STRATEGIES FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO PREVENT ORGANIZED RETAIL CRIME
Organized theft continues to be a challenge for local municipalities across California. This session aims to introduce new strategies to local leaders to effectively combat this issue. By coordinating the right stakeholders in the public and private sector, you can be a force for change to create a safer shopping experience for your constituents, protect your tax base, and make it harder for your community to be targeted.
Captain Jason Daughrity
Commander of the Field Support Section (FSS)
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Michael Lamb
Manager of Organized Retail Crime & Special Investigations
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President
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The large-scale theft of retail merchandise with the intent to resell the items for financial gain (National Retail Federation)

Organized retail theft (ORT) or professional shoplifting, involves two or more people who conspire to steal retail merchandise with the intention of reselling the items at a profit (Investopedia)

Organized Retail Theft is characterized by organized criminal rings that steal property with the intent to sell and distribute, or return stolen merchandise for value (Office of the CA Attorney General)
WHAT DOES ORC LOOK LIKE LOCALLY?

“...employees did not initially report the crime after it happened ...”
TOP ORC PRODUCTS

C-R-A-V-E-D Model

Concealable

Removable

Available

Valuable

Enjoyable

Disposable

- Apparel
- Health and beauty
- Electronics/Appliances
- Accessories
- Food & Beverage
- Footwear
- Home Furnishings & Housewares
- Home Improvement

- Eyewear
- Office Supplies
- Infant Care
- Toys
NATIONAL TRENDS

Nationwide losses in tax revenue due to retail theft = $15 billion/year*

$125.7 billion loss in economic activity

658,375 fewer jobs, paying almost $39.3 billion in wages and benefits to workers.

86% of Surveyed Retailers Report Increase in Verbal Threats of Violence by ORC Criminals

*Does not include losses to sales tax revenues

Source: Retail Industry Leaders Association and Buy Safe America Coalition Report 2019
% Total Retail Theft in USA = 12.6%

Loss in Tax Revenue = $3,371,470,600*

Total Value of Stolen Goods = $13,780,414,032

ORC Costs to Businesses in CA = $19,081,581,000

*Does not include losses to sales tax revenues

Source: Retail Crime Data Center, US Chamber of Commerce
TOP 5 US CITIES WITH RETAIL THEFT

• Los Angeles
• San Francisco/Oakland
• New York City
• Houston
• Miami
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QUESTIONS
SOURCES

• https://www.retaildive.com/news/shrink-costs-retailers-over-ninety-four-billion-2021-nrf/631928/
• https://www.rila.org/focus-areas/public-policy/study-retail-theft-balloons-to-over-68-billion
• https://www.forbes.com/sites/jiawertz/2022/11/20/shoplifting-has-become-a-100-billion-problem-for-retailers/?sh=2b77f1122d62
• https://www.investopedia.com/organized-retail-crime-7097862