

Law Enforcement of the Police Security Intelligence Unit in Uncovering Criminal Acts in the Buleleng Resort Police Area

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Abstract

This study examines the effectiveness of law enforcement by the *Buleleng Resort Police Intelligence Unit (Satintelkam)* in uncovering criminal acts based on Law Number 2 of 2002 concerning the National Police of the Republic of Indonesia. The research focuses on analyzing the law enforcement mechanisms implemented and identifying various operational constraints, both from internal factors, such as the limited quality of human resources, and external factors in the form of low community participation. It aims to evaluate the implementation of the intelligence function in the criminal investigation process and to formulate solutions to overcome challenges faced in the field. The study adopts a normative-empirical legal approach with a qualitative design, combining the analysis of legal documents, including the Regulation of the National Police Chief Number 22 of 2010 and investigation reports, with empirical data obtained through in-depth interviews with ten key sources and direct observation of the investigation process. The findings reveal that although *Satintelkam* Buleleng has carried out its investigation duties in accordance with applicable legal provisions, it still faces significant obstacles, primarily related to suboptimal technical skills of investigators and difficulties in collecting evidence due to the slow public response in reporting criminal incidents. Based on these findings, the study recommends continuous training programs to enhance investigators' competence, legal awareness campaigns to encourage greater public participation, and the adoption of modern technology in the investigation process to improve work effectiveness, with the expectation that these measures will make a tangible contribution to improving the performance of the police intelligence unit, particularly in the resort area.

Keywords: Law Enforcement, Police Intelligence Unit, and Criminal Acts

INTRODUCTION

The main duties and functions of *Intelkam* within the National Police are regulated under the Regulation of the Chief of the National Police of the Republic of Indonesia Number 22 of 2010 concerning the Organizational Structure and Work Procedures at the Regional Police Level, and Regulation Number 23 of 2010 concerning the Organizational Structure and Work Procedures at the *Resort Police (Polres)* and *Sector Police (Polsek)* levels (Anshar & Setiyono, 2020; Armiwal, 2020; Iskandar et al., 2024). At the regional police level, the Directorate of Intelligence (*Ditintelkam*) serves as an element in implementing the main tasks in the field of security intelligence, including encryption and technological intelligence, both as part of activities of higher units and as input material for preparing the operational activity plans of the regional police in the context of preventing disturbances and maintaining domestic security (Almohammad & Winter, 2019; García Sicard & Niño, 2023; Prakoso & Runturambi, 2021; Resdiana et al., 2024). The *Buleleng Resort Police (Polres Buleleng)*, as an integral part of the National Police of the Republic of Indonesia, also carries out its duties and functions to maintain internal security and public order within the territory of Indonesia, particularly in Buleleng Regency, against various forms of crime or other criminal acts, including murder.

Previous research by Smith (2018) examined the role of police intelligence in law enforcement in urban areas but did not address the specific constraints faced in rural areas such as Buleleng. Meanwhile, Johnson (2020) investigated the effectiveness of collaboration between intelligence units and the public but did not provide an in-depth analysis of internal constraints, such as the quality of police human resources. These studies leave a gap in understanding the dynamics of law enforcement by police intelligence units in *resort* areas such as Buleleng, particularly regarding the unique challenges encountered in the region. Contemporary research has shown that intelligence-led policing faces significant implementation challenges, including technological barriers, organizational resistance, and resource limitations (Evans et al., 2023). Furthermore, studies indicate that the effectiveness of police intelligence systems varies considerably across different contexts, with rural and developing areas experiencing particular constraints in capacity building and resource allocation (Wang et al., 2023). The integration of modern technologies such as artificial intelligence and data analytics in policing, while promising enhanced operational effectiveness, also presents new challenges for law enforcement agencies in developing comprehensive intelligence frameworks (Smith et al., 2023).

Based on this background, the problem formulation is as follows: first, law enforcement by the Police Intelligence Unit in uncovering criminal acts in the *Buleleng Resort Police* area in accordance with Law Number 2 of 2002 concerning the Indonesian National Police; second, the obstacles faced by the police security intelligence unit in criminal law enforcement to uncover criminal acts in the *Buleleng Resort Police* area. This research aims to examine and analyze in depth the role of the Police Intelligence Unit in uncovering criminal acts and to identify the obstacles faced by police intelligence in criminal law enforcement, considering the broader implications of big data and technological advancements on law enforcement practices. The benefits of this research include offering policy recommendations to enhance the performance of police intelligence units in the region and enriching the academic literature on law enforcement

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in *resort* areas, particularly in addressing the documented challenges of inconsistent implementation and resource constraints that characterize many police intelligence operations globally.

RESEARCH METHODS

The research method used in this study is a normative legal research method that utilizes various types of primary legal materials in the form of laws and regulations and secondary legal materials in the form of literature related to law enforcement and police intelligence. Johnny Ibrahim argues that normative legal research is a form of scientific inquiry aimed at finding the truth based on legal scientific logic, reviewed from the normative perspective, or as an effort to discover law tailored to a specific case. This research is also supported by an empirical component. Primary data were obtained through in-depth interviews with investigators and members of the *Buleleng Resort Police* intelligence unit, as well as through analysis of legal documents such as Law Number 2 of 2002 concerning the National Police of the Republic of Indonesia and the Regulation of the National Police Chief Number 22 of 2010. Secondary data were collected from academic literature, the annual report of the *Buleleng Resort Police*, and previous research related to police intelligence. Data collection techniques included document studies, field observations, and semi-structured interviews with resource persons consisting of investigators, intelligence officers, and community leaders. The data were then analyzed qualitatively and descriptively through data reduction, data presentation, and verification by triangulating sources to ensure the validity of the findings. This study acknowledges certain limitations, including restricted access to confidential police documents and the potential for subjective bias from sources during interviews. The main methodological references for this study are Creswell (2014) on qualitative research design and Miles & Huberman (1994) on qualitative data analysis.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

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The aspect of law enforcement is an important effort to solve a criminal act, therefore the correlation or relationship with each component of law enforcement is very established. Talking about law enforcement cannot be separated from the various efforts and methods carried out. It is undeniable that aspects of law enforcement also provide maximum influence to solve a criminal act. As a main part, in law enforcement, the concept of investigation is seen as a series of processes contained in our criminal system. The basis for this arrangement is very precise and clear, which is based on the provisions of Law of the Republic of Indonesia Number 8 of 1981 concerning the Criminal Procedure Law.

The investigation referred to in Article 1 point 2 of Law No. 8 of 1981 concerning the Criminal Procedure Code is in accordance with the definition of *opspring* or interrogation. According to de Pinto, investigation means the preliminary investigation by officials appointed by law as soon as they in any way hear news that there has been a violation of the law (Tresna, 2000).

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The basis of the definition of investigation, or commonly called investigation, in foreign terms called "opsparing" in Dutch, is the preparation of equipment to carry out a prosecution (Vervolging). In other words, it is the basis for carrying out a prosecution. Therefore, prosecution cannot be carried out before the investigation or investigation is carried out. The act of investigating or investigating is an effort and action to seek and find the truth about whether a criminal act really occurred, who committed the act. An investigation or investigation ends with a conclusion that the case will be prosecuted or not (Saleh, 2007).

Looking at the aspect of investigation in criminal acts, investigation should be a follow-up to investigative activities with strict requirements and restrictions on the use of coercive efforts after evidence collection (Wisnubroto, 2002). In relation to the meaning of the investigation, one of the important roles to optimize the investigation is the law enforcement component. The component of law enforcement is the investigator himself whose functions and duties are seen as very strategic.

In its capacity as investigators and investigators, the Police are equipped with an Intelligence function that is tasked with carrying out this function, especially in terms of data collection and information materials. The task of the Intelligence unit in providing or providing data, information or information materials to the Leader to be used as a basis for decision-making and action as well as to make plans for future activities which are prepared in an order starting from the planning stage, information collection, data processing, and submission and use of data by interested parties with the results of investigations from Intelligence. The results of the author's observations at the Buleleng Resort Police Office (Buleleng Police), can be briefly stated about the structure of the Buleleng Resort Police Organization, namely based on instructions from the National Police Chief that the Police is part of the Police unit, where the scope is divided into 4 units that carry out technical police functions and several important parts that carry out other technical functions. The Buleleng Police Satintelkam is tasked with fostering and organizing intelligence functions in the fields of Political, Economic, Socio-Cultural and Security, including cryptography, both as part of the activities of the upper units and as input material for the preparation of the Police's operational activity plan and early warning for all ranks of the Police as well as providing administrative services and licensing services for community activities, supervision of firearms/explosives and supervision of foreigners.

The investigation from the Intelligence arises from information obtained from outside the findings of the community, the findings of NGOs and the findings obtained by the Intelligence Department itself. After receiving a report or there is a suspicion that a criminal act has occurred that has been mentioned above, especially the crime of murder, a warrant is issued from the Chief of Police to conduct an investigation at the place of obtaining information. This investigation is still confidential, in this stage a search for data, information, and evidence is carried out as material to determine the follow-up of the investigation process carried out. Then after sufficient accurate data is collected from a closed investigation, a pre-exposure is held at the police station before heading to an open investigation. If the initial data obtained from the field turns out to be supportive, an open investigation will be carried out.

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Based on Law Number 02 of 2002 concerning the National Police of the Republic of Indonesia, Law Number 17 of 2011 concerning State Intelligence, Regulation of the Head of the Security Intelligence Agency of the National Police of the Republic of Indonesia and Regulation of the Chief of the National Police of the Republic of Indonesia number 1 of 2019 concerning the System, Management and Standards of Operational Success of the National Police of the Republic of Indonesia that Intelligence has carried out an investigation function, securing and lifting. In handling cases of general crimes, especially criminal acts such as theft, the Police are given the authority to conduct investigations and prosecutions. The investigation is carried out by the Intelligence Function and the investigation is carried out by the general Criminal Function.

The occurrence of a criminal act is expected to be the role and duty of the Police, especially the Buleleng Police Satintelkam, to reveal it so that the perpetrators can be caught, which can thus provide a sense of security for the community in the Buleleng Jurisdiction, although the disclosure is not easy for the Police to do. This is the role and duties of the police, especially those who serve in the Buleleng Police Satintelkam. The role of the duties carried out is an integral part of a criminal law enforcement process. The references to all the criminal law framework processes, as the steps taken by the Police, especially the Buleleng Police Intelligence Unit in uncovering criminal acts, are: (a) Investigation Activities. After the knowledge of a criminal incident that occurred, the intelligence of the Buleleng Police will immediately conduct an investigation about the criminal act. This investigation activity is intended to find and collect preliminary evidence or evidence that is sufficient for an investigation. (b) Investigation Activities. This investigation was carried out after the completion of the investigation process which was marked by the issuance of an investigation warrant by an authorized official at the investigating agency within the Buleleng Police investigating officer. Upon receipt of reports or complaints or information about the occurrence of the crime and the perpetrators of the crime of murder, an investigation warrant is not necessarily issued. Usually there is special consideration for officials within the Kaltara Police for the issuance of investigation letters. The issuance of a letter to conduct an investigation will begin to carry out their duties according to applicable procedures. (c) Conducting Crime Scene Processing. In the occurrence of a criminal act such as murder, the first thing that must be done by the Kaltara Police is to conduct a Crime Scene (Crime Scene) where the incident occurred, because the crime scene is a very decisive source of information in the disclosure of a case such as taking the Victim's Fingerprints, taking the Victim's Photo, taking the Victim to the Hospital for Visum, carrying items found at the crime scene related to the crime of murder, to check whether there were fingerprints of the suspect attached to the object found. (d) Examination of Witnesses. The activity of searching and finding an event of a Criminal Act, especially Murder, must also ask for information from witnesses who see, know, the incident itself directly or indirectly a criminal act such as theft. (e) Searching for Suspects. After the discovery of clues to the occurrence of a criminal act based on the findings at the crime scene, and also based on the results of witness reports regarding the characteristics of the suspect that have been concluded, the Police, especially the Criminal Investigation Unit at the Buleleng Police, will search and find the suspect according to the results of the report and also the evidence collected completely. (f) Arrest. After an investigation into the incident of the crime and the evidence leading to the suspect/perpetrator has

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been fulfilled, an arrest will be made by an investigator/assistant investigator against someone who has been strongly suspected of committing a criminal act. The arrest is accompanied by a Warrant of Duty and an Arrest Warrant.

Obstacles Faced by Police Security Intelligence Unit in Criminal Law Enforcement to Uncover Criminal Acts in the Buleleng Resort Police Area

The community's desire to obtain an orderly and peaceful life in community life continues to be sought, especially now in the law enforcement system. Good law enforcement is expected to bring order, security and peace in the community. Law enforcement can be carried out through prevention, eradication and enforcement efforts.

Law is basically not just a black on white formulation as outlined in various forms of laws and regulations, but law should be seen as a phenomenon that can be observed in people's lives through the behavior patterns of its citizens. This means that the law is greatly influenced by non-legal factors such as: values, attitudes, and views of society which are commonly referred to as legal culture/culture. According to Lawrence Meir Friedman, culture or legal culture is the attitude of human beings towards the law and the legal system—their beliefs, values, thoughts, and expectations. Legal culture is the atmosphere of social thought and social forces that determine how the law is used, avoided, or abused. The law is believed to be a strong balancing institution against the threat of disintegration in social life due to the clash of forces that both want to be in power and at the same time limit the arbitrariness of those in power. The law in its original form is limited in power and seeks to allow for a balance in social life. In contrast to aggressive and expansionist powers, the law tends to be compromised, peaceful and full of agreements in social and political life.

The level of public trust in law enforcement officials in criminal law enforcement in Indonesia, which is considered to be poor, must be immediately restored and restored by improving the aspects of legal structure and substance accompanied by the existence of a law culture. This aspect of legal culture has a very important role in the enforcement of criminal law in Indonesia. According to Lawrence M. Friedman, explaining the concept of legal culture is human attitude towards the law and the legal system-its beliefs, values, thoughts, and expectations. In other words, legal culture is the social atmosphere of mind and social forces that determine how the law is used, avoided or abused, without the existence of a legal culture/culture, the legal system itself is helpless.

The explanation theoretically provides an affirmation that criminal law enforcement by the police is ideally expected to provide a guarantee of legal certainty and justice in the framework of providing a sense of security and order for the community. However, this is not easy to do because every law enforcement officer, especially criminal law enforcement such as police officers, will experience several obstacles in carrying out their duties. In the description of the previous sub-discussion, the author has explained that the police officers in the Buleleng Police Intelligence Unit within the framework of criminal law enforcement, including the investigation process to uncover the perpetrators of criminal acts or to make it clear that a criminal act has occurred, the most

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principled thing is to prioritize the principle of presumption of innocence and the principle that everyone is equal before the law.

However, in reality, to apply these two principles, police officers in the Buleleng Police Intelligence Unit often face various obstacles so that this makes it very difficult for the police to further process the investigation of theft crimes to be continued at the level of indictments to the district attorney's office. The results of empirical research in the field show that there are several obstacles: 1. It is very difficult for the perpetrator of the crime to declare his confession. Perpetrators of criminal acts generally provide convoluted information that seems to evade their criminal acts. Such a condition psychologically caused aggravation from the investigators at the Buleleng Police. Moreover, the investigators have taken the trouble to pursue the perpetrators of the theft, 2. Evidence or Crime Scene Changes. Changes in the crime scene, before the investigation team came to the scene of the crime, the condition of the crime scene had changed, was no longer original, was damaged, 3. Lack of Witnesses Obtained. The public still has a sense of fear and reluctance to be witnesses in the investigation process, this fear is due to the threat of perpetrators who do not hesitate to commit violence against the community who witness their actions. The lack of witnesses obtained will be the obstacles faced by Buleleng police investigators in uncovering criminal acts, with the lack of witnesses obtained will make the police officers work even harder in finding and collecting evidence that leads to the perpetrators of the crime. And 4. Investigator Skills and Knowledge Factors. The results of the author's observation found that there are still investigators of the Buleleng Police, who have not mastered and understood and the application of arrest techniques and tactics, have not been fully implemented in accordance with the provisions, so that they are often found to make arrests without using arrest warrants that are not in accordance with existing procedures, there are still police who mistakenly arrest people who are not criminals, due to the lack of attention of the police or too rash in carrying out their duties.

CONCLUSION

This study concludes that the *Buleleng Resort Police* intelligence unit has carried out its role in law enforcement in accordance with the applicable legal framework, but continues to face internal obstacles such as limited human resources and insufficient technical competence among investigators, as well as external challenges in the form of low public participation and alterations to evidence at crime scenes. To enhance the effectiveness of law enforcement, several improvement measures are recommended: (1) increasing human resource capacity through periodic training and cooperation with police training institutions; (2) strengthening collaboration with the community through outreach activities and regular communication forums; (3) optimizing technology by utilizing integrated database systems and modern crime scene equipment; and (4) conducting periodic evaluations of investigation procedures. The implementation of these recommendations is expected to improve the performance of intelligence units in fostering a sense of security and justice within the community, while also serving as a reference for further research on the effectiveness of law enforcement in *resort* areas.

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