



2024 RAPID ANNUAL REPORT

Prepared by the Maryland Department of State Police

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2024 Annual Report

Regional Automated Property Information Database

FEBRUARY 28, 2025

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RAPID HIGH-LIGHTS

- State of Maryland recovers over \$1,000,000 for second year in a row.
- Nationwide Searches with LeadsOnline
- New Maryland Law requires dealers to obtain VIN # for catalytic converter transactions, leading to recover of stolen property.

RAPID program recovers over \$1,300,000 in 2024 - Regional Automated Property Information Database

The Maryland RAPID program started as the result of legislation in 2009 and developed into a proven platform that has assisted law enforcement for over a decade. It provides access to search and review data from pawn shops, scrapyards and ADRS Processors daily transactions. This has led to the recovery of stolen items, which often are able to be returned to their rightful owners. RAPID assists local, county and state law enforcement in the identification and prosecution of both opportunistic and career criminals.

At the end of 2024, RAPID has led to the recovery of an estimated total of \$60,466,730 worth of property leading to the arrests of 15,014 suspects and closed 20,579 criminal investigations since inception.

During 2024, the State of Maryland has continued its successes and having the access to data in LeadsOnline from over

22,000 businesses nationwide has allowed Maryland law enforcement to recover property and identify suspects from neighboring jurisdictions.

Having access of this magnitude allows users to search for and recover more stolen property than ever before.

In addition to the property recovered through users searches, over 160 items have been recovered after being entered into NCIC and being compared to transaction data in LeadsOnline.

RAPID Searches	
Year	Total Queries
2014	1,478,317
2015	1,669,750
2016	2,089,914
2017	2,711,592
2018	2,957,698
2019	3,354,076
2020	3,613,429
2021	3,715,536
2022	3,938,298
2023	3,978,382
2024	4,044,253

Maryland Pawn, Scrap and ADRS Laws and Acronyms

- Business Regulation Article Title 12** – Regulates the acquisition of pawn and precious metal transactions.
- Business Regulation Article Title 17, Sub-Title 10** – Regulates the acquisition of scrap metal transactions.
- Transportation Article Title 15, Sub-Title 5** – Regulates the licenses of Automotive Dismantlers, Recyclers, Scrap Processors and the acquisition of whole and vehicle part transactions.
- Transportation Article Title 25, Sub-Title 2** – Regulates the disposition of abandoned vehicles.

- ADRS** – Automotive Dismantlers, Recyclers and Scrap Processors
- LOL** - LeadsOnline
- DL** – Department of Labor

- MDSP** - Maryland Department of State Police
- MVA** – Motor Vehicle Administration
- NCIC** – National Crime Information Center

RAPID Report by Jurisdiction

The RAPID program, powered by LeadsOnline has given Maryland law enforcement a tool to search nationwide pawn and scrap metal transaction data that can be used to locate stolen property, identify perpetrators, solve cases and collaborate with allied law enforcement. This tool also allows officers to identify crime trends, deter crime and return stolen property to the victims. The program is invaluable in today's world of law enforcement.

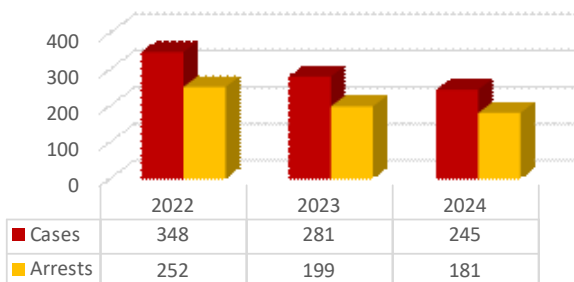
*First Sergeant Jesse Haas
MDSP RAPID Unit
Commander*

County	Cases	Arrests	# Items recovered	Recovery value
Allegany	3	3	3	\$600
Anne Arundel	19	15	103	\$72,009
Baltimore County	76	40	140	\$144,332
Baltimore City	16	23	143	\$168,210
Calvert	3	4	3	\$39,204
Caroline	4	4	6	\$9,671
Carroll	5	4	10	\$2,800
Cecil	2	1	2	\$21,000
Charles	3	4	7	\$185,300
Dorchester	0	0	0	0
Frederick	6	6	12	\$17,721
Garrett	3	3	3	\$6,600
Harford	9	8	13	\$75,156
Howard	26	11	89	\$139,567
Kent	4	2	28	\$8,500
Montgomery	16	16	41	\$40,545
Prince George's	22	11	34	\$114,153
Queen Anne's	0	0	0	0
Somerset	0	0	0	0
St. Mary's	4	4	2	\$130
Talbot	0	0	0	0
Washington	18	18	18	\$7,865
Wicomico	2	1	2	\$10,250
Worcester	1	1	1	\$7,000
Westminster	2	2	2	\$2,739
ADRS/Stolen Vehicles	N/A	N/A	102	\$270,395
TOTALS	245	181	763	\$1,343,747

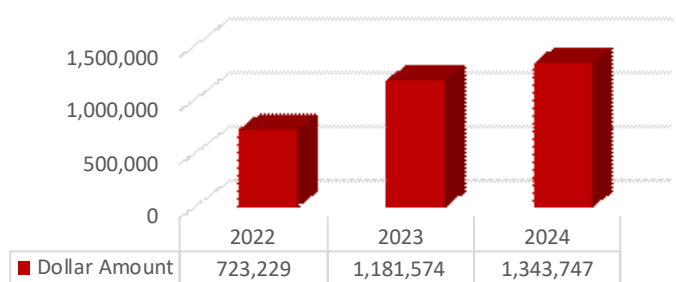
2024 Statistics

(Statistics and success stories are self-reported by the individual agencies, not all agencies track these exact parameters or account for subsequent investigations.)

RECENT YEARS



RECOVERY



RAPID Administration & Updates

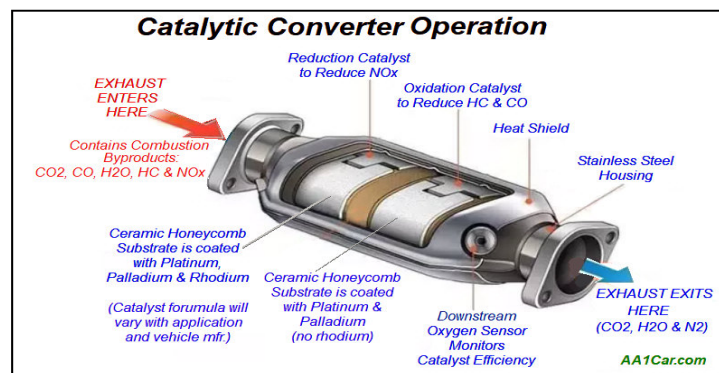


With the conclusion of 2024, Maryland law enforcement has been using LeadsOnline for over 16 months. Automated features of the platform such as “person of interest” have enabled officers to solve more cases. Features such as following subject transactions and daily reports allow deconfliction between allied agencies. LeadsOnline continues to offer support programs that integrate data collected from reporting dealers that provides additional leads that can be used to further investigations.

MARYLAND LAW UPDATE

On October 1, 2024, House Bill 871, was passed into law. The statute requires Automotive Dismantler and Recycler or Scrap Processors that come into possession of all or part of a detached catalytic converter by a person, to obtain the vehicle identification number (VIN) of the vehicle it was removed from which must be reported with the transaction to LeadsOnline.

This is an effort to combat the increasing theft of catalytic converters in the State of Maryland. These items are stolen for the precious metals located inside of them. The MDSP RAPID Unit worked to educate dealers and is monitoring compliance across the state. There were 21,998 catalytic converters sold to Maryland scrapyards in 2024. Despite dealer reporting issues, which were corrected in December of 2024, four stolen catalytic converters were recovered prior to the end of the year.



Retail Theft Crime trend continues in Maryland

The State of Maryland continued to see a rise in retail theft during 2024. Retail theft is being perpetrated by individuals as well as organized groups that travel regionally. These subjects target retail stores such as Walmart, Target, Lowes, Home Depot , and outlet stores. These thefts are conducted through the use of distraction, grab and run, concealment in bags or containers and often the result of merely failing to pay and walking out of the store. These items are then taken to pawn stores and sold for pennies on the dollar. Other items are placed on online marketplaces such as eBay, OfferUp and Facebook Marketplace.

In 2024, pawn dealers in the State of Maryland reported over 52,000 new items during daily transactions. These items range from tools, houseware and home goods, personal hygiene products, cosmetics, sunglasses, and handbags. These stolen items are often taken to pawn shops where they are sold by the subjects committing the theft for a heavily reduced price or placed on online marketplaces. After pawn shops receive them, these items are frequently posted on online marketplaces at prices lower than retail, leading to substantial profits when resold by the pawn shops. Maryland law enforcement is working with local, state and federal partners to combat this rising trend. These thefts not only fuel violent crimes but are also often committed to fund the purchase of routinely abused controlled substances.

MDSP RAPID Unit Investigations

In November of 2024, the MDSP RAPID Unit was contacted by a victim who stated she had two vehicles stolen from the property she was renting. She located her vehicles at an ADRS dealer in Salisbury, MD. Investigators reviewed the transactions that led to the vehicles being sold to a business in Salisbury and identified the subject that completed the sale. Investigators reviewed the video footage of the transaction at the scrapyards and observed that the vehicles had been dismantled. Investigators discovered that a subject called a local tow company and sold them the vehicles for \$600 total. Investigation determined the subject did not have permission to sell the vehicles. He was charged with two counts of Theft of a Motor Vehicle. In addition, the tow company was charged for operating as an ADRS dealer without a license, as they were found to have dismantled the vehicles before towing them to the scrapyards.

The Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration has designated the MDSP as the regulatory authority for the State of Maryland for ADRS. Responsibilities include reviewing NCIC hits that are generated each day because of transaction data that had been uploaded to LeadsOnline. Each day, personnel review these hits and determine if the information is related to a reported stolen vehicle, missing person or other crimes. If the hit is determined to be valid, the location of the vehicle is provided to the agency that is investigating the motor vehicle theft or related case. In 2024, the MDSP RAPID Unit determined 102 incoming NCIC hits pertained to stolen vehicles, five NCIC hits involved stolen catalytic converters, and one involved a missing person investigation. The stolen vehicles' aggregate recovered value exceeded \$270,000 based on reporting from the law enforcement agencies conducting the investigations. The efforts of the MDSP RAPID Unit often allow for the vehicle to be returned to the owner or insurance company and provide investigators with leads for criminal investigations.

Cross Jurisdiction Investigations and Recoveries

Cookeville, TN to Maryland:

The Cookeville Police Department in Tennessee used a name search in LeadsOnline to locate stolen Apple AirPods that had been pawned in a Western Maryland pawn shop. The items, valued at \$200 were recovered and returned to the victim.

Washington Township, PA to Maryland:

The Washington Township Police Department in Pennsylvania searched LeadsOnline using the suspects name and located the reported stolen welder, car radio and game system at a Maryland pawn shop. The property, valued at over \$700 was recovered and the suspect was charged.

Washington, D.C. to Prince George's County, MD:

After a burglary in Washington, D.C., investigators conducted a search for the stolen property in LeadsOnline. The property was located after it was pawned in Prince George's County, Maryland. The jewelry and high-value handbags, valued at \$51,500 were recovered and returned to the victim.

West Virginia to Maryland:

The West Virginia State Police were investigating the theft of a laptop and gaming system. After developing a suspect, a name search in LeadsOnline located the stolen items which had been pawned in Garrett County, Maryland. The items, valued at \$800, were recovered and the suspect was charged with theft.

Virginia to Prince George's County, MD:

The Loudon County Police Department was investigating the theft of a backpack blower valued at \$439. The item was located as the result of a RAPID NCIC hit and was recovered at a Maryland pawn shop by the Prince George's County Police Department. It was released back to the Loudon County Police Department.



Cross Jurisdiction Investigations and Recoveries

Anne Arundel County Police Department to Arizona:

In 1987, a firearm was stolen during a residential burglary. The firearm was placed into NCIC. In May of 2024, the stolen firearm was pawned in Bullhead City, Arizona. As a result of this pawn, an NCIC hit was generated in LeadsOnline. This hit led to the recovery of the stolen firearm valued at \$1,800.

Montgomery County, MD to Arlington, VA:

After a burglary in Montgomery County, investigators began searching property transactions in LeadsOnline. During their search, items reported stolen were discovered to have been pawned at a shop in Arlington, VA. Two necklaces, valued at \$3,000 were recovered and charges are pending in this case.

Washington, D.C. to Prince George’s County, MD:

The Metropolitan Police were investigating a theft of a Tamron camera valued at \$1,500. Using LeadsOnline to search for the stolen property, it was located at a pawn shop in Prince George’s County. The camera valued at \$1,500 was recovered and the suspect was charged in this case. The property was returned to the victim.



LeadsOnline program features lead to property recovery and case closures

LeadsOnline offers law enforcement agencies multiple features and search options that can be used to locate stolen property and persons of interest for crimes that have occurred in their jurisdictions.

HIGHLIGHTED FEATURES

- Property Search
- Saved Search
- Serial # Search
- Name Search
- Ebay Search
- NCIC Alert

Anne Arundel County - NCIC Hit:

The Anne Arundel County RAPID administrator received a LeadsOnline NCIC hit after a Smith and Wesson 9mm handgun was pawned at a pawn shop in Mississippi. The gun was stolen in November of 2008 from a residence in Anne Arundel County. The gun was placed on hold and recovered by law enforcement and then shipped back to the Anne Arundel County Police Department.

Baltimore County - NCIC Hit:

Officers were investigating the theft of a diamond engagement ring valued at over \$25,000. The ring was pawned and generated an NCIC hit that led to the recovery of the ring.

Harford County - Saved Search:

A saved search was set up in LeadsOnline after the theft of a diamond ring valued at \$50,000. The ring was pawned and investigators were notified of the transaction. The ring was recovered and the suspect was charged.

Howard County - Property Search:

The Howard County Police Department recovered 19 pieces of stolen electronic equipment from a pawn shop after a property search in LeadsOnline. The property was valued at \$115,924 and was all recovered. The suspect in this case was charged with the theft.

RAPID Investigative Successes

Frederick County - Theft:

Using LeadsOnline, investigators searched a suspects name and located multiple pieces of jewelry and property that had been stolen. A television, a power drill and three items of jewelry were recovered, valued at over \$15,000. The suspect was charged in this case.

Prince George's County - Theft:

After a theft of brass valued at \$9,600, investigators searched LeadsOnline for the stolen property. The search located the property at a scrapyard. The property was recovered and a suspect was charged in the case.

Charles County - Theft:

The Charles County Sheriff's Department was investigating the theft of \$20,000 worth of copper wire. During the investigation, a search of LeadsOnline for the stolen property located it after it was sold at a scrapyard in Prince George's County, Maryland. The case was closed and the property was recovered.

Washington County - Retail Theft:

The Hagerstown Police Department was investigating a retail theft scheme involving two suspects over several weeks. Using LeadsOnline, the suspects were identified as well as locating an additional suspect that was also committing theft. In total, the three suspects had stolen over \$13,000. All three suspects were charged in this case.

Baltimore County - Theft:

The Baltimore County Police Department was investigating the theft of jewelry from an elderly subject. The jewelry was valued at over \$27,000. Investigators recovered five pieces of stolen jewelry after searching the suspects name in LeadsOnline. The stolen items were located in a pawn shop and recovered. The recovered property was valued at \$2,650 and the suspect was charged in this case.

Baltimore County - Theft:

The Baltimore County Police Department was investigating the theft of an engagement ring valued at \$6,332. A search of the suspects name in LeadsOnline located the stolen ring after it had been pawned. The ring was recovered and charges are pending.

Baltimore County - Retail Theft:

An unknown suspect stole a Razor laptop from a retail store. The laptop was valued at \$8,998. The serial number for the stolen laptop was entered into NCIC. It generated an NCIC hit in LeadsOnline after it was pawned at a Maryland pawn shop. The laptop was recovered and charges are pending against the suspect.

Prince George's County - Robbery:

After a strong-armed robbery led to the theft of two rings, investigators conducted a search in LeadsOnline for the stolen property. This search located the property after it was pawned. The stolen property was valued at \$1,000 and charges are pending.

Harford County - Theft:

The Harford County Sheriff's Office was investigating the theft of multiple pieces of jewelry valued at over \$21,000. After developing a suspect, a name search in LeadsOnline located the stolen property, which was recovered.

Anne Arundel County - Theft:

The Anne Arundel County Police Department recovered a stolen wristwatch after receiving an NCIC hit in LeadsOnline. The watch, which was valued at \$13,000 had been reported stolen to the Annapolis City Police Department. It was recovered and returned to the owner. The suspect was charged in this case.

Howard County - Retail Theft:

The Howard County Police Department was investigating a retail theft. During the investigation a search for the stolen property in LeadsOnline located the property after it was pawned at a local pawn shop. The stolen property, valued at over \$2,000 was recovered and the suspect was charged in this case.

Prince George's County - Burglary:

The Cheverly Police Department was investigating a burglary at a residence in Prince George's County. A few weeks later, there was a similar incident in the same area. The suspect stole several valuable items. During the investigation, the suspect went to a bank and attempted to deposit a check they had taken from the victim's house. They put their name on the check but left before the transaction was complete. Detectives searched the suspects name using LeadsOnline and located several items that were stolen from both burglaries at a local pawn shop as well as one in Washington, D.C. Detectives were able to retrieve over \$30,000 of the victim's property and charge the suspect.

"LeadsOnline has been a great asset to Prince George's County, Maryland. Our agency had over 30 pawn and scrap recoveries worth over \$115,000 between multiple jurisdictions throughout the Washington, D.C Metropolitan area. Half of these recoveries came from outside jurisdictions which has led to collaboration and partnerships which amplifies investigative capabilities through the sharing of intelligence."

**Detective Kevin Cruz
Prince George's County
Police Department
Financial Crimes Section/Pawn Unit**

Investigative Successes Continued

Garrett County - Theft:

During the investigation for theft of spools of copper wire, MDSP troopers from the McHenry Barrack developed a suspect. Troopers searched the suspect's name in LeadsOnline and located the stolen copper at a scrapyard. The value of the wire was \$3,500 and the suspect was charged in this case.

Anne Arundel County - Theft:

After a theft of \$150,000 in copper, suspect vehicle information was obtained. Using LeadsOnline, a search for the vehicle located a transaction with the suspect vehicle at a scrapyard. The suspect was charged.

Caroline County - Theft:

The Caroline County Sheriff's Office was investigating the theft of jewelry valued at \$9,000. During the investigation deputies used LeadsOnline to search for the stolen property. The property was located after it was pawned in Kent County, Maryland. The property was recovered and a suspect was charged in this case.

Prince George's County - Theft:

After a copper wire theft in Prince George's County investigators began searching LeadsOnline for the stolen wire. While searching for the property, it was located after it was taken to a scrapyard in Charles County, Maryland. The scrap wire was valued at \$20,000 and a suspect has been charged in this case.

Montgomery County - Fraud

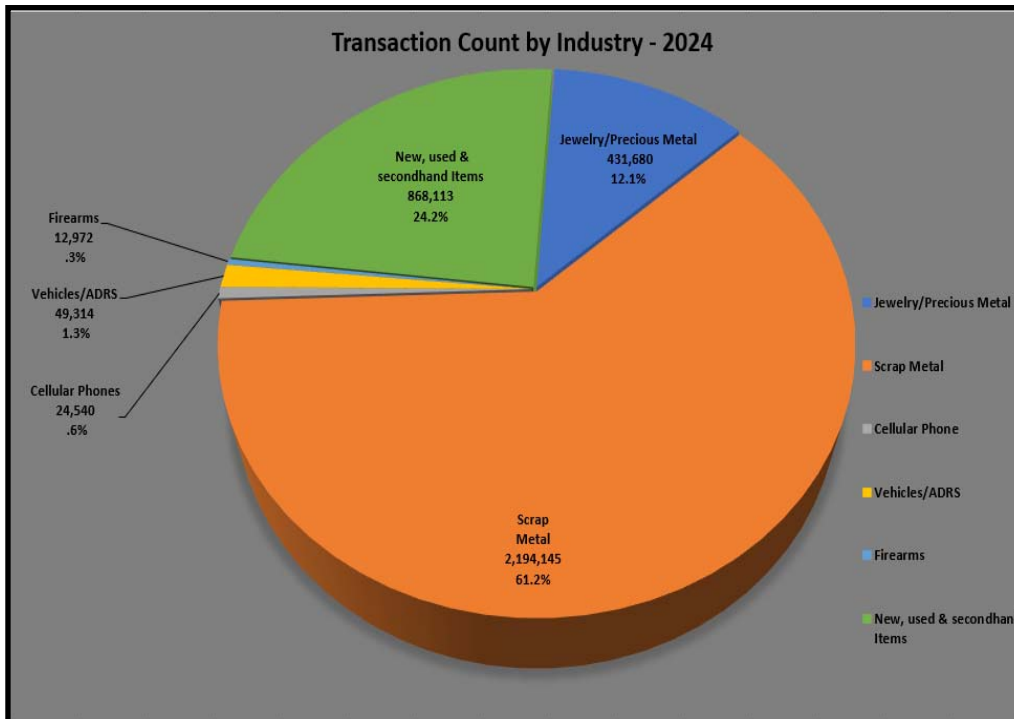
As the result of an NCIC hit in LeadsOnline for two stolen cameras, it was discovered that the stolen property had been pawned by the victim. Investigation revealed that the items had been pawned in error by the victim with other property. The case was cleared.

Talbot County - Vehicle theft and fatal motor vehicle collision:

In July of 2024, after a fatal motor vehicle collision in which a vehicle fled from a traffic stop,

investigators discovered that the vehicle had been stolen. During the investigation it was also discovered that the vehicle occupants had pawned stolen property. Using the LeadsOnline system, the MDSP RAPID Unit was able to provide the MDSP Crash Team with a timeline of events that assisted with the fatal collision investigation and the stolen vehicle investigation. This information also assisted in identifying the vehicle occupants.

The RAPID program has been utilized since its inception as more than just a pawn database. Law enforcement uses the information in the LeadsOnline system to proactively search for violations of criminal law in addition to other crimes. Often the system is used to locate crime trends relating to retail theft and gold scams. In the programs history it has been used to solve crimes that otherwise might go unnoticed. The following examples highlight these cases.



Regulatory Partners



RAPID Points of Contact

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With the use of the State of Maryland’s RAPID program, which is powered by LeadsOnline, Maryland law enforcement has the ability to reach outside of the state and access thousands of records from around the country. Crime does not recognize state boundaries. Criminals often commit crimes across jurisdictions to conceal their identities and complicate investigations. The ability to track suspects and stolen property is critical to solving crimes and prosecuting offenders.

Since its inception, the RAPID program has led to the recovery of over \$60,000,000 in property. LeadsOnline will continue to be an invaluable resource for the recovery of stolen property.

The MDSP Rapid Unit would like to thank our allied agency partners for contributing to the overall success of the program.

