

# NIBRS WARNING—DATA QUALITY

## REPORT WEAPONS IN AN AGGRAVATED ASSAULT

### Assault Classifications

**Aggravated Assault:** For an offense to be classified as “Aggravated Assault”, one of two things must be present in the incident: 1) a weapon must have been used (including displaying a weapon in a threatening manner) and/or 2) the victim must have sustained serious injury which required medical attention (even if the victim refused the medical attention).

**Simple Assault:** An offense is classified as “Simple Assault” if no weapon was involved (other than “Personal Weapons”) and the victim did not sustain serious injury. If the victim sustained minor injury, the weapon involved should be classified as “Personal Weapons”: Any other type of weapon changes the classification to “Aggravated Assault”.

**Intimidation:** The offense of “Intimidation” is used when there is no direct confrontation between the victim and the suspect but threats are made putting the victim in reasonable fear of bodily harm. Typically, the threats are by phone, e-mail, or text messages.

**When reporting the weapons used,** select the most specific weapon type listed. LEAs should report a revolver as a Handgun rather than a Firearm. If a weapon was used that could be employed several different ways, choose the weapon type which indicates how the weapon was used.

**Example:** If a bottle was used in the commission of a murder, report Blunt Object if the victim was beaten. If the offender cut or stabbed the victim with the bottle, then it would be a knife or cutting instrument.

**Example:** If an offender slaps, punches, kicks, head-butts, or scratches a victim, they are using 40=Personal Weapons.

**Note:** Personal Weapons are not eligible for WEAPONS LAW VIOLATIONS.

### Weapon Types

11= Firearm

12= Handgun

13= Rifle

14= Shotgun

15=Other Firearm

20= Knife/Cutting instrument (Icepick, Screwdriver, Axe, Cleaver, Broken Bottle, Scissors, Razor, Knife, etc.)

30= Blunt object – (Hammer, club, stick, Baseball Bat, Butt of Gun, Bricks, Bottle, Tire Iron, etc.)

35= Motor Vehicle

40= Personal – (Hands, Fists, Feet, Head, Arms, Teeth, Elbows, etc.)

50= Poison

60= Explosives

65= Fire/Incendiary Device

70= Drugs/Narcotics/Sleeping Pills

85= Asphyxiation

90= Other - Weapons not classified under other categories; (nunchakus, brass knuckles, crossbows, bows and arrows, pepper spray, Tasers, sling shots, BB guns, pellet guns, gas-powered guns, paintball guns, etc.)

95= Unknown

99= None

