

Malicious Destruction of Property

More commonly known as vandalism or criminal property damage, malicious destruction of property (MDOP) involves the willful and malicious destruction of or injuring the personal property of another person. Depending on the value of the property and if you have any previous MDOP convictions, it can range from a misdemeanor to a felony.

If any of the following apply, you face up to 10 years in prison and/or \$15,000 in fines or three times the value of the property, whichever is greater:

- The property is valued at \$20,000 or more
- You have two or more prior MDOP convictions

If any of the following apply, you face up to five years in prison and/or \$10,000 in fines or three times the value of the property, whichever is greater:

- The property is valued at \$1,000-20,000
- You have one prior MDOP convictions

If any of the following apply, you face up to one year in jail and/or \$2,000 in fines or three times the value of the property, whichever is greater

- The property is valued at \$200-1,000
- You have one prior misdemeanor MDOP conviction or a local ordinance conviction equivalent to MDOP

You face up to 93 days in jail and/or \$500 in fines or three times the value of the property, whichever is greater, if the value of the property is less than \$200

Additionally, you will face heightened penalties if the property is:

- home
- school
- fence
- school bus
- barn
- police property

- fire department property

There is also a related crime of **burning insured property**, which is essentially insurance fraud. It involves the willful destruction or injuring of insured property for the purpose of defrauding the insurer.

These are serious felonies that require experienced legal representation.