Did you ever wonder where stolen property goes and whether or not any of it is recovered? On an average day, the Modesto Police Department Evidence Room has 200 bicycles and 100 laptops sitting there unclaimed. If the rightful owners only knew their property was available to them if they could prove that it was theirs!

March is California Campus Safety Month.

In collaboration with the Modesto Police Department, we are recognizing Campus Safety Month by raising the awareness of the campus community called “Operation ID”. Property crimes are way up in Stanislaus County, and we are looking for ways to help you keep your property safer or recover your property if it is lost or stolen.

What is Operation ID?

Operation ID is a service to students, faculty and staff of Modesto Junior College that allows them to register their valuable property **at no cost** in case it is ever lost or stolen. By registering this property, there is a much greater chance of recovery because it can be identified as yours if it is found. What kind of property would be best for this program? You can register just about anything, but **bicycles, laptops, and eReaders** are the most popular items at colleges that have a similar program.
How do I register?

Registration of property is simple and fast. Just bring your property to either Campus Safety counter (East in Journalism 160: 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM Mon - Thurs; West in John Muir 151: 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM Mon - Fri).

- Complete the property form
- Receive a sticker to place on your property
- Engrave your property with your CA driver’s license or identification number
- We will photograph your property
- We will enter the information in our data base

Campus Safety will keep your information for 3 years and share it with local law enforcement if you report the item as stolen. You get to keep a copy of the registration form.

What information do I need to register?

We will need the following information from you:

- Name, Address, Phone Number
- Student ID/Employee ID
- State driver’s license or State ID card
- Email address
- Serial number of property
- Brand, model, and color
- Any additional descriptors; e.g. men’s or women’s bicycle, size, speeds, etc.

What else should I know about Operation ID?

Campus Safety will not actually do the etching on your equipment. We will help you practice and give the engraver to you to engrave your equipment. Of course, participating in Operation ID does not guarantee that your property will be recovered if it is stolen, but the engraving and sticker on your property will help to deter theft. And if you report it stolen and it makes it to the MPD Evidence Room, you have a very good chance of getting it back.

How else can I keep my property safe?

- Never leave your backpack, computer or eReader unattended
- Always lock your bicycle to a fixed metal bike rack
- Use a metal U-lock if possible (cheap cable locks are the number one way to lose a bike)
- Take with you any quick-release parts that cannot be secured
- Photograph your bike and record the serial number
- Register your bike
- Do not bring high-value bicycles to campus

Want to learn more?

Check out the following link to see how Operation ID works: http://www.mjc.edu/general/information/safety/index.html

A message from: CAMPUS SAFETY - For more information, contact Becky Crow at 575-6260.