

The Effectiveness of Patrols in Routine Activities Was Enhanced by the South Sumatra Regional Police in Preventing Crimes in Palembang

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Abstract

The police task considered the most effective in combating crime is handling and disclosing a crime, as well as a preventive or crime prevention task. One of the preventive police duties is patrol. Patrols prevent the meeting of intention and opportunity factors so that they do not occur, disturbance of public security and order. The formulation of the problem in this study is: 1) How effectively do the South Sumatra Police carry out the routine patrol activity in preventing the crime of robbery in the city of Palembang? and 2). What are the obstacles faced by the South Sumatra Police patrol in overcoming the robbery crime in Palembang? The research method used in this study is empirical normative research. This study's primary and secondary data sources are primary and secondary. The survey results show: 1) the efficacy of the South Sumatra Police's routine patrol activities in preventing robbery in Palembang. Through planned patrols supported by adequate resources, the police can create a safe and orderly environment, prevent crime, and respond quickly and appropriately when a crime occurs. Thus, police patrols function as preventive efforts and an integral part of the law enforcement system that aims to realise security and order in society, especially in Palembang. And 2). The obstacles faced by the South Sumatra Police Patrol in overcoming the crime of robbery in the town of Palembang are a limited number of personnel, inadequate budget, inadequate infrastructure, and a lack of technological support and community participation. These obstacles indicate the need for improvements in various aspects, such as improving human resources, better budget allocation, and strengthening cooperation with the community, so that it can create continuity between the patrol activities of the South Sumatra Police and community participation in preventing acts of robbery against the people of Palembang in particular.

Keywords: *Patrol, Police; Palembang City Robbery; South Sumatra Regional Police*

Introduction

The prevalence of crime constitutes a fundamental factor that significantly impacts the efficacy of national development [1]. The establishment and realisation of security will foster an environment that enables the community to engage in a range of activities, encompassing both economic and social dimensions [2]. What is the current state of crime rates in Indonesia following the COVID-19 pandemic? A well-functioning legal system has the potential to diminish crime rates and enhance public Safety and societal order [3]. To preserve community security and order, the state forms a police force [4]. The Indonesian National Police, known as Polri, was founded on July 1, 1946 [5]. Following the attainment of independence, the National Police instituted a series of regulations and forged institutional connections with diverse entities [6]. The role and responsibilities of the police are crucial as they serve as the primary guardians of the community's Safety [7].

After 2023, the South Sumatra Regional Police disclosed a remarkable account of criminal activities that transpired over the year [8]. In this timeframe, a total of 14,894 criminal offences were documented, reflecting a significant rise of 56.26% in comparison to the 6,515 offences recorded in 2022 [9]. The general populace expressed astonishment at the growing prevalence of the crime involving the theft of two-wheeled motorised vehicles perpetrated by minors, who have been labelled as beggars [10]. Beggar activities disrupt public Safety and pose a significant threat to human security [11]. The term “begal” is utilised within Indonesian society to identify crimes specifically targeting motorcyclists [12]. Some crimes committed by children are a significant concern of the people today, especially in the provinces of South Sumatra and big cities like Palembang, which is the provincial capital [13]. Criminal activities occurring in urban environments include theft, robbery, motorbike theft, drug offences, homicide, fraud, sexual assault, and other analogous offences perpetrated by minors [14].

The police, as law enforcement officials, are related to the function of the police as regularly in Article 2 of Law Number 2 of 2002 concerning the Police of the Republic of Indonesia regarding the task of the Function of the Police [15] is one of the functions of the state government engaged in the fields of law enforcement, protection, maintenance of security and order, justice, and service to the community [16]. Because the dangers and disturbances are sourced and addressed to the community, and are the work of the police to overcome them [17]. In general, the object of the police is citizens, both individually and in groups, including the organising institutions of the police function [18].

Methods

The research undertaken is characterised as normative juridical legal research, in alignment with the scope and issues presented in this thesis. Nominative juridical legal research represents a specific type of doctrinal inquiry, often referred to as document study or library research. This inquiry is classified as doctrinal research, as it was undertaken solely to analyze written regulations and other legal documents. This process is commonly known as library research or document study, as it primarily involves the examination of secondary data sourced from library resources. Primary, secondary, and tertiary legal materials exemplify various forms of secondary data that serve as valuable sources of information in normative legal research.

Result and Discussion**The Effectiveness of Patrols in Routine Activities Carried Out by the South Sumatra Regional Police in the Prevention of Crimes in the City of Palembang**

The primary objective of the Republic of Indonesia Police is to ensure that the community is free from a sense of anxiety and concern when engaging in activities, thereby ensuring the certainty and protection of all interests and the prevention of the misappropriation of various legal norms. This is achieved by maintaining the surrounding area and the order of citizens. A patrol activity is one of the initiatives implemented in a preventive manner. The role of the National Police, according to Article 1 paragraph (5) of Law Number. 2 of 2002 concerning the National Police of the Republic of Indonesia, is related to: "Safety and public order is a dynamic condition of the community as one of the prerequisites for the implementation of the national development process marked by the guarantee of order and the establishment of the law and the development of peace that contains the ability to foster and develop the potential and strength of the community in preventing, preventing, and overcoming all forms of violations of law and other forms of disturbances.

One of the preventive efforts is to carry out patrol activities carried out by the police based on the National Police Chief's decree with the number. Skep/608/VI/1997, what is meant by petrol, which is a police task carried out by members of the National Police, to prevent the possibility of crime, carried out with several actions namely: visiting, going around, watching, watching, paying attention to situations and conditions in an area to minimize the existence or events of the police. In the legal context, police patrol is underpinned by a robust juridical framework, facilitating its execution in a systematic and quantifiable manner. Law Number 2 of 2002 on the National Police of the Republic of Indonesia serves as the principal legal framework, granting the National Police the right to conduct patrols for crime prevention. Moreover, additional rules, including governmental directives and the Decree of the National Police Chief, govern the execution of police patrols, encompassing the methods, mechanisms, and ethical standards that police officers are required to adhere to while on duty. Nonetheless, the execution of patrol policies frequently deviates from anticipated outcomes. A significant issue that emerges is the disparity between legislation and its implementation in the field. In certain instances, police patrols are not conducted regularly or in alignment with stated operating standards, either owing to resource constraints or other considerations such as corruption or abuse of power.

The crime of robbery is not governed by positive legislation, as the name is employed by the community to describe offenders who ambush victims on the road and appropriate their possessions. In positive law, crime encompasses theft as delineated in Book II of the Criminal Code, namely theft including violence. Article 365 and/or Article 368 of the Criminal Code about extortion using the threat of violence. The South Sumatra Regional Police Patrol Team's specific provision of safety and order to the residents of Palembang City can ensure that the region is conducive to harmonious activities. Similarly, it will enhance welfare by facilitating the completion of activities outside of the household. And conversely, the community's daily activities will be disrupted if they are confronted with an apprehensive and conditioned condition. This is further substantiated by the study of Victimology, which demonstrates that crime is highly prevalent in business areas located on the outskirts of cities and in minor city business districts that contain valuable property. Additionally, there is a likelihood of becoming a victim of criminal acts of violence on public roads. This is a result of the fact that the perpetrator has a greater chance of escaping than in narrow streets.

Constraints Faced by South Sumatra Regional Police Patrol Overcoming Criminal Acts of Crime in the City of Palembang

In carrying out patrol activities carried out by the South Sumatra Regional Police, especially in the Palembang City area, patrols are carried out effectively, but in these activities, there are still many

obstacles that include various aspects that significantly affect the effectiveness of their duties in the field. One of the main obstacles is the limitations of human resources. The number of police personnel is often not proportional to the area and the population that must be protected. Indonesia, with a very wide and diverse area, ranging from dense urban areas to rural and remote areas that are difficult to reach, requires equitable and sufficient distribution of personnel. However, the ratio between the number of police and the population in Indonesia is still low compared to other countries, which causes the scope of patrols to be less than optimal, especially in large or remote areas. This condition makes many areas that are less served, so they are vulnerable to various forms of crime.

In addition to the limitations of personnel, inadequate budgets are also a significant obstacle. The available budget is often not enough to support effective patrol operations. Police patrols need good logistics support, such as decent vehicles, fuel, communication equipment, and equipment maintenance. Budget limitations often result in shortcomings in this matter, which ultimately affects the mobility and ability of the police to respond quickly to the situation in the field. In addition, a limited budget also affects the welfare of personnel, such as salaries and benefits, which can affect their motivation and morale. Inadequate infrastructure is also an obstacle to the implementation of effective patrols. In many areas, especially in remote and rural areas, poor road access and the lack of supporting facilities make patrols difficult to do. Poor infrastructure not only limits the range of patrols but also increases the risk for the personnel in charge. In extreme weather conditions or difficult terrain, patrols must often be postponed or canceled, which causes a lack of police presence in areas that should be monitored. Technology is also a significant challenge in the implementation of patrols. Although technology has developed rapidly and many countries have integrated sophisticated technology into their police operations, many regions in Indonesia are still lagging in this. Lack of modern communication tools, sophisticated surveillance systems, and other devices that support patrols makes the police task more difficult and less efficient. In addition, inadequate training in the use of technology is also a problem, because personnel do not have enough ability to utilize existing technology.

Another obstacle faced is the lack of public awareness and participation in supporting police patrols. The success of the patrol is very dependent on the support and cooperation of the community. However, in many regions, public awareness of the importance of maintaining their environmental security is still low. Many people do not report criminal or suspicious events for fear of not believing in the effectiveness of law enforcement. This lack of participation worsens the security situation because the police do not get enough information to prevent or overcome crime. In addition, a less harmonious relationship between the police and the community is also an obstacle. In some areas, the community still has a negative view of the police, either because of the bad experiences of the past or because of the distrust arising from cases of abuse of authority. This results in a lack of support from the community and raises obstacles in the implementation of patrols. The police, who were supposed to be the protector of the community, experienced difficulties in carrying out their duties because of the lack of cooperation from the community. An additional impediment is an internal challenge within the police institution. The implementation of effective patrols is frequently impeded by internal issues, such as a lack of coordination between divisions and complex bureaucratic issues. In certain instances, the inadequacy of field operations is a result of the lack of clarity in the division of tasks and authority between units in the police. This issue must be resolved by enhancing the internal administration and organisation of the police.

Conclusion

The efficacy of patrols in routine activities conducted by the South Sumatra Regional Police in the prevention of crime in Palembang City. The police can establish a secure and orderly environment, prevent crime, and respond promptly and accurately to an incident by conducting a well-organised patrol

and utilising sufficient resources. Therefore, the police patrol serves as both a preventive measure and an essential component of the law enforcement system, which is dedicated to the establishment of security and order in the community, particularly in the city of Palembang. Despite the implementation of routine patrol activities in the Palembang City area, the South Sumatra Regional Police Patrol continues to encounter a variety of obstacles, including a limited number of personnel, an inadequate budget, inadequate infrastructure, and a lack of technology support and community participation. These challenges suggest that there is a necessity for enhancements in a variety of areas, including the enhancement of human resources, the allocation of more effective budgets, and the reinforcement of collaboration with the community.

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