

THE ROLE OF PUBLIC RELATIONS OF THE BELAWAN PORT POLICE IN NARCOTICS ERADICATION IN MEDAN BELAWAN DISTRICT

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Abstract

Based on the results of the study, it shows that the eradication of illicit narcotics trafficking in the port area by the Belawan Port Police shows that the success of these efforts is highly dependent on the implementation of integrated and synergistic strategies. The Belawan Port Police have implemented various preventive and enforcement measures which include strict supervision of ships, goods, and documents, the use of modern technology, routine patrols, as well as education and outreach programs to the community and business actors. Factors that hinder the eradication of illicit narcotics trafficking in the port area by the Belawan Port Police are the lack of optimal synergy and effective communication between agencies also being the main inhibiting factors in carrying out operations in an integrated and fast manner. The main factors that hinder the success of eradicating illicit narcotics trafficking in the Belawan port area include limited technological facilities, regulatory obstacles and inter-agency cooperation, and human resource constraints.

Keywords: (Role, Public Relations of Belawan Harbor Police, Eradication, Narcotics).

1. Introduction

The prevalence of drug abuse, particularly narcotics abuse, in Indonesia is closely related to law enforcement within the Indonesian criminal justice system, which has not been fully oriented toward the imposition of maximum criminal sanctions and the achievement of the objectives of the P4GN Program, namely breaking the chain of drug demand and supply. This is attributed to aspects of Indonesia's sentencing system, under which individual law-enforcement institutions tend to focus on criminal responsibility (liability on fault or negligence or fault liability) based on the existence of fault (green straf zonder schuld), without fully considering the broader prevalence effects of illicit drug-trafficking conduct. This situation also occurs in North Sumatra Province, particularly within the jurisdiction of the Belawan Port Police, where illicit narcotics trafficking has harmed not only the state but also the future of younger generations.

Considering the developing nature of the threat posed by the vulnerability of maritime areas to illicit narcotics trafficking, which has implications for public security and order, comprehensive measures are required from the Indonesian National Police, particularly the Belawan Port Police. These measures should form part of the system for maintaining public security and order through cross-sector coordination in combating illicit narcotics trafficking, with other components contributing through partnership building. Such measures include the implementation of operational management for security and public order that can be understood and followed in practice. This is important to support the independence and effectiveness of the police in maintaining security and public order in maritime areas. Against this background, the authors conducted a study entitled 'The Role of Public Relations of the Belawan Port Police in Narcotics Eradication in Medan Belawan District.'

2. Methodology

This study uses normative legal research. Normative legal research is library research, namely research based on secondary data or literature materials.

The research employs the statute approach (legal approach) and the case approach. The statute approach uses legislation and regulations, while the case approach examines cases related to the legal issues under consideration.

The statute approach examines regulations concerning narcotics offenses and the Indonesian National Police, namely Law Number 35 of 2009 concerning Narcotics and Law Number 2 of 2002 concerning the Indonesian National Police.

The data used are secondary data consisting of primary, secondary, and tertiary legal materials. Primary legal materials include legislation. Secondary legal materials comprise books, scholarly journals, and research results relating to corruption offenses and their law enforcement. Tertiary legal materials include legal dictionaries and legal encyclopedias. Data were collected through library research.

The data were analyzed using descriptive-analytical methods with a qualitative approach, intended to describe phenomena relating to strategies for eradicating illicit narcotics trafficking, factors inhibiting such eradication, and measures undertaken to combat illicit narcotics trafficking in Medan Belawan District.

3. Research Results and Discussion

Eradicating illicit narcotics trafficking in the port area by the Belawan Port Police is crucial for several principal reasons. A port is a major point of entry and exit for goods, including narcotics. Effective control can reduce threats to security and public order in the area and prevent the entry of narcotics capable of harming the community.

Narcotics trafficking contributes to increased crime, social disruption, and public-health problems. By combating it, the Belawan Port Police help protect the community from the dangers of narcotics abuse and dependence. As one of Indonesia's international shipping hubs, Belawan Port is also a strategic route for transnational narcotics trafficking. Eradication efforts in this area are therefore important in limiting the broader movement of narcotics.

A safe and narcotics-free area can increase public and business confidence in port security and thereby support economic growth and investment. The work of the Belawan Port Police in combating narcotics reflects a commitment to firm law enforcement, deterrence, and the position that narcotics trafficking will not be tolerated in the area. These efforts are consistent with government programs and international cooperation against narcotics crime and strengthen synergy among institutions and states in combating transnational crime.

The eradication of illicit narcotics trafficking in the port area by Public Relations of the Belawan Port Police is important for safeguarding national security, protecting the public, and supporting social and economic stability. These efforts form an integral part of the national strategy to combat narcotics and strengthen the resilience of the area against transnational narcotics threats.

Based on an interview with Mr. AKP Edy Suranta, Head of Public Relations at the Belawan Port Police, he explained the strategies and measures undertaken by the Belawan Port Police to combat illicit narcotics trafficking in the port area as follows:

To eradicate illicit narcotics trafficking in the Belawan port area, Public Relations of the Belawan Port Police has implemented a range of integrated and sustainable strategies and measures. First, we strengthen patrols and inspections in strategic port areas to prevent narcotics from entering from outside and from circulating within the port. Second, we intensify intelligence and investigative activities to identify networks and perpetrators

involved in narcotics trafficking, including undercover operations and covert activities. We also cooperate closely with relevant agencies such as Customs, the port authority, Immigration, and the Indonesian Navy to build more effective supervision and security systems. We provide training and capacity development for personnel in narcotics detection and the use of modern technology, including narcotics-detection equipment and advanced CCTV systems. Equally important, we conduct outreach and education for the port community to increase awareness of the dangers of narcotics and encourage reporting of suspicious activity. All of these measures are implemented consistently and in an integrated manner to create a narcotics-free port zone and provide a sense of security to the public and port-service users.

In the researcher's analysis, the answer of the Head of Public Relations of the Belawan Port Police may be viewed from several principal aspects: the strategies applied, the approaches used, and their potential effectiveness. The explanation of patrols and inspections, intelligence and investigative activities, and cooperation with relevant agencies demonstrates that the Belawan Port Police adopt a comprehensive and layered approach. This is consistent with the principle of integrated security, which is important in addressing the complexity of narcotics trafficking in a port area vulnerable to smuggling and other illegal activities.

The emphasis on modern technology, such as narcotics-detection equipment and advanced CCTV systems, indicates a commitment to innovation and personnel capacity development. This approach is important for improving the accuracy and speed of detecting and responding to increasingly sophisticated and concealed narcotics trafficking.

The emphasis on intelligence activities and cooperation with different agencies demonstrates awareness of the importance of cross-sector synergy in combating cross-border and interregional crime. This is consistent with best practices in narcotics control, which require the sharing of data and information in order to improve effectiveness.

Outreach and education reflect a preventive approach that does not focus solely on enforcement but also on prevention through increased awareness among the port community. This is important because members of the community and port-service users can act as sources of information enabling a faster response.

The emphasis on consistent and integrated implementation shows that the strategy is not temporary but forms part of a sustainable long-term plan. It has considerable potential to improve the effectiveness of narcotics control in the Belawan port area if implemented consistently and supported by adequate resources. Potential challenges include increasingly sophisticated criminal methods, vulnerability to corruption, and the continuing need to strengthen technological systems and human resources.

Overall, the answer indicates that Public Relations of the Belawan Port Police has adopted a comprehensive and modern strategic approach to combating narcotics trafficking, focusing on prevention, enforcement, and cross-sector cooperation. The success of this strategy depends greatly on consistency, capacity development, and adaptation to constantly evolving methods of operation.

Based on the research results and discussion, the role of Police Public Relations in eradicating illicit narcotics trafficking in the port area through Public Relations of the Belawan Port Police shows that success depends greatly on integrated and synergistic strategies. The Belawan Port Police have implemented various preventive and enforcement measures, including strict supervision of ships, goods, and documents, the use of modern technology, routine patrols, and education and outreach programs for the public and business actors. Cross-agency cooperation involving Customs, Immigration, and the military, together with community participation as an active partner, is central to improving supervision and early detection of narcotics trafficking at the port. This approach shows that narcotics eradication in a port area requires long-term commitment, technological innovation, and close

collaboration among all relevant parties. In general, these efforts have contributed positively to preventing the entry of narcotics and maintaining security and public order in the Belawan Port area.

The factors inhibiting the eradication of illicit narcotics trafficking in the port area by the Belawan Port Police arise from the reality that ports are among the principal routes vulnerable to transnational narcotics smuggling. As the volume of shipping and international trade increases, opportunities for narcotics offenders to exploit weaknesses in supervision systems also expand.

Internal challenges, including limited numbers of trained personnel, inadequate modern equipment, and insufficient budgets, constitute major obstacles to optimal implementation. These problems are compounded by constantly evolving strategies and methods used by offenders, which make detection and enforcement increasingly difficult.

External factors such as limitations in cooperation with relevant agencies, broad geographic areas that are difficult to reach, and social and economic conditions surrounding the port further reinforce these obstacles. Limited public participation and low awareness of the dangers of narcotics also contribute to the challenges encountered.

Against this background, an in-depth analysis of these inhibiting factors is important so that appropriate and effective strategies can be designed to eradicate illicit narcotics trafficking in port areas, particularly within the jurisdiction of the Belawan Port Police. Such efforts aim to improve law-enforcement effectiveness, protect national security, and support safe and equitable development.

Based on an interview with Mr. AKP Edy Suranta, Head of Public Relations at the Belawan Port Police, he explained the internal factors considered to be the principal obstacles to efforts to eradicate narcotics trafficking in the port area as follows:

The internal factors considered to be the principal obstacles include several matters. First, human resources and facilities are insufficient to conduct optimal supervision throughout the extensive and complex port area. Second, challenges remain in internal coordination and communication among work units within the police, which can affect the smooth implementation of operations and enforcement. There are also limitations arising from dependence on certain detection technologies that are not yet fully available or optimally integrated, affecting the speed and accuracy of identifying offenders and narcotics evidence. Another factor is insufficient continuous education and training for officers in recognizing increasingly sophisticated and diverse methods used by narcotics offenders. We continue to improve internal capacity and coordination in order to overcome these obstacles and make narcotics eradication in the port area more effective and efficient.

In the researcher's analysis, the explanation by the Head of Public Relations concerning internal obstacles reveals several important points. Shortages of personnel and supporting facilities constitute significant barriers to effective supervision across a broad and complex port area. This indicates that operational capacity still needs to be strengthened so that supervision can be comprehensive and optimal.

Difficulties in coordination and communication among work units indicate that the internal system is not yet fully effective. This can hinder operational synchronization, decision-making, and timely enforcement, thereby reducing the effectiveness of eradication efforts.

Limitations in the availability and integration of detection technology show that existing equipment is not yet optimal or fully integrated into the supervision system. This directly affects the speed and accuracy with which offenders and narcotics evidence can be identified, matters that are critical in port operations.

Insufficient continuous training to recognize increasingly sophisticated narcotics-trafficking methods is an obstacle to improving personnel competence. Officers' ability to detect and respond to new methods of operation has a substantial effect on the effectiveness

of eradication efforts.

Overall, these internal factors show that the principal challenges in combating narcotics in the Belawan Port Police area concern human resources, facilities, coordination systems, technology, and personnel training. Continuous improvement in these areas is important to increase operational effectiveness and efficiency. The researcher considers that long-term solutions should include capacity development, stronger internal coordination, the use of advanced and integrated technology, and continuing training and education so that officers are capable of responding to increasingly diverse and sophisticated methods of narcotics crime.

Based on the research results and discussion, factors inhibiting the eradication of illicit narcotics trafficking in the port area by the Belawan Port Police include limitations in supporting facilities and technology. Existing detection equipment is limited and cannot effectively cover the entire port area, allowing prohibited goods to be smuggled without detection. An intelligence system that is not yet optimal also slows supervision and enforcement. Regulatory and inter-agency cooperation factors also create obstacles. Imperfect regulations and differing procedures among institutions such as Customs, Immigration, the military, and the police hinder coordination and joint operations. Unclear divisions of authority and complicated administrative processes delay field responses. Human-resource constraints, including limited numbers and capacity of trained personnel, may also reduce effectiveness. Insufficient synergy and ineffective communication among agencies are additional major obstacles to integrated and rapid operations. In summary, the principal barriers are limited technological facilities, regulatory and inter-agency cooperation obstacles, and human-resource limitations. Improving effectiveness therefore requires better technological facilities, refinement of regulations, and stronger cooperation and coordination among all relevant parties.

The efforts undertaken by Public Relations of the Belawan Port Police to eradicate illicit narcotics trafficking within its jurisdiction, particularly in Medan Belawan District, consist of a series of actions, strategies, and measures taken by the Belawan Port Police to control and eliminate illicit narcotics trafficking. These efforts include patrols, enforcement operations, investigations, strengthened cooperation with relevant agencies, and increased public awareness to prevent narcotics from spreading and being used in the port area.

In general, these efforts aim to restrict the movement of narcotics offenders, improve the effectiveness of port supervision, and ensure that the Belawan port area is free from narcotics trafficking capable of endangering the community, national security, and economic stability. They include both preventive and repressive measures to enforce the law and create a safe, orderly, and narcotics-free port environment.

The efforts undertaken by Public Relations of the Belawan Port Police are highly important because they relate directly to national security, public order, and the continuity of economic development in the port area. They are important for reducing and preventing narcotics trafficking that can spread to other areas and affect the lives of the public, particularly younger generations.

By combating illicit narcotics trafficking, the Belawan Port Police help create a safe, orderly, and conducive port environment for economic and social activity. These measures are important to protect the community from the dangers of narcotics, including damage to health, morality, and social productivity.

Firm and effective law enforcement can increase public confidence in the police and government in safeguarding the area. As a principal route for international trade, Belawan Port requires strict supervision so that it is not exploited by transnational criminals; these efforts therefore support national integrity and sovereignty. By combating narcotics, port economic activities can continue without disruption from illegal conduct capable of damaging

stability and the reputation of the area.

Overall, the efforts of the Belawan Port Police to combat narcotics are vital to maintaining security and public order, sustaining development in the port area, and supporting the creation of a healthy and productive community.

Based on the research results and discussion, Public Relations of the Belawan Port Police has undertaken various strategic and innovative measures to eradicate illicit narcotics trafficking. These include the application of modern technology such as imaging scanners, advanced detection equipment, high-technology CCTV systems, and integrated information systems that strengthen detection and enforcement. The Belawan Port Police also routinely conduct joint operations with relevant agencies, improve personnel competence through periodic training, and use advanced technology in examining goods and monitoring unofficial routes. International cooperation and information exchange are strengthened to support early detection of narcotics movement, while education for the public and business actors forms part of the preventive strategy. Overall, these measures demonstrate the Belawan Port Police's commitment to sustained and professional narcotics eradication and to improving enforcement effectiveness through technological innovation and cross-sector collaboration.

4. Conclusion

The analysis of efforts by the Belawan Port Police to eradicate illicit narcotics trafficking in Medan Belawan District shows that success depends greatly on integrated and synergistic strategies. The Belawan Port Police have implemented various preventive and enforcement measures, including strict supervision of ships, goods, and documents, modern technology, routine patrols, and education and outreach for the public and business actors. Cross-agency cooperation involving Customs, Immigration, and the military, together with public participation as an active partner, is central to improving supervision and early detection at the port. The approach shows that narcotics eradication in a port area requires long-term commitment, technological innovation, and close collaboration among all relevant parties. In general, these efforts have contributed positively to preventing the entry of narcotics and maintaining security and public order in the Belawan Port area. Public Relations of the Belawan Port Police has also undertaken strategic and innovative measures, including imaging scanners, advanced detection equipment, high-technology CCTV systems, integrated information systems, joint operations with relevant agencies, periodic personnel training, and the use of advanced technology in operational supervision.

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