

Criminals can't run



from
serial numbers

Having your privacy and safety violated is bad enough.

As a victim of theft, your privacy and sense of safety aren't the only things affected. Thieves steal your valuables. It's important to record the serial numbers of your possessions. Serial numbers are unique numbers often placed on items by the manufacturer. If an item doesn't have a serial number, you may create one and engrave it on the item (i.e. driver's license or state issued identification numbers). If an item can be positively identified, it can be returned to its rightful owner.

Don't be a criminal's best friend.

Recovered property that can't be positively identified as being stolen can't be used as evidence in court. Being able to provide a serial number, or a personally unique number engraved on an item, to law enforcement also increases the chances the criminal will be prosecuted.

Thieves look for convenient opportunities to steal. Don't make it easy for them to take from you. One way to avoid being a victim of theft is to secure your property. Lawn equipment and tools should always be secured in a locked storage building. Guns should be locked up in a gun safe. Vehicles should always be locked and valuable items should never be visible from the vehicle's window. Purses, money and electronics are most often stolen from unlocked vehicles. Never leave valuable property outside unsecured.

Take action.

It only takes a few minutes to record the description, serial numbers or unique personal numbers, and value of items that are most likely to be stolen. Examples of these items are listed for you on this form. If you have valuable jewelry, silver, antiques, or art objects, take a color photograph and note any marks, blemishes or features that make it uniquely identifiable. Keep your property record and photographs with your insurance papers or in a fireproof safe.

Buy, record, secure.

After making a new purchase, remember to record the necessary information before storing it. Following these simple steps will make sure you have all the information needed.

If you need more space to list your property, you may download a PDF version of this form from our crime prevention page on our website, www.gastoncountypolice.org.

Household and Personal Items (Continued)

Item	Brand	Model #	Serial #	Value

Tools

Examples: Power tools, lawn, farm and garden equipment.

Item	Brand	Model #	Serial #	Value

Motor Vehicles

Examples: Automobiles, motorcycles, bicycles and ATV's.

Item	Brand	Model #	Serial #	Value

Note: All PDF forms allow users to have the document read to them via the Read Aloud feature in Adobe Reader.