

## The Effectiveness of the Role of Police Investigators in Handling the Crime of Motor Vehicle Theft in the Jurisdiction of the Cilegon Police

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**Abstract.** *Discusses the effectiveness of the role of police investigators in handling the crime of motor vehicle theft in the jurisdiction of the Cilegon Police. The purpose of this research is the role of police investigators in the law enforcement process against motor vehicle theft in the jurisdiction of the Cilegon Police, the factors that become obstacles and solutions in influencing the role of police investigators in handling motor vehicle theft crimes in the jurisdiction of the Cilegon Police, and the effectiveness of the role of police investigators and solutions in handling cases of motor vehicle theft in the jurisdiction of the Cilegon Police. This research uses a juridical-sociological approach. Sociology is an approach in sociology that examines social phenomena based on data and facts obtained from direct observations, interviews, or experiments in the field. The results of the research, namely at the Cilegon Police Station, are very strategic because they not only enforce the law through investigation, investigation, arrest, and confirmation of evidence, but also maintain the community's sense of security. Investigators are required to be professional in accordance with the Criminal Code, Criminal Code, Law No. 2 of 2002, and Perkap, by prioritizing preventive and repressive measures. The obstacles of Cilegon Police investigators in handling the crime of motor vehicle theft include limited infrastructure, lack of number and competence of personnel, low legal awareness of the community, and the complexity of the increasingly sophisticated mode of perpetrators; However, solutions can be achieved through improving the professionalism and integrity of investigators through technical training, the use of information technology, strengthening cross-sectoral coordination, optimizing preventive efforts, and strict internal supervision. The success of investigations can only be achieved through synergy between the structure, substance, legal culture, and the application of social, procedural, and restorative justice so that the role of investigators can run more optimally, transparently, accountably, and be able to increase public trust.*

**Keywords:** *Effectiveness; Investigators; Role; Vehicle.*

## 1. Introduction

Motor vehicle theft (theft) is a form of crime that is common in modern society, especially in urban areas. These crimes have significant social and economic impacts, not only for the victims, but also for society in general. According to Suyanto, this crime not only harms vehicle owners, but can also reduce public trust in law enforcement officials.<sup>1</sup>

The crime of motor vehicle theft (curanmor) is a form of conventional crime with a high incidence rate in the jurisdiction of the Cilegon Police, police investigators must carry out systematic investigation procedures, from receiving victim reports to collecting evidence to uncover the perpetrators. Crimes against human rights, especially the right to private property as guaranteed in Article 28H paragraph (4) of the 1945 Constitution, investigations are not only aimed at enforcing the law, ensuring the restoration of the rights of aggrieved individuals. Cilegon Police investigators exercise their authority based on Law Number 2 of 2002 concerning the National Police of the Republic of Indonesia Article 13 which affirms the duties of investigation and investigation as part of the police function. The implementation of further investigations is guided by the provisions of the Criminal Code, provides a legal basis for investigators to collect evidence in accordance with Article 184, examine witnesses and suspects in Article 7 and Article 28, make arrests and detentions in accordance with Article 17 and Article 20 by paying attention to the principles of legality and investigative interests, and carry out investigations and seizures of evidence based on Article 33 and Article 38. The investigation of the theft case at the Cilegon Police is carried out within a clear legal framework, aiming to provide protection for the rights of victims while upholding legal certainty and justice.

The Criminal Code (KUHP) is the main basis for determining this type of crime. Article 362 of the Criminal Code regulates theft, while Article 363 of the Criminal Code regulates theft with aggregation, including theft of motor vehicles. Article 365 of the Criminal Code also regulates theft with violence, According to Roeslan Saleh, the Criminal Code is an important basis in providing criminal sanctions against perpetrators of crimes such as motor vehicle theft, which aims to provide a deterrent effect to the perpetrators and prevent similar crimes from occurring in the community.<sup>2</sup>

According to Suyanto, investigators have an important role in the investigation and investigation process to uncover the perpetrators and prove the criminal acts

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<sup>1</sup>Suyanto, Public Security and Crime in Urban Societies, Jakarta: Hukum Publisher, 2019, p. 45.

<sup>2</sup>Roeslan Saleh, Indonesian Criminal Law, Jakarta: Rineka Cipta, 2014, p. 25.

that occurred.<sup>3</sup>According to Suharto, the effectiveness of investigators also depends on factors such as professional skills, the use of technology, and cooperation between relevant agencies to minimize crime rates, including in cases of theft.<sup>4</sup>

The investigation process does not always run smoothly. Various obstacles, such as the lack of witnesses who can provide testimony or limited evidence, are often obstacles. To overcome this, there needs to be cooperation between relevant agencies, such as investigators, prosecutors, and other authorities. Information technology in investigations is also very helpful in speeding up the process and increasing the accuracy of investigations of motor vehicle theft cases.<sup>5</sup>

Based on data from the last three years, the number of recorded cases has fluctuated from year to year with a relatively low case resolution rate compared to the number of cases that occurred. In 2022, there were 77 cases of theft. Of these, only 13 cases were successfully solved by the police. This shows that the crime clearance rate is only around 16.9%. In 2023, the number of theft cases decreased to 66 cases, or a decrease of 11 cases compared to the previous year. This decline can be interpreted as a result of preventive measures by the police and factors of the social situation of the community. However, the number of cases that have been successfully resolved has increased to 17 cases. Thus, the case settlement rate rose to around 25.8%. In 2024, the number of cases will increase again to 77 cases, an increase of 11 cases compared to 2023. However, the cases that were successfully resolved actually experienced a slight decrease, namely only 15 cases. The case settlement rate was at around 19.5%, lower than the previous year.<sup>6</sup>In January 2025, the Cilegon Police Criminal Investigation Unit succeeded in uncovering a theft case that occurred on January 12, 2025. Two perpetrators were successfully secured in the operation.<sup>7</sup>

The crime of motor vehicle theft (theft) in Cilegon is influenced by several factors, both structural, economic, and social. One of the main factors is the low level of legal awareness of the public towards the dangers and consequences of criminal acts. Limited access to employment and high unemployment rates in urban areas,

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<sup>3</sup>Suyanto, Indonesian Criminal Law, Jakarta: Rineka Cipta, 2014, p. 25.

<sup>4</sup>Suharto, E., Investigation and Prosecution in the Indonesian Criminal Law System, Jakarta: Rajawali Pers, 2018, p. 41.

<sup>5</sup>Setiawan, R., "The Role of Technology in Improving the Effectiveness of Criminal Investigations of Theft," Journal of Criminal Law, Vol. 10, No. 2, 2020, p. 58.

<sup>6</sup>Cilegon Police Data, Crime Statistics in 2022-2024.

<sup>7</sup>"Cilegon Police Successfully Uncover Motorcycle Theft Case," Cilegon Police Criminal Investigation Unit, accessed on April 30, 2025 <https://rescilegon.banten.polri.go.id/unit-reskrim-polsek-cilegon-polres-cilegon-amankan-dua-pelaku-curanmor>

such as Cilegon, often force individuals to look for instant ways to meet their living needs.<sup>8</sup>

The research on the effectiveness of the role of police investigators in handling motor vehicle theft crimes in the jurisdiction of the Cilegon Police aims to examine and analyze the role of police investigators in the law enforcement process against motor vehicle theft crimes in the jurisdiction of the Cilegon Police, to examine and analyze the factors that become obstacles and solutions in influencing the role of police investigators in handling the crime of vehicle theft in the jurisdiction of the Cilegon and Police to review and analyze the effectiveness of the role of police investigators and solutions in handling cases of motor vehicle theft in the jurisdiction of the Cilegon Police.

## **2. Research Methods**

This research uses a juridical-sociological approach. Sociology is an approach in sociology that examines social phenomena based on data and facts obtained from direct observations, interviews, or experiments in the field. In legal research, a qualitative approach is used to examine the law applied, understood, and carried out by law enforcement officials and the community. This method emphasizes the subjective experiences of individuals and groups related to the law, such as the perception of crime victims on the effectiveness of law enforcement, the obstacles faced by police officers, and the social dynamics that affect the success of a legal policy.

## **3. Results and Discussion**

### **3.1. The Role of Police Investigators in the Law Enforcement Process for Motor Vehicle Theft in the Jurisdiction of the Cilegon Police**

The role of police investigators in handling the crime of motor vehicle theft (theft) in the jurisdiction of the Cilegon Police has a high urgency, considering that the rampant cases often cause public unrest. Investigators function as the spearhead in the law enforcement process, starting from the investigation stage, to the preparation of case files to be delegated to the prosecutor's office.

In an interview with the Head of Criminal Investigation of the Cilegon Police, AKP Hardi Meidikson Samula, SIK, MH, he explained that the role of police investigators in handling the crime of motor vehicle theft (theft) in the jurisdiction of the Cilegon Police is carried out through two main approaches, namely preventive and repressive. According to AKP Hardi Meidikson Samula, preventive efforts are carried out through routine patrols in areas prone to theft, socialization to the community related to vigilance, and increased cooperation with the local

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<sup>8</sup>Setiawan, R., "Social and Economic Impacts of Motor Vehicle Theft," *Indonesian Journal of Criminology*, Vol. 15, No. 2, 2020, p. 45

environment such as RTs, RWs, and community leaders. This step is considered important to reduce the crime rate from an early age. Meanwhile, repressive efforts are being realized through investigation and investigation activities. In this case, Cilegon Police investigators collected evidence, examined witnesses, arrested the perpetrators, searched, and confiscated stolen vehicles.<sup>9</sup>

An example of a case of reporting loss of a motor vehicle with a Police Report LP/B/04/IV/2025/Banten/Cilegon Resort/Cibeber Sector, is the loss of a Honda Scoopy motorcycle Nopol A-3211-JZ in the yard of the Jami Al-Barkah Mosque, Kalitimbang Village, Cibeber District, Cilegon City. This incident shows the weak respect of the perpetrators for places of worship that should be safe spaces. The duties of Cilegon Police investigators include: receiving reports, collecting information from victims and witnesses, CCTV examinations, collecting evidence at the crime scene, follow-up investigations to identify the perpetrators, to determine suspects if the evidence is sufficient.

According to M. Yahya Harahap, investigators are officials authorized by law to search and collect evidence to shed light on a criminal act and find the suspect.<sup>10</sup>In the crime of motor vehicle theft in the jurisdiction of the Cilegon Police, the role of investigators is very important because they must be able to unravel the increasingly diverse modus operandi of perpetrators.

The role of police investigators in handling the crime of motor vehicle theft has a strong legal foundation in various regulations, starting from Law Number 2 of 2002 concerning the National Police of the Republic of Indonesia which through Article 13 emphasizes the main duties of the police in enforcing the law and protecting the community, and Article 14 paragraph (1) letter g which provides the authority to investigate and investigate all criminal acts. The Criminal Procedure Code as a criminal procedural law provides a technical basis through Article 1 number 1 and number 2 which defines investigators and investigations, as well as Article 7 paragraph (1) which details the authority of investigators, including receiving reports, making arrests, detention, searches, and confiscations. The Criminal Code is the material basis through Article 362 concerning theft, Article 363 concerning theft with the most relevant aggravation used in theft cases, and Article 365 which regulates theft accompanied by violence. The National Police Chief's Regulation Number 6 of 2019 regulates in detail the procedures and mechanisms for investigating criminal acts that must be guided by investigators in each stage of the investigation process. The National Police Chief's Regulation Number 8 of 2021 provides an additional normative framework by introducing a restorative justice approach, which allows for a more humane settlement of cases by prioritizing

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<sup>9</sup>Interview with AKP Hardi Meidikson Samula, SIK, MH, Head of Criminal Investigation of the Cilegon Police, dated August 08, 2025

<sup>10</sup>M. Yahya Harahap, 2002, Discussion of Problems and Implementation of the Criminal Code: Investigation and Prosecution, Jakarta: Sinar Grafika, p. 126.

recovery and agreement between perpetrators, victims, and the community. Cilegon Police investigators in handling the crime of motor vehicle theft professionally, proportionately, and in accordance with human rights principles.

The role of police investigators in handling the crime of motor vehicle theft has solid legitimacy in various national legal instruments. Law Number 2 of 2002 concerning the National Police of the Republic of Indonesia emphasizes through Article 13 that the police have the main task of maintaining public security and order, enforcing the law, and providing protection and services to the community. Furthermore, Article 14 paragraph (1) letter g gives explicit authority to the police to conduct investigations and investigations into all forms of criminal acts in accordance with the provisions of the criminal procedure law.

The criminal procedure law through the Criminal Procedure Code clarifies the technical aspects of investigations. Article 1 numbers 1 and 2 define investigators and the scope of investigation as a series of actions carried out to find and collect evidence so that the criminal act becomes clear and the suspect can be found. Article 7 paragraph (1) then details the operational authority of investigators, starting from receiving reports, making arrests and detentions, to carrying out searches, seizures, and other actions justified by law.

Article 362 regulates the crime of theft in general, while Article 363 is often used in theft cases because it contains relevant aggravating elements, such as theft with aggravation in certain circumstances. Article 365 provides a legal basis for theft with violence or threats of violence both before, during, and after the execution of a criminal act.

The role of investigators is also strengthened by internal police regulations, especially the Police Chief Regulation Number 6 of 2019 which regulates procedures, mechanisms, and procedures for investigations in detail at each stage. Police Chief Regulation Number 8 of 2021 introduces a restorative justice approach as an alternative to a more humane case resolution, with an emphasis on restoring the original state and resolving that involving perpetrators, victims, and the community.

### **3.2. Factors that are obstacles and solutions in influencing the role of police investigators in handling the crime of motor vehicle theft in the jurisdiction of the Cilegon Police**

The role of investigators in handling the crime of motor vehicle theft often faces various obstacles, both internal such as limited human resources, infrastructure, and technological and external support, such as low public participation, the dynamics of the perpetrator's modus operandi, and a regulatory framework that is not fully adaptive. Various obstacles affect the effectiveness of investigators in enforcing the law quickly, precisely, and fairly. The rise of motorcycle theft cases also increases public unrest because in addition to causing large economic losses,

these crimes are often committed in locations close to the victim's residence, including vehicles parked in the garage of the house. The low vigilance of the owner and the lack of a security system also expand the opportunities for the perpetrator to carry out his actions without obstacles. In the jurisdiction of the Cilegon Police, the trend of increasing reports of motor vehicle theft cases shows that this crime is growing and requires a more optimal investigation response and accurate data. Details of data regarding reports of motor vehicle theft cases in the jurisdiction of the Cilegon Police:

In 2022, there were 77 cases with 13 cases successfully resolved, so that the crime clearance rate was around 16.9%, reflecting obstacles in evidence and tracking perpetrators. In 2023, there was a decrease in cases to 66 cases, but settlements increased to 17 cases (crime clearance rate of 25.8%), indicating better investigative effectiveness. In 2024, the number of cases will rise again to 77, while the settlement will decrease to 15 cases (crime clearance rate 19.5%), indicating new challenges in handling theft.

According to AKP Hardi Meidikson Samula, there are a number of factors that are obstacles in influencing the role of police investigators in handling the crime of motor vehicle theft (*curanmor*) in the jurisdiction of the Cilegon Police. These factors are internal and external, and have a direct impact on the effectiveness of the investigation. The role of investigators in handling motor vehicle theft crimes often faces various obstacles, both internal ones: limited human resources, infrastructure, and technological support. External obstacles to low community participation, the development of increasingly complex *modus operandi* of perpetrators, and regulatory frameworks that are not fully responsive to the dynamics of crime. These obstacles have an impact on the effectiveness of investigators in enforcing the law quickly, precisely, and fairly. The high number of motorcycle theft cases also causes public unrest because in addition to causing significant economic losses, this crime is often committed in areas close to the victim's residence, including vehicles parked in the garage of the house. The low vigilance of vehicle owners and the lack of a security system provide greater opportunities for perpetrators to carry out their actions. In the jurisdiction of the Cilegon Police, the trend of increasing reports of motor vehicle theft shows that this crime is growing and requires a more optimal, systematic, and data-based investigative response.<sup>11</sup>

Soerjono Soekanto's Theory of Effectiveness shows that various internal, external, and technical obstacles directly affect the role of investigators in handling motor vehicle theft cases (theft) at the Cilegon Police, so an integrated strategy is needed to improve investigation performance. Friedman's Legal System Theory The effectiveness of law enforcement is determined by the functioning of three main components, namely legal structure, legal substance, and legal culture.

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<sup>11</sup>Interview with AKP Hardi Meidikson Samula on August 08, 2025



Investigators face limited personnel, high workload, and lack of supporting facilities and technology. The obstacles appear in the administrative procedures and investigation mechanisms which are often complex and time-consuming. The aspect of legal culture, low awareness and public participation, lack of information or reports, hinders the smooth process of disclosing cases. Pancasila Justice Theory is the importance of fair social relations, equal access to information, and public participation to ensure the fulfillment of people's rights to a sense of security. The Cilegon Police in limited human resources and investigation facilities make investigators have to handle many cases at the same time, the investigation process is slow and the case completion rate is low.

The solution is to influence the role of police investigators in handling the crime of motor vehicle theft in the jurisdiction of the Cilegon Police. The role of Cilegon Police investigators in handling the crime of motor vehicle theft has a clear legal basis. The main basis is the Criminal Procedure Code (KUHAP – Law No. 8 of 1981 jo. Law No. 16 of 2006) which regulates investigation procedures, the rights and obligations of investigators, as well as procedures for handling evidence and suspects. In addition, Law Number 2 of 2002 concerning the National Police of the Republic of Indonesia affirms the main duties of the National Police as law enforcers, protectors, protectors, and public servants, including the authority to investigate and investigate all criminal acts.

According to AKP Hardi Meidikson Samula, the various obstacles faced by Cilegon Police investigators in handling the crime of motor vehicle theft (theft) can be overcome through a comprehensive strategy that includes increasing the capacity of human resources and investigation facilities through technical training, strengthening analytical capabilities, and providing modern investigative equipment such as vehicle tracking technology. The effectiveness of investigations also depends heavily on the use of technology, including the installation of GPS, the use of CCTV, and the integration of police information systems that support rapid tracking. Strengthening coordination with the community and cross-regional cooperation are crucial steps to accelerate the flow of information and close the gap in the movement of stolen vehicles to other areas. Targeted determination of case priorities, as well as continuous monitoring and evaluation mechanisms are needed to increase the effectiveness of investigators in resolving theft cases optimally.<sup>12</sup>

The effectiveness of police investigators in handling the crime of motor vehicle theft at the Cilegon Police, if analyzed through Soerjono Soekanto's Theory of Effectiveness, is greatly influenced by regulatory factors, resources, characteristics of implementers, and the environment, so that the optimization of investigations needs to be carried out through the preparation of more specific SOPs, improving the competence of investigators through technical training and work ethics, the

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<sup>12</sup>Interview with AKP Hardi Meidikson Samula on August 08, 2025



provision of adequate facilities such as operational vehicles and forensic technology, as well as encouraging community participation and cross-institutional cooperation such as Samsat, leasing, and workshops. Lawrence M. Friedman's Legal System Theory approach reinforces that the effectiveness of investigations depends on three main elements, namely the legal structure through the capacity of investigators and coordination between units, the substance of the law that is clear and based on information technology, and the legal culture of the community that supports the reporting and prevention of crime. According to Yudi Latif's Pancasila Justice Theory, effective investigations not only prioritize the success of case disclosure, but also ensure social justice, procedural justice, and restorative justice, so that law enforcement against motor vehicle theft must be able to balance the protection of individual rights, the public interest, and the welfare of the community as a whole.

### **3.3. The Effectiveness of the Role of Police Investigators and Solutions in Handling Cases of Motor Vehicle Theft in the Jurisdiction of the Cilegon Police**

The effectiveness of Cilegon Police investigators in handling theft cases is not only determined by the number of cases that have been successfully resolved, but also by the quality of the investigation, including the ability to collect evidence, track the perpetrators, and cooperate with related parties. Data from the last three years show fluctuations in the crime clearance rate which reflects the dynamics of investigators' performance. In 2022, the CCR of 16.9% indicates difficulties in collecting evidence and tracking perpetrators. The increase in 2023 to 25.8% shows an improvement in the effectiveness of investigations, both through more systematic investigation methods and better internal coordination. However, the reduction in CCR in 2024 to 19.5% signals the emergence of new challenges, including an increasing number of cases and possible infrastructure constraints and limited human resources.

The effectiveness of Cilegon Police investigators in handling cases of motor vehicle theft (theft) is not only determined by the number of cases that have been successfully resolved, but also by the quality of the investigation process. Head of Criminal Investigation of the Cilegon Police, AKP Hardi Meidikson Samula, emphasized that the ability of investigators to collect evidence, track perpetrators, and coordinate with relevant agencies is the main factor that determines the success of handling cases<sup>13</sup>. Under his leadership, the Cilegon Police Criminal Investigation Unit (Satreskrim) seeks to implement more systematic and professional investigation methods, including the use of technology, stolen vehicle databases, and collaboration with the public to obtain accurate information.<sup>13</sup>

The effectiveness of the role of police investigators in handling motor vehicle theft cases at the Cilegon Police is analyzed with the Theory of Effectiveness of Soerjono

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<sup>13</sup>Interview with AKP Hardi Meidikson Samula

Soekanto, the Theory of the Legal System of Lawrence M. Friedman, and the Theory of Justice of Pancasila Yudi Latif, which seems to depend on the ability of investigators to utilize resources optimally, implement clear procedures, investigate with social conditions and the development of crime modes. Based on Soekanto, the effectiveness of investigators still faces obstacles such as limited personnel, facilities, and lack of community participation. According to Friedman's perspective, structural and substantive legal barriers include weak supervision of the used vehicle market and the existence of a black market and a legal culture of the community that lacks reporting support also weakens the effectiveness of investigations. According to the Pancasila Justice Theory, effective investigations are not only measured by the success of uncovering cases, the ability of investigators to enforce the law fairly, protect victims' rights, prevent crime, and contribute to the welfare and security of the community.

Solutions in handling cases of motor vehicle theft in the jurisdiction of the Cilegon Police. Handling the crime of motor vehicle theft in the jurisdiction of the Cilegon Police requires an integrated strategy, starting from increasing the capacity and competence of investigators. The Cilegon Police needs to hold routine training for investigators related to theft investigation techniques, collection and security of evidence, and procedures for handling suspects in accordance with the provisions of the Criminal Code.<sup>14</sup> Debriefing on intelligence and criminal data analysis is important to be provided so that investigators are able to recognize the pattern of action of the perpetrators, so that they can anticipate the *modus operandi* used.<sup>15</sup>

The use of technology is an important solution in accelerating the case handling process. The online reporting system allows the public to report theft incidents easily, so that the police can immediately follow up. In addition, the integration of vehicle databases and criminal records of perpetrators helps investigators in identifying stolen vehicles and perpetrators more quickly and accurately.<sup>16</sup>

Collaboration and synergy between parties are also factors that support the effectiveness of handling. Cooperation with vehicle dealers and workshops needs to be carried out to prevent the circulation of stolen vehicles through official and informal channels. Emphasizing on investigation and prevention, law enforcement against drug dealers and the black market is an important focus. Dark market control operations that utilize spare parts stores, workshops, and informal traders can close the distribution channels of stolen vehicles. Imposing strict sanctions on parties proven to buy, sell, or receive stolen vehicles will have a deterrent effect and suppress the existence of the black market.

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<sup>14</sup>M. Yahya Harahap, 2015, *Criminal Procedure Code and Investigative Practices in Indonesia*, Jakarta: Sinar Grafika, p. 42.

<sup>15</sup> R. Subagyo, 2017, *Police Intelligence Management*, Jakarta: PT RajaGrafindo Persada, p. 88.

<sup>16</sup>S. Kurniawan, 2019, "Vehicle Database and Law Enforcement Effectiveness," *Journal of Law & Development*, Vol. 49, No. 3, p. 112.

Evaluation and monitoring are no less important stages. The Cilegon Police need to periodically assess the effectiveness of investigations through the crime clearance rate (CCR) to find out the obstacles and success in handling theft cases. Based on the results of the evaluation, the SOP for handling theft can be improved and adjusted to new *modus operandi* trends, including the use of advanced technology to unlock vehicles.

According to AKP Hardi Meidikson Samula, Head of Criminal Investigation of the Cilegon Police, handling the crime of motor vehicle theft in its jurisdiction requires a comprehensive and integrated strategy. One of the main solutions is to increase the capacity and competence of investigators. Investigators need to receive routine training related to theft investigation techniques, collection and security of evidence, and procedures for handling suspects in accordance with the Criminal Code.<sup>17</sup>

The handling of the crime of motor vehicle theft in the jurisdiction of the Cilegon Police can be analyzed through the Legal Effectiveness Theory of Soerjono Soekanto and the Lawrence M. Friedman Legal System Theory. Based on Soekanto, the effectiveness of law enforcement depends on the substance of the law, law enforcement officials, supporting facilities, society, and legal culture. The Cilegon Police needs to ensure the quality of regulations that are consistently implemented, improve the competence of investigators, strengthen supporting facilities with information technology and vehicle databases, and encourage active participation of the public in the prevention and reporting of theft. Friedman's approach emphasizes that the effectiveness of handling theft requires integration between legal structures (investigators, interagency coordination, investigation SOPs), legal substance (implementation of the Criminal Code, enforcement of perpetrators and perpetrators, black market operations), and legal culture (public legal awareness through education, vehicle safety socialization, and environmental security systems).

According to Yudi Latif, the application of the principles of Pancasila Justice strengthens the strategy for handling theft by emphasizing the balance between individual protection and social interests, strengthening preventive measures through public education, and optimizing technology such as online reporting and vehicle database integration are strategic steps that ensure substantive justice for the community.

#### **4. Conclusion**

The role of Police investigators in law enforcement against the crime of motor vehicle theft at the Cilegon Police is to carry out a series of investigations and investigative processes in accordance with the authority of the Criminal Code and

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<sup>17</sup>Interview with AKP Hardi Meidikson Samula

the Police Law, starting from receiving reports, collecting evidence, identifying the perpetrators, to bringing the case to the prosecution stage, with the aim of providing certainty and legal protection to the community. Obstacle factors that affect the role of investigators include limited human resources, infrastructure, supporting technology, complexity of the perpetrator's modus operandi, and low community participation. The solutions include increasing the capacity of investigators, using technology such as CCTV and police information systems, strengthening cross-regional coordination, and increasing community participation in providing information. The effectiveness of the role of investigators in handling theft cases at the Cilegon Police can be increased through strengthening the organizational structure, simplifying investigation procedures, fulfilling operational facilities, applying tracking technology, and implementing more professional and measurable investigation management. These measures allow investigators to work faster, more accurately, and more responsive to the dynamics of motor vehicle theft crimes.

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