



## **OPERATION IDENTIFICATION**

Operation Identification is a nationally recognized property identification program open to all members of the Earlham College community. Our goal is to deter thefts and burglary and aid in the recovery of stolen property. This is accomplished by engraving personal belongings and tracking important identifying information about such items. Marked property is difficult for a thief or burglar to dispose of or resell, and can be traced to the rightful owner with relative ease. If someone is caught with marked property, it is solid evidence of possession of stolen goods.

### **What Items Should Be Engraved?**

Televisions, audio equipment, cameras, gaming systems, computers (desktop and laptop), tablets (iPads, Kindles, etc.), cell phones, mp3 players (iPods, etc.) and whatever else you consider valuable.

### **How to Participate**

To participate in Operation Identification, call Public Safety at x1400 (765-983-1400) for information or stop by the Public Safety office. A Public Safety employee will engrave the item(s) for you and obtain the necessary identifying information; or, if an item is too large to bring to Public Safety, loan you free of charge the engraving device. There will also be scheduled opportunities that officers will be engraving items on campus. Public Safety accepts no responsibility for any damage that might be done to internal components of electronic devices as a result of engraving.

### **Engraving**

As you engrave your items, engrave the number on an area that cannot be easily removed. Mark items as conspicuously or inconspicuously as you like, without defacing them. Part of Operation Identification's objectives is to warn thieves away. So don't try to hide the fact that an item has been engraved.

Record the following information about each item (inventory sheets are available from Public Safety):

Description (make, model, color, size)

Serial Number

Location of engraved marking

Engraved identifier

### **If You Are a Student**

A copy of your list can be filed with Public Safety. If you subsequently become the victim of theft or burglary, the list will be quickly available. It is also recommended that you videotape or photograph your valuables, especially jewelry that can lose value by being engraved. Videos and photographs can also help in the recovery of items.

Also, be sure to engrave and add to your original list any valuables you subsequently purchase or receive, such as gifts during holidays or on special occasions like birthdays.

Remember – living in a residence hall can have as many potential disadvantages as advantages. The chance for your valuables to be missing increases as the number of people who have access to your room increases. Even short trips to the laundry room or restroom can give a thief the opportunity to take some of your valuables. Make it that much harder to become a victim by participating in Operation Identification!