



FY2014 RECOMMENDATION/FY14-CS03 Harmonize First Degree Aggravated Motor Vehicle Theft offense levels with the 2013 amendment to Colorado's theft statute.

Status: Implementation Complete

Actions/Updates

2014 ACTION TO DATE

Action on this recommendation was completed with the passage of House Bill 14-1266.

Description

This recommendation harmonizes the offense levels of the value-based crime of Aggravated Motor Vehicle Theft in the First Degree, § 18-4-409(3) with the General Assembly's recent revisions to the theft statute.

Agencies Responsible

Discussion

In FY14-CS #1, the Comprehensive Sentencing Task Force previously recommended amending the statutes defining the following value-based crimes, thereby harmonizing their offense levels with the General Assembly's recent revisions to the theft statute: Criminal Mischief, § 18-4-501; Fraud by Check, § 18-5-205; Defrauding a Secured Creditor, § 18-5-206; Unauthorized Use of a Financial Transaction Device, § 18-5-702; and Computer Crime, § 18-5.5-102. This recommendation adds Aggravated Motor Vehicle Theft in the First Degree, § 18-4-409(3) to this list.

In 2013 the General Assembly amended the monetary amounts associated with the various offense levels for the crime of theft. That amendment established a petty offense for crimes involving less than fifty dollars, raised the felony threshold to two thousand dollars, and eliminated previously existing gaps between offense levels. The crime of theft is now punishable as a class 1 petty offense up to a class 2 felony, depending upon the value of the thing involved. The Comprehensive Sentencing Task Force set out to evaluate whether other value-based offenses could and should be amended to reflect the offense levels associated with the new theft statute.

This recommendation for Aggravated Motor Vehicle Theft in the First Degree incorporates value-based delineations comparable to the new theft statute for the class 3, 4, and 5 felony offense levels. It makes no changes to either the repeat offender or second degree portions of the statute.

The Task Force's exact recommendation is expressed below. Proposed new language in the applicable statutes is highlighted. Currently existing language, which would be replaced if this recommendation is adopted, is shown in red.

Proposed Statutory Language

Aggravated Motor Vehicle Theft: §18-4-409

(3) Aggravated motor vehicle theft in the first degree is a:

(a) **Class 5 Class 4** felony if the value of the motor vehicle or motor vehicles involved is **LESS THAN TWENTY THOUSAND DOLLARS** *twenty thousand dollars or less*;

(B) CLASS 4 FELONY IF THE VALUE OF THE MOTOR VEHICLE OR MOTOR VEHICLES INVOLVED IS TWENTY THOUSAND DOLLARS OR MORE, BUT LESS THAN ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS;

(C b) Class 3 felony if the value of the motor vehicle or motor vehicles involved is more than **ONE HUNDRED** *twenty* thousand dollars or if the defendant has twice previously been convicted or adjudicated of charges separately brought and tried either in this state or elsewhere of an offense involving theft of a motor vehicle under the laws of this state, any other state, the United States, or any territory subject to the jurisdiction of the United States.