



Stolen Violin Found In Pawn Shop

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WORTHINGTON, Ohio — An expensive violin that disappeared from a music store was found in a pawn shop using a new electronic database [[LeadsOnline](#)].

The \$1,400 violin disappeared from Colonial Music last week, 10TV's Lindsey Seavert reported.



"We don't know what day it happened, that's how good they were," said manager Matt Ellis.

Police think the thieves worked in a pair – one person distracted an employee in the music section where high shelves block the view while someone else grabbed the instrument and ran.

At Lev's Pawn Shop, it was clear that music was not the motivation, Seavert reported.

"Two guys brought it in and we had a debate on what it was worth and we agreed on a price," a worker at the pawn shop said.

That price was \$100. The store entered the violin into a new database. Columbus police recently asked pawn shops to enter all sales into Leads Online, a program that helps track stolen property.

Worthington police Detective Emily Mowry entered the instrument's serial number into the database.

"It pops up who sold it where and what time," Mowry said.

Police arrested Aaron Grawalsky and connected him to more stolen guitars, Seavert reported.

"I can do all the work right here at my computer terminal as opposed to driving to every pawn shop, using gas and money and resources and all that," Mowry said.

Ellis said he couldn't be happier that police have an instrument of their own and the violin will now land in the right hands.

"I bought that violin just for a student in Olentangy schools," Ellis said.

Not all pawn shops are using the system. Pawn Shops are mandated to report all sales to law enforcement, but they are not required to do it online.

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