

## Fact vs Fiction

### **Fiction:**

Most people record their property's information and can provide it to law enforcement once it is lost or stolen.

### **Fact:**

In most cases victims of theft have very little information about what was stolen. Statistically less than 10% will have enough information so the stolen item can be entered into NCIC.

### **Fiction:**

All serial numbers are unique to a single item.

### **Fact:**

The same serial number may be used by a manufacturer more than once. For example a camera may have the same serial number as a television. It is important to know the make and model in addition to the serial number because this will be the factor that will distinguish the two items from one another.

### **Fiction:**

Stolen property must have a serial number before law enforcement can recover it.

### **Fact:**

Law Enforcement can recover any property that can be positively identified by serial numbers or other special markings.

### **Burglars seek small, hard-to-trace, high-value objects**

- Jewelry
- Laptops
- Small electronics (iPods etc.)
- DVD's / CD's
- Video game systems (XBOX360/PS3)

### **Burglars generally gain entry through**

- 81% First Floor
- 34% Front Door
- 23% 1st Floor Window
- 22% Back Door
- 10% Garage
- Residential burglaries generally require very little force to gain entry



**For More Information Contact:  
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## Operation Inventory

### **A Citizen's Property Recovery Program Should Your Belongings Ever be Stolen or Lost**



### **Record Makes, Models & Serial Numbers of Valuables**

**Sheriff Michael L. CHAPMAN**  
Loudoun County Sheriff's Office  
[www.loudoun.gov/sheriff](http://www.loudoun.gov/sheriff)

