

LAW ENFORCEMENT AGAINST THE CRIME OF THEFT WITH VIOLENCE CAUSING DEATH (STUDY ON LALAT POLICE)

Sihar Maruli Tua Sihotang^{1a*}, Rizkan Zulyadi^{2b}, Wenggedes Frensh^{3c}

¹²³ Magister Ilmu Hukum, Universitas Medan Area, Medan, Indonesia

^a sihotang8111@gmail.com

^b rizkan@staff.uma.ac.id

^c wenggedesfrensh@staff.uma.ac.id

(*) Corresponding Author

sihotang8111@gmail.com

ARTICLE HISTORY

Received : 20-01-2026

Revised : 07-02-2026

Accepted : 25-04-2026

KEYWORDS

Law Enforcement;
Violent Theft, Death;
Police, Langkat
Police;
Obstacles to Law
Enforcement;
Remedial Efforts;

ABSTRACT

This study aims to analyze law enforcement by the Langkat Police Resort (Polres) regarding the crime of theft with violence resulting in death. The research questions include: (1) what form of law enforcement is carried out by the Langkat Police Resort (Polres) regarding the crime of theft with violence resulting in death; (2) what factors hinder the law enforcement process; and (3) what efforts are made by the Langkat Police Resort (Polres) in overcoming the crime of theft with violence resulting in death. This study uses an empirical legal research methodology, namely research that positions law as a social phenomenon that can be observed through the behavior of law enforcement officers and community responses. The type of research used is field research, collecting primary data through in-depth interviews with investigators, Criminal Investigation Officers (NCOs), and relevant officials at the Langkat Police Resort, as well as secondary data in the form of laws and regulations and legal literature. The research is descriptive and analytical in nature, namely describing empirical facts regarding the law enforcement process and then analyzing them based on relevant legal theories and provisions.

This is an open access article under the CC-BY-SA license.



INTRODUCTIONS

Crime is a social phenomenon that develops along with changes in society. One form of crime that causes high unrest in society is the crime of theft with violence, especially if the crime causes the loss of a person's life. In the Indonesian criminal law system, these acts are expressly regulated in Article 365 paragraph (4) of the Criminal Code (KUHP), which threatens the perpetrator with severe punishment, including the death penalty or life imprisonment. The article reflects that the state is very serious in cracking down on and tackling this kind of crime, because it concerns two fundamental rights, namely the right to property and the right to human life. (Wijaya, 2025)

The crime of theft with violence or theft accompanied by aggravation (*gequalificeerde diefstal*) is regulated in Article 363 and Article 365 of the Criminal Code (KUHP). According to P.A.F. Lamintang and Jisman Samosir, theft with violence or aggravation is a form of theft that has basic elements of ordinary theft, but because it is accompanied by additional elements such as violence, the criminal threat becomes heavier. (Mahka et al., 2023; Pasaribu et al., 2017)

In particular, Article 365 paragraph (4) of the Criminal Code stipulates that if the violent theft results in the death of a person and is carried out by two or more people jointly and accompanied by circumstances as referred to in paragraphs (1) and (2), the perpetrator is threatened with the death penalty, life imprisonment, or temporary imprisonment for a maximum of twenty years.

In the context of the crime of theft with violence, serious injury or death arising as a result of the crime does not have to happen to the victim of the theft directly. This means that anyone who is seriously injured or dies is still considered a direct result of the crime of theft with violence, as long as the incident occurs in the series of criminal events. The victim can be a family member of the victim, a warehouse guard, a guest who is on site, someone who catches the perpetrator, or even a party who tries to chase the perpetrator while fleeing. This understanding confirms that the criminal consequences of a violent theft are not limited to the direct relationship between the perpetrator and the owner of the stolen goods but include all parties affected in the situation. (Wijaya, 2025; Wulandari et al., 2024)

Violent theft crimes that lead to death do not only occur in big cities but also in areas such as Lalat Regency. This phenomenon shows that crime has spread evenly to areas with lower population density. Factors such as social dynamics, economic inequality, weak local security systems, and limited law enforcement infrastructure also contribute to the increasing vulnerability of communities to such crimes. Thus, it is necessary to carry out a comprehensive and contextual countermeasures approach that considers local characteristics in efforts to prevent and enforce the law against the crime of violent theft.

Law enforcement is a process to realize the functioning of legal norms in people's lives concretely so that the law can be used as a guideline in behavior and social interaction. This process aims to make the values of justice, legal certainty, and social benefits a reality in the order of national and state life. Satjipto Rahardjo explained that law enforcement is not only about formally implementing rules but also reflects efforts to make the law present substantially in people's daily lives. (Mahka et al., 2023; Najegas et al., 2025)

Andi Hamzah emphasized that the term law enforcement is often misinterpreted as if it is only related to aspects of criminal law or repressive actions. In a broader sense, law enforcement includes preventive and repressive actions at the same time. In this context, the term "*rechtshandhaving*" from the Dutch legal system reflects the full meaning of maintaining the full application of the law. In contrast to the term *law enforcement* which is now given a repressive meaning, while preventive in the form of providing persuasive information or instructions is called *law compliance*, which means compliance or legal arrangement. Therefore, the use of the term "law enforcement" is understood as a comprehensive effort to maintain, implement, and supervise the enforcement of the law effectively and fairly.

According to Soerjono Soekanto, in the context of law enforcement, the existence of subjects who carry out these functions is needed, namely law enforcement officials. Each law enforcement officer has different positions, functions, and roles according to their duties and authorities. One of the institutions that plays an important role in the law enforcement system in Indonesia is the National Police of the Republic of Indonesia (Polri). The National Police functions as a state tool tasked with maintaining public security and order, enforcing the law, and providing protection, protection, and services to the public in order to realize overall domestic security stability. (Mahendra, 2022; Pasaribu et al., 2017)

The importance of law enforcement against this crime is the main highlight because it concerns the sense of justice and security of the community. In the context of law enforcement, police officers have the main responsibility in the investigation and investigation stage of criminal cases. The police as the spearhead of criminal law enforcement are expected to be able to carry out their duties professionally, proportionately, and accountably. The implementation of these tasks often encounters various challenges, ranging from limited human resources and budget, lack of public support, to obstacles in the investigation process such as lack of evidence and witnesses.

The National Police of the Republic of Indonesia is an institution that carries out the functions of law enforcement, maintaining public security and order, as well as implementing protection, protection, and service to the community. In overcoming criminal acts, one of which is theft, the police have a very strategic role, both in preventive and repressive efforts. This is in line with the provisions of Article 13 of Law of the Republic of Indonesia Number 2 of 2002 concerning the National Police of the Republic of Indonesia which states that the National Police is tasked with maintaining public security and order, enforcing the law, and providing protection and services to the community

in order to realize the rule of law. The position of the National Police as the spearhead of law enforcement is strengthened by its wide range of institutions up to the sub-district level, so that it has direct access to the social dynamics of the community, including in identifying groups or individuals who have the potential or have been involved in crimes such as theft. Therefore, compared to other law enforcement agencies, the National Police is considered more competent in efforts to prevent and counter theft. (Naziva et al., 2021; Wibisono, 2022)

In practice, the role of the National Police of the Republic of Indonesia in tackling the crime of theft with violence is faced with various obstacles, especially those sourced from within the police institution itself. One of the main obstacles is the limited number of personnel that is not proportional to the size of the duty area and the high intensity of criminal acts in the community. In addition, the limitation of supporting facilities and infrastructure, such as operational vehicles, investigation equipment, and supporting technology, also weakens the effectiveness of law enforcement. This is becoming increasingly complex considering that many cases of violent theft are carried out in an organized manner, with careful planning, involving more than one perpetrator, as well as the use of sharp weapons or other dangerous tools. This condition requires an increase in institutional capacity, both in terms of human resources and infrastructure, in order to support the performance of the police in dealing with the growing forms of crime.

In the jurisdiction of the Lalat Police, cases of theft with violence that cause death are still a form of crime that is quite frequent. This situation has caused concern among the community and requires law enforcement officials to act quickly and appropriately. In some cases, the perpetrators were successfully arrested and processed in accordance with the applicable law, but there were also many cases whose completion was hampered due to various obstacles, both technical and non-technical. This shows that there is a gap between the ideals of the law and the reality on the ground. (Wulandari et al., 2024)

The factors that are obstacles in law enforcement against this kind of case are also diverse. From the internal side of the police, obstacles are often found in terms of investigator professionalism, high workload, and lack of ongoing training that is relevant to the development of violent crime modes. Meanwhile, from the external side, there are other factors such as people's fear of becoming witnesses, weak environmental supervision, and slow support from other institutions in the criminal justice system.

The Langkat Police's efforts in tackling the crime of theft with violence that causes death must be studied from two approaches, namely a repressive approach (action after a crime occurs) and a preventive approach (prevention before a crime occurs). The extent of the effectiveness of these efforts certainly needs to be analyzed empirically, so that it can be known whether the measures taken are in accordance with the principles of law enforcement that are fair and just for the community. (Mahendra, 2022; Wibisono, 2022)

Therefore, further research is needed on how police officers, in this case the Langkat Police, carry out law enforcement against the crime of theft with violence that causes death. This research aims to examine in depth the form of law enforcement applied, the obstacles faced, and the strategy and effectiveness of efforts carried out by the Langkat Police in tackling these criminal acts. It is hoped that the results of this research can make a scientific contribution to the development of criminal law science as well as an input for law enforcement institutions in improving the quality of responsive and effective law enforcement.

METHOD

This research uses an empirical juridical approach, which is a legal research method that views law as a social phenomenon that can be observed in the practice of people's lives and its application by law enforcement officials. This approach is used to assess the effectiveness of the application of positive legal provisions regarding the crime of theft with violence causing death as stipulated in Article 365 paragraph (4) of the Criminal Code (KUHP). The nature of this research is descriptive-analytical, which means that the research not only thoroughly describes the law enforcement process carried out by the Lalat Police, but also analyzes the effectiveness and obstacles faced based on the applicable legal theories and laws and regulations. The research data was obtained through a combination of *field research* and *library research*. Field research was conducted through in-depth interviews with police officers, community leaders, victims' families, and other relevant parties to obtain primary data on law enforcement practices. Literature research is carried out by examining laws and regulations, criminal law literature, scientific journals, and

examinations, digital fingerprint analysis, and forensic examinations. This makes the proving process stronger and reduces the potential for catch errors. However, as a Legal Advisor, I also see that in some cases, there is a tendency for investigators to conduct examinations for a long time without providing a copy of the minutes quickly to the legal advisor. This is actually contrary to the principle of transparency and the right of suspects to be accompanied. In addition, I consider that in some situations, coordination between investigators and prosecutors still needs to be improved, so that the case file does not go back and forth or experience P-19 many times. Conditions like this can delay the law enforcement process and of course affect the victim's family who are waiting for legal certainty. However, in general, I see that the handling of cases of theft with violence that caused death has become a priority for the Langkat Police, so the arrest and investigation process generally proceeds quickly. I hope that in the future this professionalism will be maintained, accompanied by increased protection for the rights of suspects and the fulfillment of victims' rights."

The interview with the Legal Advisor provided a more critical picture of the implementation of law enforcement by Langkat Police officers. This view not only highlights positive aspects such as professionalism and the use of technology in investigations, but also reveals several shortcomings that need attention, especially related to investigation transparency and coordination between law enforcement officials. This information is very useful in providing a balanced analysis between the internal perspective of the police, public perception, and evaluation from legal practitioners. The practice of processing the Crime Scene (Crime Scene), examining witnesses, and collecting evidence is carried out in accordance with applicable regulations. This assessment is in line with the view of the latest literature which states that the professionalism of investigators is greatly influenced by the accuracy of procedures in *crime scene investigation*, because initial mistakes can have an impact on the evidentiary process at trial.

The form of law enforcement by the Langkat Police in handling the crime of theft with violence that causes death is basically in line with the provisions of the Regulation of the Head of the Criminal Investigation Agency of the National Police Number 1 of 2022 concerning Operational Standards for Criminal Investigation Procedures, which emphasizes the importance of professionalism, accountability, and the use of technology in every stage of investigation. The Criminal Investigation Regulation regulates in detail procedures ranging from receiving reports, processing the crime scene (crime scene), collecting evidence, examining witnesses, to determining suspects with the principles of transparency, objectivity, and legal certainty. Its implementation can be seen in the investigation practice of the Langkat Police during the 2020-2024 period, where investigators consistently process crime scenes according to SOPs, using digital evidence (CCTV, telephone recordings, electronic traces), to the application of forensic methods to strengthen evidence. The quick response to public reports and the success in uncovering most cases in a short time shows the application of the principle of "quick and appropriate response" as mandated by the Regulation of the Head of the Criminal Investigation Agency of the National Police Number 1 of 2022 concerning Operational Standards for Criminal Investigation Procedures. However, several obstacles such as delays in evidence collection in remote areas, lack of witnesses, and convoluted administrative processes indicate that the implementation of SOPs still faces technical and structural obstacles. Thus, the implementation of the Regulation of the Head of the National Police Criminal Investigation Agency Number 1 of 2022 concerning Operational Standards for Criminal Investigation Procedures at the Langkat Police has been running substantively, but it still needs to strengthen facilities, improve the competence of investigators, and improve coordination between institutions so that law enforcement against fatal crimes can be more optimal and fair. (Putra et al., 2024; Tjaya et al., 2024)

To provide an empirical overview of the handling of the case, the following is presented data on the recapitulation of cases of theft with violence that caused death in the jurisdiction of the Langkat Police during the 2020–2024 period.



Figure 1 . Number of Theft Crimes That Cause Death at Langkat Police Station

Based on the development of cases from 2020 to 2024, it can be concluded that the form of law enforcement by the Langkat Police in handling the crime of theft with violence that causes death has shown an increasingly faster, professional, and technology-based response pattern, although it is still faced with a number of structural challenges. The fluctuations in the number of cases over the past five years show that the quality of violence remains at a serious level, requiring comprehensive measures to address it. The improvement of investigators' ability to utilize digital evidence, CCTV, and modern forensic methods is an important indicator that the Langkat Police are increasingly adaptive to the development of increasingly complex crime modes. However, obstacles such as difficult access to remote areas, limited witnesses, and coordination constraints with the prosecutor's office still affect the effectiveness of overall law enforcement. Therefore, the pattern of handling cases during the 2020-2024 period shows that the Langkat Police's efforts have been progressing, but still need to strengthen facilities, increase the capacity of investigators, and optimize partnerships with the community so that law enforcement against these fatal crimes can run more optimally and fairly.

Factors that Become Obstacles in Law Enforcement Against Perpetrators of Theft with Violence That Causes Death at the Langkat Police Station

The presence of local criminal groups or gangs can create *shadow power* that makes citizens feel unprotected by the formal legal system. When the public considers the perpetrator as a dangerous party or has a wide network, they choose not to be involved in the investigation process. This condition can cause underreporting, namely the tendency of the public not to report the crimes that occur, which ultimately has an impact on the increase in *dark figures of crime*. The economic conditions of the community also affect their attitude towards the law, including the tendency to avoid formal processes in order to maintain social or economic relations with the actors and their environment. The community prefers a non-formal approach, such as peace or customary deliberation, even though the criminal act that occurs is a general offense that cannot be solved familiarly. (Kurniadi, 2022; Nurhalisa & Kartika, 2024)

To get a comprehensive explanation of the obstacles faced by police officers in enforcing the law against the crime of theft with violence that causes death, the researcher conducted an interview with the Head of the Lalat Police Criminal Investigation Unit. This resource person has a strategic position because he is directly responsible for investigation management, supervision of the law enforcement process, cross-functional coordination, and evaluation

of the handling of cases that occurred during the 2020-2024 period. This interview aims to explore structural and managerial perspectives related to the obstacles that affect the effectiveness of investigations.

Head of Criminal Investigation of the Langkat Police, Mr. Pandu H.W. Batubara, S.I.K., M.H. said:

"The main obstacle in law enforcement against the crime of theft with violence that causes death in the Langkat Police area is the lack of initial information and witness statements. Many witnesses were afraid to give statements because they were worried about threats or social pressure from the perpetrators. This condition slows down the investigation process because preliminary information is the main key to uncovering a case quickly. Supporting facilities such as CCTV in public spaces are still very limited, especially in rural areas. In addition, the forensic equipment we have is not fully adequate to handle cases that require rapid identification, such as DNA testing or digital forensics. When evidence has to be sent to laboratories outside the region, the investigation process becomes longer. Human resources have competence, but the number of investigators is relatively limited when compared to the high burden of cases. Many investigators handle multiple cases at once. The Langkat area is quite large and there are many sub-districts where road access is difficult, especially at night. There are locations that are dark, far away, or communication signals are unstable. This causes officers to often arrive late at the crime scene, even though the speed of the crime scene processing is very important to find fresh physical evidence. The police still face obstacles such as delays in *visum et repertum* from hospitals which are one of the main requirements for determining criminal acts. In addition, coordination with forensic laboratories or other agencies is sometimes hampered by fairly lengthy administrative procedures. Public legal awareness still needs to be improved. Some residents prefer family settlements, even though cases like this cannot be stopped because they are common offenses. The pressure of the victim's family or the perpetrator sometimes makes the atmosphere of the investigation not conducive. The operational budget for investigations is sometimes insufficient for field needs, such as team mobilization, witness examination, and the delivery of evidence to forensics. This condition makes investigators have to set a strategy to keep the process running."

Based on the results of the interview with the Head of Criminal Investigation of the Langkat Police, it can be seen that the obstacles in law enforcement against the crime of theft with violence that cause death are not only sourced from the internal aspects of the police, but are also influenced by social and structural conditions in the community. Obstacles such as lack of witness statements, lack of investigation support facilities, limited competence and number of personnel, and social pressure in the form of public fear to provide information, are factors that significantly slow down the law enforcement process. These empirical findings provide an idea that law enforcement optimization requires a comprehensive approach, not only through increasing the capacity of the police, but also through strengthening cooperation between the police and the community. Thus, this interview provides an important foundation to further analyze how these obstacles affect the effectiveness of law enforcement in the Lalat Police area.

The success of the investigation is highly dependent on the availability of initial information, the quality of supporting facilities, and effective inter-agency coordination. Poor road access, lack of lighting, and unstable communication networks caused delays in responding to incident reports. The quality of the physical environment has a great influence on the ability of the authorities to intervene quickly against criminal events. The low legal awareness of the public, as found in various legal studies, is a fundamental obstacle in the investigation process. This situation requires a more massive legal education program, as well as collaboration between community leaders, local governments, and security forces. (Junior et al., 2025; Meinecky et al., 2025)

Furthermore, the researcher also conducted an interview with a legal advisor who had accompanied clients in similar cases in the jurisdiction of the Lalat Police. This interview was conducted to see the dynamics of law enforcement from the perspective of the legal profession outside the police institution, so as to provide a more objective picture of the inhibiting factors in the case handling process. Legal Advisor, Mr. Syahrial, S.H said:

"Obstacles in law enforcement in cases of violent theft that cause death are often related to the availability of evidence. Many cases occur in quiet locations or without direct witnesses, so it takes investigators a long time to get strong initial evidence. From the defence side, we also often see that the absence of independent witnesses makes the evidentiary process highly dependent on technical evidence, while supporting facilities such as CCTV footage are often not available in certain areas of Langkat. Other obstacles come from administrative aspects and coordination

between institutions. For example, requests for telecommunications or digital forensic data that take a long time because they have to go through a formal mechanism between institutions. This makes the investigation process unable to run as quickly as expected, even though in cases with death consequences, speed is needed so that the perpetrator does not flee or disappear traces. In addition, it is not uncommon for there to be pressure from the family, both from the victim and the alleged perpetrator, who want to resolve the case as a family. In fact, this criminal act is a general offense that cannot be stopped just because of a request for peace. This kind of social pressure sometimes creates its own dynamics in handling cases in the field."

The interview with the legal advisor showed that the obstacles in law enforcement against the crime of theft with violence that causes death are multidimensional, including technical, social, administrative, and cultural barriers to the legal culture of the community. The perspective of legal advisors reinforces previous findings that the effectiveness of law enforcement is not only determined by the performance of police officers, but also by community support, the availability of technological facilities, and the smooth coordination between law enforcement agencies. This finding also emphasizes the need to strengthen policies and supporting facilities so that the law enforcement process can run more optimally, especially for cases of serious crimes that have an impact on the loss of human life.

One of the most prominent issues is the problem of limited evidence, especially in cases that occur in locations with few witnesses. In criminal proof law, the existence of valid evidence is a fundamental requirement to prove the defendant's actions and mistakes. However, in many cases of serious crimes, especially those that occur in remote areas, investigators have difficulty obtaining preliminary leads due to the absence of independent witnesses who can reinforce the construction of the criminal event. (Hadi et al., 2022; Rahmadani & Indawati, 2023)

The obstacles to law enforcement against the crime of theft with violence that causes death in the Langkat Police area are multidimensional and interrelated. These obstacles are not only derived from the internal limitations of the police apparatus, such as the lack of investigative technology facilities, the lack of evidence, the limited number of personnel, and the slow coordination between institutions, but also influenced by the social conditions of the community, including low citizen participation, fear of witnesses, a culture of family settlement, and social pressure from the surrounding environment. Geographical factors and limited infrastructure, especially in rural areas, have also slowed down the speed of response and the effectiveness of crime scene processing. These conditions as a whole show that law enforcement efforts against serious crimes such as violent theft that cause death require comprehensive improvement through institutional capacity building, modernization of evidentiary facilities, and strengthening synergy between law enforcement officials and the community. Thus, the existing challenges must be addressed comprehensively so that the law enforcement process can run more effectively, quickly, and provide legal certainty for the community. (Alexander et al., 2025; Francis & Rahmat, 2024)

Efforts made by the Langkat Police in tackling the crime of theft with violence that causes death

Efforts to overcome the crime of theft with violence that causes death are carried out through a combination of preemptive, preventive, and repressive approaches implemented directly by officers in the field. Preemptive efforts are focused on educating and raising public awareness, while preventive efforts focus on routine patrols and strengthening coordination with local stakeholders. The repressive efforts are directed at accelerating the law enforcement process through professional investigation and investigation as well as the use of supporting technology. These findings show that crime prevention efforts are being carried out in a real and systematic manner at the operational level, although their success still requires the support of facilities, personnel, and community participation. (Wijaya, 2025; Wulandari et al., 2024)

As part of an effort to gain a comprehensive understanding of the strategy for dealing with the crime of theft with violence that causes death, the researcher conducted an interview with one of the BA of the Pangkalan Brandan Police as a technical implementation unit in the jurisdiction of the Lalat Police. This interview is important because the Police are at the forefront of the prevention and early handling of crimes at the sub-district level. BA Pangkalan Brandan Police AIPDA Zuari Ginting said:

"Efforts to counter the crime of theft with violence that causes death in the Pangkalan Brandan area are carried out through several integrated steps. First, from the preemptive side, we actively conduct counseling in the community

through Friday Curhat activities, village sambang and direct dialogue with residents. In this activity, we provide an understanding of the importance of maintaining environmental security, vigilance against foreigners, and the importance of quick reporting when suspicious things occur. Then in the preventive field, we increase the frequency of patrols, especially during the vulnerable hours of the night, and strengthen patrols on quiet streets that were previously the location of crimes. Patrols are carried out both openly and indoors. In addition, we are establishing intensive communication with neighborhood heads and youth leaders to reactivate patrols and neighborhood security posts. For repressive actions, every report we receive will be immediately followed up through initial investigation steps, such as visiting the crime scene, looking for witnesses, and securing evidence. If the case is classified as serious or leads to a criminal act that causes death, we immediately coordinate with the Langkat Police Criminal Investigation Unit to get personnel support and identification equipment. This collaboration is very helpful in speeding up the disclosure process. We also take advantage of existing technological facilities, including requesting CCTV footage from businesses and residents' homes if the incident is within the range of the camera. In addition, we routinely analyze quarterly crime data to find out crime patterns and identify vulnerable areas that need increased surveillance. In principle, we always try to build partnerships with the community because the success of crime prevention does not only rely on police officers, but also the active participation of citizens in providing information and protecting their environment."

The interview with the Pangkalan Brandan Police BA provided a clear picture that the Langkat Police's efforts in tackling the crime of theft with violence that caused death involved the active role of the police unit at the Police level. Preemptive efforts are carried out through community counseling and coaching, while preventive efforts are realized through increased patrols and strengthening coordination with village officials and community elements. In the repressive aspect, the Police play an important role in early handling and quick coordination with the Langkat Police Criminal Investigation Unit to accelerate the disclosure of cases. This shows that crime prevention is carried out through a multi-layered mechanism, involving the entire police organizational structure, and prioritizing synergy with the community.

The preemptive approach taken by the police is not solely in the form of counseling, but rather leads to the development of sustainable social relations. The presence of officers through sambang and dialogical patrols is an instrument to increase public trust, which plays an important role in the reporting process and early detection of crimes. On the preventive side, implementing a region-based prevention strategy that takes into account geographical characteristics and certain levels of vulnerability. The increase in the intensity of joint patrols and the involvement of village officials and local youth indicate that prevention efforts do not only rely on the role of the police, but also integrate local social resources. This is in line with the *situational crime prevention paradigm*, which emphasizes the importance of increasing environmental surveillance to reduce the chances of crime occurring.

On the repressive side, the effectiveness of law enforcement is greatly influenced by the ability of officers to adapt to situations in the field. Handling cases quickly, precisely, and measurably is a priority, especially in cases that cause public unrest. The use of technological support, such as CCTV footage, *digital footprint*, and cross-regional coordination, shows that the repressive stage now requires more technical skills and collaboration than ever before. The formation of a special team in certain cases also illustrates that the Langkat Police have adjusted its response model according to the level of threat and urgency of the case. (Mahendra, 2022; Wibisono, 2022)

The countermeasures carried out by the Langkat Police show that handling the crime of theft with violence that causes death requires simultaneous work between preemptive, preventive, and repressive approaches. The synergy between increasing the internal capacity of the police, the use of technology, and the active involvement of the community is the main key in creating a responsive and effective law enforcement system. Thus, the strategy carried out by the Langkat Police is not only focused on enforcement, but also directed at strengthening social resilience to reduce crime rates in a sustainable manner.

CONCLUSION

Law enforcement against the crime of theft with violence that causes death in the jurisdiction of the Langkat Police has been carried out through preemptive, preventive, and repressive stages that emphasize professionalism,

accountability, and the application of a scientific crime investigation approach. The process of handling cases is carried out systematically, starting from the security and processing of the crime scene (crime scene), the investigation and investigation stage, to the transfer of the case file to the Public Prosecutor (JPU). Most of the cases handled were successfully uncovered, but the effectiveness of law enforcement was still influenced by various external factors, such as limited witnesses, hard-to-reach geographical conditions, and the complexity of the perpetrator's modus operandi. Normatively, the law enforcement process has been carried out in accordance with the provisions of the Criminal Procedure Code (KUHAP) and the Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) of the National Police of the Republic of Indonesia, but in practice not all cases can be handled optimally due to structural and operational obstacles.

Obstacles in law enforcement against violent theft that causes death at the Langkat Police Station are multidimensional and involve internal and external factors. Limited initial information often occurs because witnesses are afraid or reluctant to give evidence, while the lack of investigative support facilities, such as the availability of CCTV and forensic equipment, also hinders the evidentiary process. Geographical barriers in certain areas slow down the crime scene processing process, coupled with a high burden of cases that are not proportional to the number of investigators available. Inter-agency coordination that is not fully effective and low participation and legal awareness of the community also affect the quality of investigations. Social factors such as culture of reluctance to report, the dominance of criminal groups in some areas, and psychological and social pressure on victims' families complicate the law enforcement process. These conditions show that the effectiveness of law enforcement is not only determined by the internal capacity of the police, but also by the social conditions of the community and the availability of supporting infrastructure.

The Langkat Police's efforts to overcome the crime of theft with violence that causes death are carried out in a structured manner through preemptive, preventive, and repressive approaches. The preemptive approach is carried out through education and socialization to the public to increase legal awareness, while the preventive approach is realized through increasing patrols, surveillance of vulnerable areas, and strengthening early detection of potential crimes. The repressive approach is carried out through technology-based law enforcement, improving the quality of investigations, and coordination across related units and agencies. The strategy shows a comprehensive and adaptive countermeasures pattern to crime dynamics, although its effectiveness still depends on the availability of supporting facilities and infrastructure, the capacity and professionalism of personnel, and the active participation of the community as partners in maintaining security and order.

REFERENCES

- Alexander, R., Fahmi, & Johar, O. A. (2025). Penegakan Hukum Tindak Pidana Pencurian dengan Kekerasan di Wilayah Hukum Kepolisian Sektor Minas. *Semnashum: Seminar Nasional Hukum*, 2(2), 1–10. <https://journal.unilak.ac.id/index.php/samnashum/article/view/25894>
- Caprita, F. P., Alauddin, & Anita, F. (2025). Penegakan Hukum Tindak Pidana Pencurian dengan Kekerasan oleh Kepolisian di Wilayah Polresta Bengkulu. *Judge: Jurnal Hukum*, 6(03), 589–601. <https://doi.org/10.54209/judge.v6i03.1483>
- Fransiskus, D., & Rahmat, D. (2024). Penegakan Hukum Tindak Pidana Pencurian dengan Pemberatan di Wilayah Hukum Polres Sukabumi (Studi Kasus Pembobolan Alfamart). *Mala in Se: Jurnal Hukum Pidana, Kriminologi, Dan Viktimologi*, 1(1), 23–32. <https://doi.org/10.08221/MIS.V1I1.40>
- Hadi, M., Malahayati, M., & Sastro, M. (2022). Peran Polri terhadap Penanggulangan Tindak Pidana Pencurian dengan Kekerasan (Studi Kasus di Kepolisian Resor Aceh Timur). *Suloh: Jurnal Fakultas Hukum Universitas Malikussaleh*, 10(1), 290. <https://doi.org/10.29103/sjp.v10i1.7946>
- Hartono, T., Lubis, M. A., & Siregar, S. A. (2021). Penegakan Hukum terhadap Tindak Pidana Pencurian dengan Kekerasan (Studi pada Kepolisian Resor Kota Besar Medan). *Jurnal Retentum*, 3(1), 1–10. <https://doi.org/10.46930/retentum.v3i1.900>
- Junior, Y. P., Anita, F., & Ependi, E. (2025). Peranan Kepolisian dalam Menangani Tindak Pidana Pencurian dengan Kekerasan di Polsek Gading Cempaka. *Jurnal Multidisiplin Dehasen (MUDE)*, 4(4), 793–802. <https://doi.org/10.37676/MUDE.V4I4.9001>

- Kurniadi, A. R. (2022). Kebijakan Hukum Pidana dalam Penanggulangan Tindak Pidana Penadahan yang Berhubungan dengan Tindak Pidana Pencurian. *Jurnal Hukum Media Justitia Nusantara*, 12(1), 63–98. <https://doi.org/10.30999/mjn.v12i1.2060>
- Mahendra, I. G. A. P. (2022). Upaya Kepolisian Negara Republik Indonesia dalam Menanggulangi Tindak Pidana Pencurian yang Dilakukan Pelaku Di Bawah Umur dengan Penerapan Asas Restorative Justice. *Jurnal Hukum Media Justitia Nusantara*, 12(1), 99–145. <https://doi.org/10.30999/MJN.V12I1.2061>
- Mahka, Muh. F. R., Sufriaman, S., & Jaya, K. (2023). Upaya Kepolisian dalam Menangani Tindak Pidana Pencurian Kendaraan Bermotor Diwilayah Hukum Polisi Sektor Tamalate Kota Makassar. *Indonesian Journal of Legality of Law*, 6(1), 178–184. <https://doi.org/10.35965/ijlf.v6i1.3896>
- Meinecky, R., Kadaryanto, B., & Pardede, R. (2025). Pelaksanaan Penegakan Hukum terhadap Tindak Pidana Pencurian Pemberatan. *Collegium Studiosum Journal*, 8(1), 228–243. <https://doi.org/10.56301/csj.v8i1.1705>
- Najegas, A., Tamza, F. B., & Monica, D. R. (2025). Jerat Pidana Pencurian Hewan dalam Bentuk Pemberatan Pidana dalam Pasal 363 Ayat (1) ke 1 Kuhpidana. *Judge: Jurnal Hukum*, 6(1), 327–340. <https://doi.org/10.54209/JUDGE.V6I01.1110>
- Naziva, D. N., Usman, U., & Rakhmawati, D. (2021). Upaya Kepolisian dalam Menanggulangi Tindak Pidana Pencurian Kendaraan Bermotor dengan Pemberatan dan Kekerasan. *PAMPAS: Journal of Criminal Law*, 2(3), 76–84. <https://doi.org/10.22437/pampas.v2i3.16324>
- Nurhalisa, S., & Kartika, F. B. (2024). Implementasi Penegakan Hukum terhadap Tindak Pidana Pencurian Sepeda Motor (Studi di Polres Pelabuhan Belawan). *Jurnal Mimbar Ilmu Hukum (MIH)*, 3(1), 39–49. <https://kti.potensi-utama.org/index.php/MIH/article/view/1213>
- Pasaribu, N., Ablisar, M., Mulyadi, M., & Ikhsan, E. (2017). Penyidikan Kasus Tindak Pidana Pencurian dengan Pemberatan di Wilayah Hukum Polsek Medan Baru. *USU Law Journal*, 5(1), 164950. <https://www.neliti.com/publications/164950/>
- Pratama, W. A. (2024). Analisis Normatif Perlindungan Hukum terhadap Anak sebagai Korban Kejahatan Pedofilia. *Ta'zir: Jurnal Hukum Pidana*, 8(1), 17–28. <https://doi.org/10.19109/tazir.v8i1.22072>
- Putra, F. P. R., Triana, Y., & Afrita, I. (2024). Penegakan Hukum terhadap Pelaku Tindak Pidana Pencurian Ringan di Wilayah Hukum Polres Dumai. *Collegium Studiosum Journal*, 7(2), 698–717. <https://doi.org/10.56301/CSJ.V7I2.1445>
- Rahmadani, N. N., & Indawati, Y. (2023). Penegakan Hukum terhadap Pelaku Tindak Pidana Pencurian Kendaraan Bermotor (Studi Kasus di Polres Gresik). *Inicio Legis*, 4(2), 141–157. <https://doi.org/10.21107/il.v4i2.21786>
- Rizkia, N. D., Wiraguna, S. A., Azmi, N., Hasibuan, A. K. H., & Huda, M. (2024). *Hukum Perlindungan Anak*. CV WIDINA MEDIA UTAMA. <https://repository.penerbitwidina.com/publications/583738/>
- Tjaya, M. R. N., Permana, M. R., & Prasetyo, M. J. (2024). Penegakan Hukum terhadap Tindak Pidana Pencurian Kendaraan dengan Kekerasan. *Jurnal Kewarganegaraan*, 8(1), 324–330. <https://doi.org/10.31316/JK.V8I1.6159>
- Wibisono, D. P. P. (2022). Upaya Polri dalam Menanggulangi Tindak Pidana Pencurian dengan Kekerasan Berdasarkan Pasal 365 Kitab Undang-Undang Hukum Pidana (KUHP). *Jurnal Hukum Media Justitia Nusantara*, 12(1), 146–188. <https://doi.org/10.30999/mjn.v12i1.2062>
- Wijaya, R. (2025). Penegakan Hukum Pidana dalam Penanganan Tindakan Pidana Pencurian Tabung Gas 3 Kg di Tembilahan Riau. *Al-Bahts: Jurnal Ilmu Sosial, Politik, Dan Hukum*, 2(1), 8–15. <https://doi.org/10.32520/ALBAHTS.V3I1.4293>
- Wulandari, U., Fahmi, F., & DM, M. Y. (2024). Penegakan Hukum terhadap Anak Pelaku Tindak Pidana Pencurian dengan Kekerasan di Wilayah Hukum Kepolisian Resort Kota Pekanbaru. *Innovative: Journal Of Social Science Research*, 4(1), 4766–4774. <https://doi.org/10.31004/INNOVATIVE.V4I1.8426>