

Welcome to this edition of BOLO News. BOLO News is a monthly newsletter for law enforcement to share success stories and other information that may be pertinent in the ongoing fight against metals theft.

## Metals Theft Statute Compliance

One thing is true regarding metals theft; somebody is buying it. But who? ISRI members and other honest recyclers understand the need for complying with the rules. Adhering to the law also makes good business sense. No legitimate scrap recycler wants to risk their reputation and business by accepting stolen materials or fined for non-compliance. Yet, thieves seem to know who follows the rules and who turns a blind eye.

All 50 states have enacted legislation to combat metals theft. While many similarities exist, there are varying differences which address specific issues within each state. On top of state statutes, many recyclers face local ordinances. Common to all statutes are the compliance restrictions on recyclers. What honest recyclers ask for is uniform enforcement of the law, a level playing field. Law enforcement should ensure all recyclers are in compliance or close down the illegal operations - the rogue or pop-up dealers.

All states require recyclers to record the identifiers of sellers and restrictions on what materials can be bought. Many also require the seller to provide documentation or sign a statement confirming they are the legitimate owner of the items being sold. Some have enacted laws banning or restricting cash payments to sellers, requiring payment be made by check and sent to a physical address. All these requirements add to the costs of doing business; costs not realized by rogue dealers. Rogue dealers are also less apt to question the legitimacy of materials.

Thieves are not the only ones dealing with rogue dealers. An otherwise honest homeowner or business owner cleaning out their garage or shop might, for convenience sake, take advantage of the rogue dealer. It may be they are willing to visit a pop-up in exchange for not having their identification copied and electronically transmitted or for a cash payment rather than check.

Thieves need a place to sell their ill-gotten goods. Rather than shifting criminal activity from one area to another, uniform enforcement of compliance rules and regulations can eliminate rogue dealers with the end goal of reducing metals theft.

## ISRI Outreach to Law Enforcement

On June 26 & 27, ISRI representatives will be exhibiting at the National Sheriffs' Association Annual Conference in Minneapolis, MN. If you are able to attend this event, please stop by the ISRI



## Reader Poll

Have you ever shut down a rogue recycling operation?

**VOTE**

Last month we asked readers **Have you ever investigated the theft of recyclable materials other than ferrous or nonferrous metals?**

Here are the results:

Yes	71%
No	29%
Not Sure	0%

## In the News

[Davis Police Issue Warning for Men Impersonating City Workers](#)  
DailyDemocrat.com, May 5, 2016

booth to learn about ScrapTheftAlert.com and other resources provided by the industry to fight metals theft.

### Questions?

Contact ISRI Director of Law Enforcement Outreach [Brady Mills](#) or call (202) 662-8526 for more information.

### [Gulf States Fighting Metal Thefts from Ag Operations](#)

*Insurance Journal*, May 4, 2016

### [Macon County Law Enforcement Seeks Help With Metal Theft](#)

NewsChannel20.com, May 3, 2016



Voice of the Recycling Industry

Institute of  
Scrap Recycling  
Industries, Inc.

1615 L Street, NW, Suite 600  
Washington, DC, 20036-5610  
[isri@isri.org](mailto:isri@isri.org) | (202) 662-8500

You are receiving this message because you signed up to receive newsletters from [ISRI.org](http://ISRI.org). Feel free to reply if you have any questions.

