$1,000);
- (3) A Class D felony if the value of the property or services obtained is one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or more but less than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000);
- (4) A Class C felony if the value of the property or services obtained is ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) or more but less than sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000); and
- (5) A Class B felony if the value of the property or services obtained is sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000) or more.

39-14-106. Unauthorized use of automobiles and other vehicles - Joyriding.

A person commits a Class A misdemeanor who takes another's automobile, airplane, motorcycle, bicycle, boat or other vehicle without the consent of the owner and the person does not have the intent to deprive the owner thereof.

39-14-14.Forgery.

- (a) A person commits an offense who forges a writing with intent to defraud or harm another.
- (b) As used in this part, unless the context otherwise requires:
 - (1) "Forge" means to:
 - (A) Alter, make, complete, execute or authenticate any writing so that it purports to:
 - (i) Be the act of another who did not authorize that act;
 - (ii) Have been executed at a time or place or in a numbered sequence other than was in fact the case; or
 - (iii) Be a copy of an original when no such original existed;
 - (B) Make false entries in books or records;
 - (C) Issue, transfer, register the transfer of, pass, publish, or otherwise utter a writing that is forged within the meaning of subdivision (b)(1)(A); or
 - (D) Possess a writing that is forged within the meaning of subdivision (b)(1)(A) with intent to utter it in a manner specified in subdivision (b)(1)(C); and
 - (2) "Writing" includes printing or any other method of recording information, money, coins, tokens, stamps, seals, credit cards, badges, trademarks, and symbols of value, right, privilege or identification.
- (c) An offense under this section is punishable as theft pursuant to § 39-14-105, but in no event shall forgery be less than a Class E felony.