

The Role Of The Traffic Police In Enforcing Law Number 22 Of 2009 Concerning Traffic And Road Transportation (Study at the Deli Serdang Police)

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Abstract

This study examines the role of the Traffic Police in enforcing Law Number 22 of 2009 concerning Traffic and Road Transportation in the jurisdiction of the Deli Serdang Police. The significant growth in vehicle volume in Deli Serdang, which directly borders the city of Medan, has caused complex traffic problems such as congestion, traffic violations, and accidents. This study aims to analyze the role of the Deli Serdang Police Traffic Police in enforcing traffic laws and identify the obstacles faced. Data were obtained through a case study at the Deli Serdang Police using qualitative methods, including interviews with Traffic Police officers and field observations. The results of the study indicate that the Deli Serdang Police Traffic Police have implemented various law enforcement efforts, both preventive and repressive, but face several obstacles such as limited personnel, facilities and infrastructure, and low public awareness in complying with traffic rules. This study recommends increasing the capacity of the Traffic Police, providing adequate facilities and infrastructure, and intensifying socialization and education to the public to increase the effectiveness of traffic law enforcement in Deli Serdang.

Keywords:

Traffic Police, Law Number 22 of 2009, traffic, road transportation

I. Introduction

Transportation is one of the important aspects of modern human life, especially in the context of mobility and community movement in the era of globalization. Along with population growth and economic development, the number of motor vehicles in Indonesia continues to experience a significant increase from year to year (Budiarto, 2017). This increase in vehicle volume not only has a positive impact on economic growth, but also causes various traffic problems that are increasingly complex, ranging from congestion, traffic violations, to accidents that result in material losses and even fatalities (Apandi, 2014).

In an effort to create security, safety, order, and smooth traffic, the Indonesian government has stipulated Law Number 22 of 2009 concerning Road Traffic and Transportation as a legal umbrella that regulates all aspects related to traffic and road transportation. This law not only regulates the rights and obligations of road users, but also gives authority to the Traffic Police as law enforcement officers responsible for maintaining traffic order and safety (Widyaputra, 2015).

The Indonesian National Police, especially the traffic unit, has a strategic role in the implementation of Law Number 22 of 2009. The role covers various aspects, ranging from traffic



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regulation, law enforcement, to coaching and educating the public about the importance of traffic awareness. However, in carrying out their duties, the Traffic Police face various challenges and obstacles, both technical and non-technical.

The Deli Serdang Police, as one of the police institutions that has responsibility for traffic management in the Deli Serdang area, faces considerable challenges in enforcing the Traffic and Road Transportation Law. The Deli Serdang area, which is strategic and directly adjacent to Medan City as the capital of North Sumatra Province, causes high mobility and volume of vehicles that cross this region. Based on data from the Deli Serdang Police Satlantas, there has been an increase in the number of traffic violations every year, where in 2023 there were 15,847 cases of traffic violations, an increase of 12% compared to the previous year.

Various types of traffic violations that often occur in the jurisdiction of the Deli Serdang Police include motorists who do not have a Driver's License (SIM), do not use a standard helmet, violate traffic signs, do not have a Vehicle Number Certificate (STNK), and the use of non-standard exhausts. These violations not only disrupt traffic order but also have the potential to result in accidents that can endanger the safety of road users.

In dealing with these problems, the Deli Serdang Police Satlantas has carried out various law enforcement efforts, both preventive and repressive. Preventive efforts are carried out through socialization, counseling, and education activities to the public about the importance of obeying traffic rules. Meanwhile, repressive efforts are carried out through enforcement of traffic violations, both in the form of tickets and reprimands to violators.

Although various efforts have been made, there are still several obstacles faced by the Deli Serdang Police Satlantas in enforcing the Traffic and Road Transportation Law. These obstacles include limited personnel, inadequate facilities and infrastructure, as well as low public awareness in complying with traffic rules. This is a challenge for the Traffic Police in carrying out their duties and functions as law enforcement officers.

Based on the complexity of these problems, it is necessary to conduct in-depth research on the role of the Traffic Police in enforcing Law Number 22 of 2009 concerning Road Traffic and Transportation in the jurisdiction of the Deli Serdang Police. This research is expected to provide a comprehensive overview of the efforts that have been made, the obstacles faced, and solutions that can be applied to increase the effectiveness of traffic law enforcement in the Deli Serdang area.

Based on the above background, the author raised the title of this research, namely : "***The Role of the Traffic Police in Enforcing Law Number 22 of 2009 concerning Traffic and Road Transportation (Study at the Deli Serdang Police)***".

a. Problem Formulation

The main problems in this study are:

1. What is the role of the Traffic Police in enforcing the Traffic Law in the Deli Serdang Police Jurisdiction?
2. What are the obstacles to traffic law enforcement in the jurisdiction of the Deli Serdang Police?

b. Research Objectives

The objectives of this research are:

1. To find out the Role of the Traffic Police in enforcing the Traffic Law in the Deli Serdang Police Jurisdiction.
2. To find out the obstacles to traffic law enforcement in the jurisdiction of the Deli Serdang Police.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW



1. Overview of Roles

Role is a dynamic aspect of a person's position or status in carrying out their rights and obligations. According to Soekanto (2016), role is a concept of what individuals can do in society as an organization, including norms that are linked to a person's position or place in society. Everyone has various roles that come from the patterns of their life, and this means that the role determines what they do for society and what opportunities are given to them by society (Abdulsyani, 2015).

In the context of an organization, Thoha (2014) defines a role as a series of behaviors that are expected to be carried out by a person that is determined by a person's personal characteristics, a person's understanding of what others expect of him or her and his willingness to obey those who have set expectations. Furthermore, Ndraha (2015) explained that the role in the context of government organizations includes the duties, functions, and authorities carried out by a person or institution in order to achieve organizational goals.

2. An Overview of the Police

The police is all matters related to the functions and institutions of the police in accordance with laws and regulations. According to Rahardi (2017), the police as a law enforcement institution has a vital role in maintaining public security and order, enforcing the law, and providing protection, protection, and services to the community. Sadjijono (2015) added that the police function is one of the functions of the state government in the field of maintaining public security and order, law enforcement, protection, protection, and service to the community.

3. An Overview of Traffic Police

The Traffic Police is an implementing element that is in charge of carrying out police duties including guarding, regulating, escorting and patrolling, public education and traffic engineering. Kunarto (2016) stated that the Traffic Police has a special function in dealing with problems related to traffic, including four things, namely preventive (prevention), repressive (enforcement), rehabilitative (awareness back to the community), and educational (education). Soekanto (2018) added that the main duties of the Traffic Police include regulating, guarding, escorting and patrolling traffic, educating the public about traffic, identifying drivers, investigating traffic accidents, and law enforcement in the field of traffic.

4. An Overview of Law Enforcement

Law enforcement is the process of making efforts to uphold or function legal norms in real terms as a guideline for behavior in the life of society and the state. According to Soerjono Soekanto (2014), law enforcement is an activity to harmonize the relationship of values described in the rules and attitudes of action as a series of elaboration of values in the final stage to create, maintain and maintain peace in life. Satjipto Rahardjo (2015) explained that law enforcement is a process to realize the wishes of the law into reality, which is referred to as the wishes of the law here are the thoughts of the law-making body formulated in legal regulations.

III. RESEARCH METHODS

Type of Research

This study uses a normative juridical research method. Normative juridical research is an approach that is carried out based on the main legal material by examining theories, concepts, legal principles and laws and regulations related to this research. This approach is also known as the literature approach, namely by studying books, laws and regulations and other documents related to this research

Problem Approach



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The approach used is a *socioligy approach* which can empirically know the symptoms of changes in community behavior towards the social development of the community related to road users.

Source of Legal Materials

Primary legal materials consisting of laws and government regulations, court decisions that already have permanent legal force, other related regulations such as the Criminal Code, Law Number 22 of 2009 concerning Road Traffic and Transportation. Secondary legal materials are materials that provide explanations about primary legal materials such as research, proceedings related to research. Tertiary legal materials, which are materials that provide instructions and explanations for primary and secondary legal materials such as dictionaries, encyclopedias (wikipedia) and tables related to the object of research

IV. DISCUSSION RESULTS

1. The Role of the Traffic Police in Enforcing the Traffic Law in the Deli Serdang Police Jurisdiction

In carrying out their duties, the traffic police in Deli Serdang face unique challenges, considering that this area has diverse characteristics, from dense urban areas to rural areas that have different road infrastructures. Therefore, the role of the traffic police is not only limited to law enforcement, but also includes preventive and educational efforts to create safe and comfortable traffic for all road users. The role of the traffic police in enforcing the Traffic Law in the Deli Serdang Police Jurisdiction includes:

1. Traffic Management

Traffic regulation is a fundamental task of the Traffic Police in the jurisdiction of the Deli Serdang Police which requires special expertise and strategies. During peak hours, officers must be able to efficiently manage the flow of congested vehicles, especially in the morning when people go to work or school and in the afternoon when they go home. They are placed at strategic points to regulate the duration of traffic lights and direct vehicles directly, aiming to reduce congestion and speed up travel time. At intersections and congestion-prone locations, officers must not only regulate the flow but also be aware of potential accidents, often taking over the function of traffic lights when necessary. In special situations such as large events or emergencies, the implementation of a *one-way* or *contraflow* system is a solution that requires careful planning and good coordination. The success of this traffic arrangement depends not only on the skill of the officers, but also on the use of technologies such as CCTV and data analysis for *real-time* monitoring and long-term planning.

2. Traffic Guard

Traffic guarding is a proactive effort by the Deli Serdang Police Traffic Police in maintaining safety and smooth vehicle flow. Regular patrols on the highway are carried out using motorized vehicles or on foot, providing a visible presence and preventing potential violations or crimes. Officers are stationed at strategic points such as major intersections, city centers, or locations where congestion or accidents are frequent. The Traffic Police not only monitor the flow of traffic but are also ready to provide quick assistance in the event of an incident. Surveillance of passing vehicles involves a visual inspection of the driver's behavior, vehicle condition, and potential traffic violations. This guard also includes quick response to public reports of traffic disruptions or accidents. By combining a physical presence and the use of technology such as surveillance cameras, traffic guarding aims to create a safe and orderly driving environment throughout the Deli Serdang area.

3. Traffic Control



Traffic escort is a special task carried out by the Deli Serdang Police Traffic Police for certain situations that require extra attention. When there are important vehicles or motorcades, such as a group of state officials or an ambulance carrying a critical patient, officers provide escort to ensure a safe and smooth journey. It involves careful team coordination, real-time communication, and the ability to make quick decisions in regulating traffic flow. In addition, officers are also tasked with escorting activities or events that can affect normal traffic flow, such as parades, marathons, or religious processions. In this situation, they must be able to arrange alternative routes, manage crowd density, and ensure the safety of all parties involved. Traffic escort requires careful planning, including prior route surveys, personnel placement at critical points, and coordination with relevant agencies to anticipate and address potential problems that may arise.

4. Law Enforcement and Enforcement

Order and law enforcement are crucial aspects of the Traffic Police's duties in the Deli Serdang Police area in maintaining order and safety on the highway. Vehicle raids are carried out routinely to check the completeness of documents such as driver's license and vehicle registration, as well as the physical condition of the vehicle including lights, brakes, and tires. Officers are also active in cracking down on traffic violations that often occur, such as violating road markings, not wearing helmets for motorcyclists, or going against the flow. In carrying out this task, they are required to be firm but still professional, providing sanctions in the form of tickets or reprimands according to the type and level of violation. This law enforcement not only aims to punish violators, but also as an educational effort to increase public awareness of the importance of obeying traffic rules for mutual safety.

5. Education and Socialization

Education and socialization are important components in the Deli Serdang Police Traffic Police's efforts to create a culture of traffic order. Traffic rule socialization programs are carried out periodically in schools, from elementary to tertiary, with materials tailored to each age group. Officers are also actively involved in community activities, such as community meetings or community events, to disseminate information about driving safety. Driving safety campaigns are organized with various creative methods, including the use of social media, making educational videos, and organizing competitions related to traffic safety. Education on the importance of obeying traffic rules not only focuses on written rules, but also emphasizes aspects of driving ethics and social responsibility on the road. Through this educational approach, it is hoped that the community will not only obey because of fear of sanctions, but also because of awareness of the importance of mutual safety on the highway.

6. Registration and Identification of Drivers and Vehicles

In an effort to improve traffic order and safety, the Deli Serdang Police Traffic Police plays an active role in the registration and identification process of drivers and vehicles. The Traffic Police assists in the process of issuing a Driver's License (SIM), which involves a series of written and practical tests to ensure that aspiring drivers have adequate knowledge and skills. Officers are also involved in motor vehicle inspections for feasibility tests, working closely with relevant agencies to ensure that vehicles operating on the highway meet safety standards. This process includes physical inspection of the vehicle, emissions testing, and verification of ownership documents. By ensuring that only competent drivers and roadworthy vehicles operate on the highway, traffic police contribute significantly to preventing accidents and improving overall traffic safety.

7. Traffic Problem Assessment

The assessment of traffic problems is an important aspect of the Deli Serdang Police Traffic Police's efforts to improve the safety and efficiency of the transportation system. A special team was formed to analyze the causes of traffic congestion and accidents, using statistical data,



mapping vulnerable locations, and studying the behavior of road users. The Traffic Police conducted field surveys, collected *feedback* from the community, and coordinated with related agencies such as the Transportation and Highways Office. The results of this analysis are used to provide recommendations for improving road infrastructure and traffic management. Recommendations can include changes to road design, more effective placement of signs and markings, improvements to traffic light systems, or even proposed alternative road construction. This assessment also helps in long-term planning, such as anticipating the growth of vehicle volumes and changes in people's mobility patterns. With this data-driven approach, traffic police can contribute to more informed decision-making to address traffic problems in Deli Serdang.

8. Traffic Accident Services

Traffic accident service is a critical task of the Deli Serdang Police Traffic Police which requires a quick and professional response. When an accident occurs, officers immediately go to the location to provide first aid to the victim, in collaboration with the emergency medical team. Traffic Police are trained in first aid techniques and are able to handle emergency situations before professional medical help arrives. After ensuring the safety of the victim, the officers carefully processed the crime scene (Crime Scene). This involves gathering evidence, taking photographs, measuring the location, and interviewing witnesses to reconstruct the chronology of events. The data collected is very important for the analysis of the cause of the accident and subsequent legal proceedings. In addition, the traffic police also play a role in assisting the process of resolving accident cases, both through mediation for minor cases and investigations for more serious cases. The Traffic Police bridge communication between the parties involved, assist in the insurance claim process, and provide expert testimony if needed in the judicial process. This comprehensive service aims not only to deal with the direct impact of accidents, but also to prevent similar incidents in the future through the analysis and learning from each incident

2. Obstacles to Traffic Law Enforcement in the Deli Serdang Police Jurisdiction

The low public awareness of the importance of obeying traffic rules, diverse geographical conditions, and changing socio-economic dynamics all contribute to the difficulty of enforcing traffic laws consistently and effectively. These challenges require a comprehensive and innovative approach to addressing traffic problems, not only from the police, but also involving the active participation of all elements of society and relevant stakeholders. The obstacles to traffic law enforcement in the Deli Serdang Police Jurisdiction include:

1. Human Resource Limitations

Limited human resources are one of the main challenges faced by the Traffic Police in the jurisdiction of the Deli Serdang Police. The number of personnel available is often disproportionate to the area to be monitored and the number of residents to be served. This results in a heavy workload for each officer, who has to handle a variety of tasks from traffic management to accident handling.

2. Limitations of Facilities and Infrastructure

Limited facilities and infrastructure are a significant obstacle in the efforts of the Deli Serdang Police Traffic Police to carry out their duties optimally. The lack of operational vehicles for patrolling and enforcement limits the reach and speed of officers' response to traffic situations that require immediate handling. This is especially felt in suburban or rural areas far from the city center. In addition, the limited props and supporting technology such as CCTV cameras or speed detectors hinder officers' ability to effectively monitor and crack down on traffic violations. The limited number of CCTV cameras makes it difficult to monitor traffic flow in *real-time*, while the lack of speed detection devices makes it more difficult to take action against speeding motorists. These limitations not only affect the effectiveness of law enforcement, but can also increase the risk of traffic accidents.



3. Low Public Awareness

The low public awareness of traffic rules and the importance of driving safety is a big challenge for the Deli Serdang Police Traffic Police. There are still many motorists who consciously violate traffic rules, such as breaking through red lights, not wearing a helmet while riding a motorcycle, or using a mobile phone while driving. This behavior not only endangers yourself but also other road users. The lack of public understanding of the importance of driving safety is reflected in indifference to vehicle maintenance, disregard for traffic signs, and a tendency to take unnecessary risks on the highway. Factors such as time pressure, deep-rooted bad habits, and the perception that breaking the rules is commonplace, contribute to this low awareness. Education and socialization efforts carried out by traffic police are often hampered by community resistance to change their behavior.

4. Regional Complexity

The complexity of the Deli Serdang area is a challenge for the Traffic Police in carrying out their duties. Vast areas with diverse characteristics, ranging from dense urban areas to remote rural areas, require different approaches to handling traffic problems. In urban areas, the main challenges are congestion and high vehicle volumes, while in rural areas, problems are more related to poor road conditions and lack of supporting infrastructure such as traffic signs or street lighting.

5. Weather and Natural Factors

Weather and natural factors are challenges that cannot be ignored in traffic law enforcement in the Deli Serdang Police area. Extreme weather conditions such as heavy rain or floods often disrupt traffic flow and increase the risk of accidents. In this kind of situation, the task of the traffic police becomes more complex, not only must regulate the flow of vehicles but also must ensure the safety of road users in conditions of low visibility and slippery roads. Areas prone to landslides or other natural disasters in several parts of Deli Serdang also affect the smooth flow of traffic and increase the burden of police duties. Traffic police must be ready with evacuation plans and traffic flow diversion in the event of a disaster. In addition, the impact of climate change that causes the weather to become more unpredictable adds complexity in the planning and implementation of daily tasks. Traffic police must be more adaptive and responsive to sudden changes in weather conditions. These natural factors not only affect the smooth flow of traffic but can also have an impact on road infrastructure, such as road damage due to floods or landslides, which then becomes an additional responsibility for the traffic police to secure and regulate traffic around the area.

V. CONCLUSION

The Traffic Police in the jurisdiction of the Deli Serdang Police have a very important and diverse role in enforcing the Traffic Law. These roles include traffic regulation, guarding, escorting, policing and law enforcement, education and socialization, registration and identification of drivers and vehicles, assessing traffic problems, and traffic accident services. However, in carrying out their duties, the Traffic Police faces various obstacles such as limited human resources and infrastructure, low public awareness, regional complexity, and weather and natural factors. These obstacles make it difficult to enforce traffic laws effectively and consistently in the Deli Serdang area.

To increase the effectiveness of traffic law enforcement in the Deli Serdang Police area, a comprehensive and collaborative approach is needed. This includes increasing the number and quality of Traffic Police personnel, improving facilities and infrastructure including the use of modern technology, intensifying education and socialization programs to increase public awareness, strengthening coordination between related agencies, and developing strategies that are adaptive to regional complexity and natural challenges. In addition, the active involvement of the community in



efforts to create a culture of traffic order is also very important. With this integrated approach, it is hoped that a safer, more orderly, and efficient traffic system can be created in the jurisdiction of the Deli Serdang Police.

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