

FAQs

Why report my crime data?

There are many benefits to reporting crime data. When applying for some grants, the federal government requires an agency report 12 complete months of crime data to their State. This data allows your agency to concentrate on major crime issues within the state such as **domestic and hate crime violence**. The information is used to acquire resources for fighting crime, accuracy is increased due to data edits, and the data will be useful in future crime mapping and national data sharing initiatives. Incident-based reporting contains a wealth of information that can be used to track problems such as **drugs trends**, find characteristics of **victims and perpetrators** and informs us about the different **locations and time** property is stolen. It gives us a common denominator for national reporting among law enforcement agencies so that we can utilize this data to apply resources or surveillance to specific areas. MICR contains valuable information and we will continue to look for ways to improve our reporting system to benefit law enforcement without jeopardizing the quality of data.

What crimes should be reported?

There are 95 specific crime offenses that are accepted under Michigan's incident-based reporting system. These crimes range from Arson to Weapons Offenses, the most serious being Homicide.

How can I get access to the MiCJIN Portal?

If you would like access to the MiCJIN Portal for submitting your crime data directly into our database, or if you are a DEG agency and would like access to the portal for MICR Reports, please contact your CRS Representative. Your CRS Representative will work with the MiCJIN Portal Unit to create your user account.

If I assist with a case, should I also report the incident?

If an incident is worked by two agencies, the lead agency should submit the incident to MICR. If an incident is transferred from one agency to another, for example, if MSP refers a complaint to Macomb County Sheriff's Office, the Sheriff's office would submit the incident to MICR. Only one report on an incident should be submitted in order to avoid duplicate reporting and increasing crime counts.

When can Exceptional Clearances be made?

An Exception Clearance can be made and should be reported for any one of the following five circumstances:

- Death of the Offender
- Prosecution Declined
- In Custody of Other Jurisdiction (Extradition Denied)
- Victim Refused to Cooperate or
- Juvenile – no custody

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What is necessary to clear an offense by exceptional means?

Each of the following 4 conditions must be met:

1. The investigation must have clearly and definitely established the identity of at least one offender.
2. Sufficient probable cause must have been developed to support the arrest, charging and prosecution of the offender.
3. The exact location of the offender must be known so that an arrest could be made.
4. There must be a reason outside the control of law enforcement which prevents the arrest.

What is the difference between an “E” date and an “R” date?

An event or report date is submitted to MICR depending on the circumstances of the incident and should be a choice from your vendor software screens. If a burglary occurred at a cottage during an unknown time, an agency would use “R” for the date the officer was made aware of the incident. If the burglary occurred today, an agency would use “E” to indicate the event date.

Should I report every crime that occurs as separate incidents?

Care must be taken to ensure that each offense which is reported is a separate, distinct crime, rather than just a part of another offense. For example, every robbery includes some type of assault; but because the assault is an element which makes up the crime of robbery, only robbery should be reported. If during a robbery, however, the victim is forced to engage in sexual relations, both the robbery and rape should be reported as forced sexual relations is not an element of robbery.

If I get a MICR error and do not know how to resolve it, what should I do?

Section 4 of the MICR handbook lists all of the mandatory fields for each file class and will help you understand how to resolve MICR errors. If you have additional questions, please contact the CRS at (517) 241-1704.

Should I list all premises entered if a storage unit has been burglarized?

The number of premises entered is mandatory when the location is listed as hotel/motel or rental/storage AND the crime is a burglary offense. If an offender broke into a storage facility and burglarized eight separate units, the number of premises entered would be 08. If offender broke into the office at the storage facility, the premise entered would be 01.

How do I determine that a Hate Crime has occurred?

When trying to determine if the actions taken by the offender were actual bias motivated, use the following questions:

- Does the victim perceive the action of the offender to be hate motivated?
- Could there be any other type of motivation for crime? (i.e., childish prank - age of offender)
- Were any hate bias remarks made by offender?

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- Any offensive symbols, words, or other evidence?
- Was it a significant holiday or date of victim or offender's group?
- Were the victim and offender of different race, religion, ethnic origin, sexual-orientation?
- Was offender previously involved in a hate crime, a member of a hate group, or was the victim involved in activities of a specific group?
- Victim new to neighborhood?

If the age, race and/or sex of the offenders is not known, what should be entered?

If any of these vitals are unknown about the offender, 00 can be submitted for offender number indicating no other information is known.

With the Victim to Offender Relationships being reduced, do I have to link all victims to offenders?

All offenders must be linked to a victim. MICR can accept five offenders but only two VORs. The first two entered should be the "closest in relationship" to the victim. The Victim to Offender Relationship (VOR) helps us identify domestic violence, child abuse, elderly abuse, etc.

How do I report a case where multiple victims were also offenders?

Each individual must be listed as a victim and as an offender. For example, officers went to a domestic dispute between a husband and a wife. The wife had visible choke marks around her neck, and the husband was bleeding from a stab wound. Husband and wife are both victims and offenders.

To keep the information straight list each victim and offender using the same number.

- Victim #1 as the husband and Offender #1 as the husband. Victim #2 as the wife and Offender #2 as the wife.
- The victim to offender relationship for person assigned to #1 would be:
- Victim #1 (husband) to Offender #1 (self) or 01/31. Victim #1 (husband) to Offender #2 (wife) or 01/01 spouse.

This same would occur for Victim #2.

- Code Victim #2 (wife) to Offender #1 (husband) as 01/01 (spouse)
- Code Victim #2(wife) to Offender #2 (self) as 02/31 (offender).

What if I have questions about MICR that aren't answered here?

Your CRS Representative is available to answer questions regarding all 61 data elements and any reports that you may desire.