



# MTIBRS

## "Tip" of the Month



**Question: If a purse left unattended in a shopping cart is stolen, would the offense be Purse-snatching?**

**Answer: NO**

When a purse is left "unattended" and is stolen, it should not be classified as a Purse-snatching. This would be properly classified as a theft from a building or other appropriate larceny offense.

- Purse-snatching is the grabbing or snatching of a purse, handbag, etc., from the physical possession of another person.
- If more force is used than is actually necessary to snatch the purse from the grasp of the person, or if the victim resists the theft in any way, then robbery has occurred.