



**Michigan State Police
Criminal Justice Information Center**



Multiple Incidents: Proper Reporting

An incident is defined as one or more offenses committed by the same offender, or group of offenders, **acting in concert** at the same time and place. To be considered one incident:

- All offenders must commit or assist in the commission of ALL the crime(s)
- All offenders must be aware of, and consent to, the commission of ALL crime(s)
- Time and place must be significant to one another

The fundamental concept of same time and place presupposes if the same person or group of persons committed more than one crime and the time and space intervals separating them were insignificant, all the crimes make up a single incident.

- The offenses must have occurred during an unbroken time period
- The offenses must have occurred at the same or adjoining location(s)

Examples:

- Drunk Driver, Passenger has Firearm
A vehicle is pulled over; the driver is intoxicated, and the passenger is in illegal possession of a firearm. This is two incidents; the passenger did not commit or assist in the commission of the drunk driving, and the driver did not commit or assist in the commission of the weapons offense.
- Multiple Thefts from Motor Vehicles
Law enforcement receives over a dozen reports of thefts from motor vehicles. All vehicles were parked inside the same parking garage. If there is an unbroken period of time between the thefts, based on investigation, this should be considered one incident with multiple victims.
- Mutual Assault, one Offender has Bench Warrant
Two individuals were mutually combating. Police arrive and arrest both for assault. One individual has a bench warrant. This is two incidents; the bench warrant is a separate incident because both individuals did not commit the bench warrant offense.
- Drunk Driver Changes Seats with Passenger
A man is driving his wife home; both consumed alcohol. The car swerves by a patrol car. The man pulls over and switches seats with his wife. The wife is in the driver's seat when the officer approaches. This is two incidents; one incident reflects the man driving impaired and Obstructing Police (changing seats), and a second incident reflects the wife Obstructing Police (changing seats). However, if the officer observed the man driving, AND the car was pulled over while his wife was driving, one incident reflects both suspects committing both offenses.

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