

[(1)] (M) "THEFT" MEANS THEFT AS DEFINED IN §§ 341 THROUGH 345 OF THIS SUBHEADING INCLUDING MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED.

(N) (1) "Value" means the market value of the property or service at the time and place of the crime, or if the market value cannot be satisfactorily ascertained, the cost of the replacement of the property within a reasonable time after the crime.

(2) Whether or not they have been issued or delivered, certain written instruments, not including those having a readily ascertainable market value, shall be evaluated as follows:

(i) The value of an instrument constituting an evidence of debt, such as a check, draft, or promissory note, shall be determined as the amount due or collectible thereon or thereby, this figure ordinarily being the face amount of the indebtedness less any portion thereof which has been satisfied.

(ii) The value of any other instrument which creates, releases, discharges, or otherwise affects any valuable legal right, privilege, or obligation shall be determined as the amount of economic loss which the owner of the instrument might reasonably suffer by virtue of the loss of the instrument.

(3) The value of a trade secret which does not have a readily ascertainable market value shall be deemed any reasonable value representing the damage to the owner suffered by reason of losing an advantage over those who do not know of or use the trade secret.

(4) When it cannot be determined if the value of the property or service is more or less than \$300 by the standards set forth in this subsection, its value shall be determined to be an amount less than \$300.

(5) When theft is committed in violation of this subheading pursuant to one scheme or continuing course of conduct, whether from the same or several sources, the conduct may be considered as one offense and the value of the property or services aggregated in determining whether the theft is a felony or a misdemeanor.

341.

Conduct designated as theft in this subheading constitutes a single crime embracing, among others, the separate crimes heretofore known as larceny, larceny by trick, larceny after trust, embezzlement, false pretenses, shoplifting, and receiving stolen property. An accusation of theft may be proved by evidence that it was committed in any manner that would be theft under this subheading, notwithstanding the specification of a different manner in the information, indictment, warrant, or other charging document, subject only to the power of the court to ensure a fair trial by granting a continuance or other appropriate relief if the conduct of the defense would be prejudiced by lack of fair notice or by surprise.

342.

(a) A person commits the offense of theft when he willfully or knowingly obtains control which is unauthorized or exerts control which is unauthorized over property of the owner, and: