

The Role of the Padang Lawas Police Station in Minimizing the Number of Traffic Accidents

Yusril Aldi Mahendra^{1*}, Kusno², Ahmad Ansyari Siregar³

^{1*,2,3} Fakultas Hukum Universitas Labuhanbatu, Indonesia

*Email: hendrasyahputra4781@gmail.com, kusno120485@gmail.com, ansyarisiregar@gmail.com

| ARTICLE INFO | ABSTRACT |
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| <p>Keywords: The role, Satlantas Polres Padang Lawas, minimizes, accidents, traffic.</p> | <p>The purpose of this study is to describe the Role of the Padang Lawas Police Station in Traffic Accident Management in the City of Padang Lawas and the Obstacle to the Role of the Padang Lawas Police Task Force in Minimizing the Number of Traffic Accidents in the City of Padang Lawas. This type of research is qualitative-descriptive where data collection techniques are through literature sources, observation, and documentation. The results showed that: first, the role of the Padang Lawas Police Station in Minimizing the Number of Traffic Accidents includes: 1. Conducting Community Development in the Traffic Sector; 2. Conduct routine patrol activities on the highway; 3. Organizing the administration of equipment for drivers and motor vehicles; 4. Conduct law enforcement activities; 5. Carry out traffic operations. Second, the inhibiting factors of the role of the Padang Lawas Police Station in minimizing the number of traffic accidents in the city of Padang Lawas are: 1. Lack of public awareness of orderly traffic; 2. Lack of Professional Satlantas in carrying out Duties.</p> |

INTRODUCTION

Traffic accidents are one of the biggest problems that must be faced by the Padang Lawas Police Department. The number does not show a number that is not small. Sometimes the number can decrease and it can also increase, but it is more likely to increase more often. Even casualties due to traffic accidents from year to year show an increase. As a result of traffic accidents can then cause casualties, both death, minor injuries to severe injuries, even not infrequently causing material losses for the victims. The steps taken to reduce the number of traffic accidents are by paying attention to safety factors in driving on the highway, one of which is by complying with the rules that apply in traffic.

Some factors that influence the occurrence of traffic accidents are human, vehicle and road factors. These three factors greatly affect the occurrence of traffic accidents that occur in the city of Padang Lawas. Data on laka cases then in 2021 there were 45 cases where 24 people were declared dead, in 2022 there were 40 cases with 18 deaths. Meanwhile, in 2023, there will be 3,855 cases, 884 people died, 1,246 seriously injured, and 4,545 lightly injured. This data shows a very fantastic increase, so there must be a solution where the number of accidents must be minimized with better efforts.

There are several violations committed by motorists that cause traffic accidents that occur in the city of Padang Lawas, among others: driving while playing cellphones, underage drivers, riding more than 1 person, not using SNI helmets, driving under the influence of alcohol, going against the current, using exhaust exhaust and driving vehicles at high speed. From the description above, the author is interested in conducting research related to the Role of the Padang Lawas Police Station in Traffic Accident Management in the City of Padang Lawas and the inhibiting factors for the Padang Lawas Police Station in Minimizing the number of Traffic Accidents in the City of Padang Lawas.

METHOD

The approach used is qualitative-descriptive research. Qualitative research is used to describe and analyze phenomena, events, social activities, attitudes, beliefs, perceptions, and people individually and in groups" (Sukmadinata, 2006). Further, "the use of descriptive research aims to define a state or phenomenon as it is." This approach is directed at the background and the individual holistically. Thus, in this case it should not isolate individuals or organizations into variables or hypotheses, but it is necessary to view them as part of a whole.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

A. The Role of the Padang Lawas Police Station in Traffic Accident Management in Padang Lawas City

The term role is simply derived from the word "role" which then gets the suffix "an" to become "role". In anthropology and social sciences, a role is one of the dynamic aspects of a position or status, if a person exercises his rights and obligations, he is considered to be carrying out a role."(Soekanto, 2002). Roles are dynamic aspects and status. If a person carries out his rights and obligations in accordance with his position, then this means that he has performed a role. The two are inseparable and contradict each other. Everyone has various roles derived from social patterns. It also means that his role determines what he does for society to him. "Roles place more emphasis on function, adjustment and as a process."

Based on the understanding of roles above, it can be concluded that roles are dynamic aspects of the position of a person, body or institution in holding an interest in a social system as an effort to achieve a set goal or measure of two variables that have a cause-and-effect relationship. The role maximized here is the role of police officers / law enforcement who are dynamic in carrying out actions or actions that provide handling in an effort to ensure security and safety for road users on the highway.

The definition of police according to Article 5 paragraph (1) of Law No. 2 of 2002 concerning the Indonesian National Police, states that: "The National Police of the Republic of Indonesia is a state instrument that plays a role in maintaining public security and order, enforcing the law, and providing protection, protection, and services to the community in the context of maintaining internal security" (Arif, 2021). The word Police comes from the Ancient Greek term "politeia" which means the government of a polis or city (Firman Edi, 2024). Then in the Big Dictionary Indonesian gives meaning to the word police as a government body tasked with maintaining security and public order such as arresting people who violate the law or state employees in charge of maintaining security.

The main duties of the National Police are as law enforcers, protectors, protectors and services for the community. This is contained in the provisions of Law No. 2 of 2002 concerning the Indonesian National Police, namely Article 13 which states that the National Police has the duty to: (1) Maintain public security and order; (2) Enforce the law; (3) Provide protection, protection and service to the community.

The composition of the police organization at the police level contained in Article 6 Paragraph 3 Letters a to letter w in the National Police Regulation of the Republic of Indonesia Number 2 of 2021 concerning the Organizational Structure and Work Procedures at the Resort Police and Sector Police levels consists of: Supervision Section, Professional and Security Section, Operations Section, Planning Section, Human Resources Section, Logistics Section, Public Relations Section, Legal Section, Information Communication Technology Section, General Section, Integrated Police Service Center, Security Intelligence Unit, Criminal Investigation Unit, Narcotics, Psychotropic and Dangerous Drugs Investigation Unit, Community Development Unit, Samapta Unit, Traffic Unit, Vital Objects Security Unit, Water and Air Police Unit, Prisoner Care and Evidence Unit, Finance Section, Police and Health Medicine Section Police, and Polsek.

Article 5 letter f states that in carrying out the duties as referred to in Article 4, the National Police carries out the functions of: "the implementation of traffic functions, including traffic regulation, guarding, escort and patrolling activities, including the enforcement of violations and investigation of traffic accidents as well as registration and identification of motor vehicles in the context of law enforcement and fostering security, safety, order, and smooth traffic." Traffic accidents or abbreviated as Lakalantas are unexpected and accidental events involving vehicles or other road users that can cause casualties and / or property losses. Traffic accidents can happen anytime and anywhere, unpredictable. Traffic accidents can not only cause trauma, injury, minor injuries, serious injuries or disabilities but can result in the death of the world (Kansil & Kansil, 1995). Furthermore, traffic accidents according to Fachrurrozy, as quoted by Antory that accidents are unexpected and accidental events involving vehicles with or without other road users, resulting in human casualties (minor injuries, serious injuries, and death) and property losses (Adyan, 2012). Elements in traffic accidents include the presence of an event, occurring on the road, the presence of elements of accident,

involving vehicles, with or without other road users, and resulting in property and / or human casualties (Kepolisian, 2010).

Although accidents have supporting elements in their occurrence, accidents are not things that someone expects to experience. If the accident is an intentional element, then the argument imposed is not an accident, but a postulate of persecution or premeditated murder. Based on the description above, it can be concluded that traffic accidents are spontaneous events that take place very quickly, without any element of intentionality but there is an element of negligence that causes minor, severe injuries and even death.

Lakalantas events that occur on the highway are not things that someone expects. But the number often increases, accompanied by the number of motorists who move on the highway. The increase in lakalantas events does not just happen, there are things that greatly affect it. Legal awareness is expected for motorists on the highway to anticipate traffic violations. Not only legal awareness is needed in creating traffic order, but law enforcement from very instrumental parties is also needed. The party in question is the Satlantas (Traffic Unit) whose duties have been regulated by Article 41 (1) of the Traffic Unit as referred to in Article 6 paragraph (3) letter q, tasked with: "carrying out traffic arrangements, guarding, escorting and patrolling, traffic security and safety, registration and identification services of motor vehicles and drivers, and law enforcement in the field of traffic." Furthermore, letter d that the implementation of law enforcement carried out by Satlantas includes the fields of traffic investigation and investigation, handling accidents, traffic violations and the first action at the scene of a traffic accident crime. So it can be concluded that the presence of the role of Satlantas in traffic order is needed.

There are several roles of the Padang Lawas Police Station in overcoming Traffic Accidents in the City of Padang Lawas, including:

1. Conducting Community Development in the Traffic Field

The need to conduct coaching to the community is related to understanding of traffic. That knowledge in the field of traffic will bring safety and security to motorists. We know that, nowadays not all motorists understand about the rules that apply in traffic. Motorists are not only required to be able to drive a vehicle, but also must understand what must be done by drivers to be safe in driving and not harm the same road users on the highway. Development in the field of traffic carried out by the Padang Lawas Police Station includes regulatory aspects, control aspects, and supervisory aspects. This is intended for the purpose of safety, security, and order for all road users. Community development is carried out not only by conducting socialization and legal counseling to the community, but can also be done through appeals made by the Satlantas in the form of advertisements, banners, print media, mass media, brochures and others that can help the public to understand the importance of driving on the highway. Traffic rules are a measure to prevent accidents for the safety of all road users. The provision of education to the community in the field of traffic is targeted not only at adults, but school levels such as primary, middle and high schools to the university level, ordinary people and agencies throughout the Padang Lawas Police Area.

2. Conduct Routine patrol activities on the highway

Traffic Police not only regulate the highway, but must conduct patrol activities more often. Patrol activities are carried out by combing every road that will be used in vehicular traffic. This patrol activity is intended to better supervise the course of driving activities on the highway to be more orderly and smooth in traffic. Satlantas is an implementing element whose duties include supervision, escort and patrol, as well as carrying out traffic engineering. Patrol activities are carried out as an effort to prevent the occurrence of situations and conditions that will disrupt order on the highway. This is a step in overcoming lakalantas. Patrol activities are considered very effective to take firm action on every violation on the road, both motorists or criminals who will make trouble on the highway that will hinder vehicle activities. This is done because there are several incidents on the streets of criminal actors who throw at motorists on the highway to commit acts of counterfeiting and beheading that will disrupt the safety and order of traffic activities on the highway. Patrol activities as an effort to create a conditional atmosphere and patrol activities become information material to stakeholders not only the government but also the public for the safety and smooth running of motorists and road users.

3. Organizing the administration of equipment for drivers and motor vehicles

Administrative activities for drivers and motor vehicles are very important. The Padang Lawas Police Station does this through observation and supervision mechanisms as well as strict enforcement of every violation committed by motorists and vehicles that do not comply with applicable rules in traffic. This is an effort from Satlantas to regulate the highway. The goal is to realize traffic order to avoid traffic

accidents for road users. Enforcement of violations can be carried out for motorists who do not have a driver's license, do not have or carry vehicle papers, do not understand traffic signs and road markings, do not complete vehicle completeness attributes, drive vehicles beyond the specified speed, carry vehicles in overcapacity conditions to drive vehicles unfit on the highway. This activity is carried out in special operations and routine operations so that motorists are more orderly in driving. This step is in accordance with the procedures of Satlantas officers, with the hope that safety and order will be realized in driving activities on the highway. Conducting police operations in the field of traffic

4. Conduct Law enforcement activities

Law Enforcement activities are an effective step in prosecuting motorists who commit traffic violations. Frequent violations include not having a driver's license, not using a helmet for motorcyclists, not wearing seat belts and not carrying motor vehicle equipment, driving a vehicle at high speed, violating traffic signs and road markings, driving a vehicle with over capacity, and driving a vehicle that is not fit on the highway. These violations need to be enforced in the form of law enforcement. Law enforcement is carried out for the sake of orderly traffic to and provide a deterrent effect to violators so as not to repeat their violations in the future. Law enforcement in traffic violations is by imposing sanctions, both criminal sanctions, and fines.

5. Performing Traffic Operation Maintenance

Traffic operations are often carried out by the Padang Lawas Police Department. The implementation of traffic operations is divided into 2 parts, namely special operations and routine operations. Special operations are carried out according to central instructions and apply to all police in Indonesia. These operations include: Operation Zebra, Operation Candle, Operation Ketupat, Operation Simpatik and Operation Obedient Jaya. The second operation is a routine operation carried out according to the instructions of regional police units at both the provincial and district levels, this operation is not tied to the instructions of the central police. Routine operations are usually carried out by regulating roads prone to congestion and roads prone to accidents. The implementation of the Traffic Unit Tasks has been regulated in the Law, so that its duties and functions are carried out according to applicable regulations. The implementation of traffic operations is carried out as an effort to overcome traffic order on the highway, enforcement of violations committed by motorists and users of the same road to crackdown on motorized vehicles that do not meet traffic orderly rules. Violations committed are indicated to cause accidents, because the incident of lakalantas who are harmed is not only the victim, the perpetrator of the violation is also sometimes in the same position. As a result of lakalantas not only cause minor injuries to the victim but may cause severe injuries until the victim dies. Losses are not only personal, but material losses are also experienced, so to prevent and overcome the occurrence of lakalantas that need to be considered, namely the system of implementing traffic operations which is increasingly leveled as an effort to minimize the number of lakalantas in the jurisdiction of the Padang Lawas police station. Routine operation activities are the aim of bringing order to the implementation of driving activities on the highway as an effort to overcome the level of lakalantas in the Padang Lawas Police Jurisdiction.

B. Inhibiting Factors to the Role of the Padang Lawas Police Station in Minimizing the Number of Traffic Accidents in Padang Lawas City

Some inhibiting factors of the Role of the Padang Lawas Police Station in Minimizing the Number of Traffic Accidents in the City of Padang Lawas, as follows:

1. Lack of public awareness of orderly traffic

Public awareness as motorists on the highway is still low. This can be seen from the quantity of violations that occurred in the city of Padang Lawas, to the violations that caused Lakalantas in the city. The level of awareness of motorists is one of the important factors that have the potential to cause traffic accidents. If the level of public awareness or motorists is still low, the violations that occur will continue to increase in number. For this reason, the role of Satlantas is present to increase the sense of legal awareness in orderly traffic. This awareness increase can be realized through socialization activities, and legal counseling to the appeal for orderly traffic. This activity will have an impact on the lack of traffic violations committed by motorists on the road.

2. Lack of Satlantas Professionals in Performing Tasks

The police through the Satlantas Unit are tasked with securing orderly traffic. In accordance with the Tupoksinya that the police function to provide services, protection, protection, and provide a sense of security to the community. However, the facts on the ground show that there are still many police officers

who do not work according to their *Tupoksinya*. It even abuses its authority for its personal and group interests. One of them is KKN behavior (Corruption, Collusion, Nepotism). The police, which are considered as protectors for the community, do not even reflect professionalism in carrying out their duties. Conduct selective law enforcement, and abuse its authority for personal gain only. KKN behavior is not very commendable, because it can harm themselves, others and even the State and tarnish the good name of the institution. KKN behavior certainly has an impact on police performance in the field, one of which is the *Satlantas* section. Another impact is to make people lazy, even disobeying the rules imposed on the highway, because they think every violation has a solution, namely looking for safety from corrupt police personnel, then violations are things that need to be feared. When violations are given room to occur repeatedly, *Lakalantas* events are inevitable, even will increase. So it is expected that the professionalism of a *Satlantas* officer will continue to work in accordance with his *Tupoksinya*. Efforts that can be made for this KKN behavior are: increasing Faith in God Almighty, implementing clean living behavior from KKN, applying professionalism in carrying out duties, increasing discipline in duty, increasing legal awareness that KKN behavior is dishonorable behavior.

CONCLUSION

The role of the Padang Lawas Police Station in Traffic Accident Management in the City of Padang Lawas includes conducting Community Development in the Traffic Sector. Conduct routine patrol activities on the highway. Conducting completeness administration for drivers and motor vehicles. Conduct Law enforcement activities. Perform traffic operations. Inhibiting Factors The Role of the Padang Lawas Police Station in Minimizing the Number of Traffic Accidents in Padang Lawas City are: Lack of public awareness of orderly traffic. Lack of Professional *Satlantas* in carrying out Duties.

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