

2023 Kansas Statutes

21-5804. Prima facie evidence of intent to permanently deprive owner or lessor of possession, use or benefit of property. (a) In any prosecution under K.S.A. 21-5801 through 21-5839, and amendments thereto, the following shall be prima facie evidence of intent to permanently deprive the owner or lessor of property of the possession, use or benefit thereof:

- (1) The giving of a false identification or fictitious name, address or place of employment at the time of buying, selling, leasing, trading, gathering, collecting, soliciting, procuring, receiving, dealing or otherwise obtaining or exerting control over the property;
 - (2) the failure of a person who leases or rents personal property to return the same within 10 days after the date set forth in the lease or rental agreement for the return of the property, if notice is given to the person renting or leasing the property to return the property within seven days after receipt of the notice, in which case the subsequent return of the property within the seven-day period shall exempt such transaction from consideration as prima facie evidence as provided in this section;
 - (3) destroying, breaking or opening a lock, chain, key switch, enclosure or other device used to secure the property in order to obtain control over the property;
 - (4) destruction of or substantially damaging or altering the property so as to make the property unusable or unrecognizable in order to obtain control over the property;
 - (5) the failure of a person who leases or rents from a commercial renter a motor vehicle under a written agreement that provides for the return of the motor vehicle to a particular place at a particular time, if notice has been given to the person renting or leasing the motor vehicle to return such vehicle within three calendar days from the date of the receipt or refusal of the demand. In addition, if such vehicle has not been returned after demand, the lessor may notify the local law enforcement agency of the failure of the lessee to return such motor vehicle and the local law enforcement agency shall cause such motor vehicle to be put into any appropriate state and local computer system listing stolen motor vehicles;
 - (6) the failure of a person who is provided with a use of a vehicle by the owner of the vehicle to return it to the owner pursuant to a written instruction specifying: (A) The time and place to return the vehicle; and (B) that failure to comply may be prosecuted as theft, and such instructions are delivered to the person by the owner at the time the person is provided with possession of the vehicle. In addition, if such vehicle has not been returned pursuant to the specifications in such instructions, the owner may notify the local law enforcement agency of the failure of the person to return such motor vehicle and the local law enforcement agency shall cause such motor vehicle to be put into any appropriate state and local computer system listing stolen motor vehicles;
 - (7) removing a theft detection device, without authority, from merchandise or disabling such device prior to purchase; or
 - (8) under the provisions of K.S.A. 21-5801(a)(5), and amendments thereto, the failure to replace or reattach the nozzle and hose of the pump used for the dispensing of motor fuels or placing such nozzle and hose on the ground or pavement.
- (b) In any prosecution for a misdemeanor under K.S.A. 21-5801, and amendments thereto, in which the object of the alleged theft is a book or other material borrowed from a library, it shall be prima facie evidence of intent to permanently deprive the owner of the possession, use or benefit thereof if the defendant failed to return such book or material within 30 days after receiving notice from the library requesting its return, in which case the subsequent return of the book or material within the 30-day period shall exempt such transaction from consideration as prima facie evidence as provided in this section.
- (c) In a prosecution for theft as defined in K.S.A. 21-5801, and amendments thereto, and such theft is of services, the existence of any of the connections of meters, alterations or use of unauthorized or unmeasured electricity, natural gas, water, telephone service or cable television service, caused by tampering, shall be prima facie evidence of intent to commit theft of services by the person or persons using or receiving the direct benefits from the use of the electricity, natural gas, water,

telephone service or cable television service passing through such connections or meters, or using the electricity, natural gas, water, telephone service or cable television service which has not been authorized or measured.

(d) In a prosecution for theft as defined in K.S.A. 21-5801, and amendments thereto, and such theft is of regulated scrap metal as defined in K.S.A. 50-6,109, and amendments thereto, either in whole or in part, the failure to give information or the giving of false information to a scrap metal dealer pursuant to the requirements of the scrap metal theft reduction act, the transportation of regulated scrap metal outside the county from where it was obtained, the transportation of regulated scrap metal across state lines or the alteration of any regulated scrap metal prior to any transaction with a scrap metal dealer shall be prima facie evidence of intent to permanently deprive the owner of the regulated scrap metal of the possession, use or benefit thereof.

(e) In a prosecution for theft as defined in K.S.A. 21-5801, and amendments thereto, and such theft is of a motor vehicle as defined in K.S.A. 8-126, and amendments thereto, fleeing or attempting to elude a police officer as defined in K.S.A. 8-1568(a) (1)(B) or (b), and amendments thereto, shall be prima facie evidence of intent to permanently deprive the owner of the motor vehicle of the possession, use or benefit thereof.

(f) As used in this section:

(1) "Notice" means notice in writing and such notice in writing will be presumed to have been given three days following deposit of the notice as registered or certified matter in the United States mail, addressed to such person who has leased or rented the personal property or borrowed the library material at the address as it appears in the information supplied by such person at the time of such leasing, renting or borrowing, or to such person's last known address; and

(2) "tampering" includes, but is not limited to:

(A) Making a connection of any wire, conduit or device, to any service or transmission line owned by a public or municipal utility, or by a cable television service provider;

(B) defacing, puncturing, removing, reversing or altering any meter or any connections, for the purpose of securing unauthorized or unmeasured electricity, natural gas, water, telephone service or cable television service;

(C) preventing any such meters from properly measuring or registering;

(D) knowingly taking, receiving, using or converting to such person's own use, or the use of another:

(i) Any electricity, water or natural gas that has not been measured; or

(ii) any telephone or cable television service that has not been authorized; or

(E) causing, procuring, permitting, aiding or abetting any person to do any of the acts described in subparagraphs (A) through (D).

History: L. 2010, ch. 136, § 90; L. 2015, ch. 96, § 8; L. 2021, ch. 103, § 6; July 1.