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LEGAL ANALYSIS OF TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS BY A DRIVER CAUSING DEATH IN THE DECISION OF THE MEDAN DISTRICT COURT NUMBER 1785/PID.SUS/2025/PN MDN

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Abstract

Based on the research results and concluded that the law enforcement procedures for traffic violations that cause death based on Medan District Court Decision Number 1785 / Pid.Sus / 2025 / PN Mdn include the stages of handling at the scene of the crime, arrest and detention, investigation, determination of suspects, submission of case files to the public prosecutor, prosecution in court, court decision. Criminal liability for traffic negligence that causes the loss of life of another person in Decision Number 1785 is in the form of imprisonment for 4 years and 2 months. The judge's consideration in the case of traffic negligence that causes the loss of life of another person in decision number 1785 is quite appropriate. However, the proof of the element "Due to negligence resulting in a traffic accident" only uses evidence of the defendant's statement, while other evidence is not explained.

Keywords: (Legal Analysis, Traffic Violations, Drivers, Deaths).

.1.INTRODUCTION

The background for a legal analysis of traffic violations committed by drivers that result in death is based on several key factors, which generally encompass sociological, juridical, and practical aspects, namely: 1) The high rate of traffic accidents and the predominance of human negligence as a contributing factor. 2) The existence of a clear legal framework governing traffic offenses and criminal liability; 3) The importance of criminal responsibility and effective law enforcement; 4) The need to examine the implementation of the law and court decisions in practice. In practice, there is variation in the imposition of criminal sanctions by judges, influenced by various considerations and circumstances. Therefore, a legal analysis of final and binding court decisions—such as Decision Number 403/Pid.Sus/2017/PN STB rendered by the Pengadilan Negeri Stabat—becomes relevant in order to evaluate the effectiveness of the applicable law and to identify potential weaknesses within the judicial system. Overall, this background underscores that legal analysis of fatal traffic violation cases constitutes a crucial effort to ensure that the legal system is capable of responding effectively to road tragedies and upholding the principles of justice and public safety.

2. METHODOLOGY

This study employs a normative (juridical-normative) legal research method with a descriptive-analytical nature, aiming to describe and analyze the applicable legal provisions and their implementation in law enforcement practice.

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The statutory approach is conducted by examining various regulations related to criminal offenses of traffic violations resulting in death, including the Indonesian Criminal Code (Kitab Undang-Undang Hukum Pidana/KUHP), Undang-Undang Nomor 22 Tahun 2009 tentang Lalu Lintas dan Angkutan Jalan, and its implementing regulations. The case approach is carried out through an in-depth analysis of Decision Number 1785/Pid.Sus/2025/PN Mdn rendered by the Pengadilan Negeri Medan as the primary object of this research.

The data sources used in this research consist of secondary data, including primary, secondary, and tertiary legal materials. Primary legal materials comprise relevant statutory regulations and court decisions. Secondary legal materials include books, scientific journals, and research findings related to traffic violations resulting in death and their enforcement. Tertiary legal materials consist of legal dictionaries and legal encyclopedias. Data collection is conducted through library research.

Data analysis is carried out qualitatively by interpreting legal norms and legal facts contained in the court decision. The results of the analysis are presented systematically to provide a comprehensive understanding of criminal traffic violations resulting in death.

3. RESEARCH FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Based on the results of the research and discussion, it is shown that the law enforcement procedure against traffic violations resulting in death, as reflected in Decision Number 1785/Pid.Sus/2025/PN Mdn rendered by the Pengadilan Negeri Medan, consists of eight procedural stages: (1) handling at the crime scene (TKP), (2) arrest and detention, (3) investigation, (4) determination of suspect status, (5) submission of the case file to the public prosecutor, (6) prosecution before the court, (7) court decision, and (8) execution of the judgment.

The initial investigation was conducted at the scene to collect evidence and secure the circumstances of the incident. The perpetrator was arrested and detained in accordance with legal procedures to ensure due process. The police carried out inquiry and investigation to gather sufficient evidence and identify the elements of the criminal offense. Once adequate evidence was obtained, the suspect was formally designated. The completed case file was submitted to the public prosecutor for prosecution. The prosecutor then brought charges before the court, where the trial was conducted in a fair and transparent manner. The court subsequently rendered its decision based on the facts and evidence presented, and the judgment was executed in accordance with applicable law.

These stages constitute an integral and sequential part of the criminal justice process, ensuring that justice is upheld and legal procedures are properly observed. In Decision Number 1785/Pid.Sus/2025/PN Mdn, the defendant was sentenced to imprisonment for four (4) years and two (2) months and ordered to pay court costs in the amount of Rp5,000.00. This sanction reflects that negligence in traffic resulting in death is regarded as a serious criminal offense warranting proportional punishment. The imposition of criminal liability demonstrates that the defendant was held legally responsible for negligence that caused the loss of another person's life, in accordance with prevailing law.

The obligation to pay court costs serves as part of the administrative aspect of law enforcement. Juridically, the judgment indicates that the court considered the elements of the offense, the degree of fault, and the severity of the consequences in determining an appropriate sentence.

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In examining the case, the panel of judges referred to Article 310 paragraph (4) of Undang-Undang Nomor 22 Tahun 2009 tentang Lalu Lintas dan Angkutan Jalan, which consists of the following elements: 1) Driving a motor vehicle; 2) Due to negligence causing a traffic accident; 3) Resulting in another person's death.

The judges concluded that these elements had been fulfilled. However, a significant weakness was identified in proving the element "due to negligence causing a traffic accident." The court primarily relied on the defendant's testimony, while other supporting evidence was not clearly elaborated. There was no detailed explanation regarding additional evidence such as witness testimony, physical evidence from the crime scene, CCTV recordings, or technical expert analysis that could substantiate the defendant's negligence.

As a result, the judicial reasoning contains a degree of uncertainty regarding whether the defendant's negligence was sufficiently proven. The existence of corroborating evidence is crucial to ensure that a conviction is based on strong and comprehensive proof. Such an evidentiary approach is essential to safeguard fairness and to ensure that judicial decisions are grounded in adequate and convincing legal evidence.

4. CONCLUSION

The legal analysis of traffic violations by drivers resulting in death, as reflected in Decision Number 1785/Pid.Sus/2025/PN Mdn by the Pengadilan Negeri Medan, indicates that the court applied the relevant legal provisions appropriately in assessing the case and imposing a sentence on the defendant. The use of Article 310 paragraph (4) of Undang-Undang Nomor 22 Tahun 2009 tentang Lalu Lintas dan Angkutan Jalan as the basis for judicial consideration demonstrates that the elements of the offense were largely met, even though there was a weakness in proving the element of negligence causing the accident, which relied solely on the defendant's testimony.

Legally, the judgment also reflects that the court considered the degree of fault and the consequences of the violation. The prison sentence of 4 years and 2 months, along with the imposition of court costs, represents a sanction proportionate to the defendant's negligence and the impact of the offense. However, this analysis emphasizes the importance of comprehensive and supporting evidence to strengthen the negligence element, ensuring justice and legal certainty.

Overall, the decision aligns with applicable legal provisions, though there remains room for improvement in the evidentiary aspect to reduce doubt and reinforce the legal basis of the judge's reasoning.

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The author acknowledges that this research still has limitations; therefore, constructive criticism and suggestions are highly welcomed to improve future studies.

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