

The Role of the Police in Combating Motor Vehicle Theft within the Jurisdiction of the Bengkulu Regional Police

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Abstract. *This research aims to analyze the mitigation of motor vehicle theft crimes (curanmor) within the jurisdiction of the Bengkulu Regional Police (Polda Bengkulu), focusing on the role of the police, the challenges faced, and the solutions implemented. This study employs a field research method with a descriptive case study approach, involving data collection through observation, in-depth interviews, and document analysis. The research was conducted at Polda Bengkulu, specifically at the Directorate of General Criminal Investigation (Ditreskrim), from March to July 2024. The informants consisted of 4 Ditreskrim investigators, 1 member of Polda Bengkulu, and 2 members of the community. The results indicate that motor vehicle theft, particularly motorcycles, is a prevalent crime in Bengkulu, with increasingly organized modus operandi and extensive networks. The main factors driving the high rate of motorcycle theft include weak vehicle security systems, economic factors, and high market demand for used motorcycle parts. The Bengkulu Regional Police have undertaken various preventive measures, such as increasing routine patrols, night raids, joint operations, and the use of technology like CCTV. Additionally, public education on the importance of using additional security devices and parking in safe locations is also part of the prevention strategy. The conclusion of this research is that addressing vehicle theft requires a comprehensive approach involving primary, secondary, and tertiary prevention. Primary prevention can be achieved through improved access to education and employment opportunities, while secondary prevention involves routine patrols and the use of technology. Tertiary prevention focuses on the rehabilitation and reintegration of former offenders into society. Synergy between the police, government, and the community is key to reducing vehicle theft crime rates and creating a safer environment.*

Keywords: *Crime Prevention, Motor Vehicle Theft (Curanmor), Bengkulu Regional Police*

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INTRODUCTION

Bengkulu Province is one of the provinces on the island of Sumatra that has unique geographical characteristics because it is located on the southwest coast of Sumatra and faces the Indian Ocean (Firdaus et al., 2024; Soeprobawati et al., 2022). Based on the 2020 Indonesian Population Census, the population of Bengkulu Province reached 2,091,314 with a population density of around 105 people per square kilometer. With an area of only 19,919.33 km², Bengkulu Province is recorded as the smallest province on the mainland of Sumatra Island and is among the ten provinces with the smallest area in Indonesia. These geographical and demographic conditions have implications for social dynamics, population mobility, and crime patterns that develop in this region (Renaningtias et al., 2024; Battin & Crawl, 2017; Hosegoed & Benzler, 2005; Clark, 2007).

In the context of law enforcement and security maintenance, the Bengkulu Regional Police or Polda Bengkulu acts as an extension of the state in carrying out police functions in the Bengkulu Province. Polda Bengkulu has a strategic responsibility to maintain public security and order, enforce the law, and provide protection and services to the community. This function has become increasingly crucial with the growing complexity of conventional crimes, including motor vehicle theft, which directly harms the community (Wiradinata et al., 2023; Junior et al., 2025; Walsh & Taylor, 2007).

The upgrade of the Bengkulu Regional Police to Type A Regional Police based on National Police Headquarters Letter Number B/5923/X/OTL.1.1.3/2019/Srena marks institutional strengthening in terms of organizational structure, authority, and human resources. Type A Regional Police are led by high-ranking officers with the rank of Inspector General (Irjen), reflecting that the region is considered to have a higher level of vulnerability and security challenges. Normatively, this upgrade in status should be directly proportional to an increase in the effectiveness of crime prevention (Nurhalisa & Kartika, 2024; Stummvoll, 2012; Rosenbaum, 1988).

However, data on crimes occurring in the Bengkulu Regional Police jurisdiction between 2022 and 2024 shows that motor vehicle theft cases continue to occur at a relatively high rate. This empirical fact indicates a gap between the increase in the institutional capacity of the police and the effectiveness of the implementation of crime prevention and control functions. From a criminal law perspective, this condition raises serious questions about the optimization of the role of the police in the criminal justice system (Damayanti, 2024; Sihombing et al., 2023).

Juridically, the role and authority of the police have been confirmed in Article 5 paragraph (1) of Law Number 2 of 2002 concerning the Indonesian National Police, which states that the police are a state apparatus tasked with maintaining security and public order, enforcing the law, and providing protection, guidance, and services to the community. This provision places the police as the main actor in dealing with and overcoming all forms of disturbances to public security and order, including crimes against property (Fitrian et al., 2026; Gultom & Lumbangaol, 2025).

From a criminal law perspective, motor vehicle theft is not merely a violation of property rights, but also reflects weak social control and structural prevention. This crime is generally organized, repetitive, and exploits gaps in public surveillance. Therefore, its prevention cannot rely solely on a repressive approach but must be carried out comprehensively through an integrated strategy (Earl & Braithwaite, 2022; Jedličková, 2025; Habeahan et al., 2026).

In the operational framework, the Indonesian National Police has established a pattern of action through National Police Chief Regulation No. 1 of 2019 concerning the System, Management, and Standards for Police Operational Success. This regulation governs three main approaches in the implementation of police duties, namely pre-emptive, preventive, and law enforcement activities. These three approaches should be carried out simultaneously and complement each other in order to create effective law enforcement.

Pre-emptive activities are aimed at educating the community to have legal awareness, resilience, and active participation in maintaining environmental security (Gunasekara & Ituarte-Lima, 2025; Ayers et al., 2024; Aji et al., 2025). In the context of motor vehicle theft, this approach plays an important role in building a culture of community awareness and strengthening partnerships between the police and citizens. Failure to maximize the pre-emptive function has the potential to increase the likelihood of opportunistic crimes (Elisia et al., 2022; Husen et al., 2024).

Meanwhile, preventive activities aim to prevent potential disturbances from developing into actual disturbances through patrols, surveillance, and police presence in public spaces. From a legal criminology perspective, effective prevention can reduce crime rates by increasing the risk

of arrest for perpetrators. The high rate of motor vehicle theft in the Bengkulu Police jurisdiction shows that this preventive function still requires serious evaluation and strengthening.

Law enforcement as a repressive measure is the last resort in the crime prevention system. In criminal law, the effectiveness of law enforcement is not only measured by the number of cases handled, but also by its ability to create a deterrent effect and a sense of justice in society. When the number of motor vehicle thefts remains high, this condition indicates that the law enforcement system has not been fully able to achieve its objectives. Therefore, this study is important to critically analyze the effectiveness of the Bengkulu Regional Police's role in combating motor vehicle theft from the perspective of criminal law and law enforcement policy.

Based on the background described above, this study departs from the empirical reality that motor vehicle theft is still rampant in the Bengkulu Regional Police jurisdiction. This condition raises fundamental questions about the effectiveness of the police's role in carrying out its preventive and law enforcement functions, especially after the Bengkulu Regional Police was upgraded to a Type A Regional Police. The high rate of motor vehicle theft not only indicates a problem of criminality, but also reflects structural, managerial, and operational problems in the crime prevention system implemented by the police (Mustakim & Nurbaedah, 2026; Uly et al., 2025).

In line with this, this study formulates the main problem regarding the factors that cause the high rate of motor vehicle theft in the Bengkulu Regional Police jurisdiction (Dwitama, 2025; Akdar, 2024). The focus of the study is directed at the legal framework that forms the basis for police action, specifically how internal and external policies and regulations govern the role of the Bengkulu Regional Police in combating motor vehicle theft. This analysis is important to assess whether the existing legal framework provides an adequate normative basis for the effective and measurable implementation of police duties.

In addition to normative aspects, this study also examines the implementation of organizational resource management in the Bengkulu Regional Police Criminal Investigation Unit (Sat Reskrim) in combating motor vehicle theft. This study covers human resource management, division of tasks and authority, inter-unit coordination, and the utilization of investigation support facilities and infrastructure. From the perspective of criminal law and police administration, the effectiveness of law enforcement is largely determined by the quality of organizational management and the operational capacity of law enforcement officials at the executive level (Dariani, 2025; Mustakim & Nurbaedah, 2026).

This study also identifies various obstacles faced by the Bengkulu Regional Police in their efforts to combat motor vehicle theft. These obstacles are not only technical in nature, such as limited personnel and facilities, but also structural and cultural, including low community participation, weak legal awareness, and the complexity of the perpetrators' modus operandi. The identification of these obstacles is important as a basis for formulating a more comprehensive crime prevention policy improvement strategy (Lewis & Salem, 2017; McGarrell & Hipple, 2014).

Based on these issues, this study aims to describe in depth the management system of the Bengkulu Regional Police Criminal Investigation Unit in its efforts to prevent and combat motor vehicle theft. This objective is aimed at obtaining an empirical picture of how police managerial functions are carried out in practice and the extent to which such management contributes to the effectiveness of law enforcement in the Bengkulu Regional Police jurisdiction.

In addition, this study aims to analyze the organizational resources of the Bengkulu Regional Police Criminal Investigation Unit, both in terms of quality and quantity, in supporting efforts to prevent motor vehicle theft. This analysis is expected to show the relationship between the capacity of the police organization and the level of success in combating crime, so that it can be used as material for evaluating the improvement of police institutional performance in the future.

The difference and urgency of this study lies in its focus, which not only highlights normative aspects or crime statistics, as has been done in many previous studies, but also integrates criminal law analysis with a police organizational management approach. Previous studies generally treated motor vehicle theft as a criminal issue alone or emphasized the repressive aspects of law enforcement. This study specifically examines the role of the Criminal Investigation Unit as a strategic unit in the criminal justice system, with an emphasis on organizational governance and structural obstacles to law enforcement. Therefore, this research has high academic and practical urgency, as it can make a real contribution to the development of more effective crime prevention policies based on institutional evaluation and law enforcement management at the local police level.

METHODS

This study uses *field research* with a descriptive case study approach, which aims to gain an in-depth understanding of the processes, activities, and real events related to efforts to prevent motor vehicle theft in the Bengkulu Police jurisdiction. This approach was chosen because the object of the study is not only related to legal norms but also to the actual practice of law enforcement by the police, particularly through the two-wheeled patrol activities of the Samapta Unit. Thus, this study seeks to describe empirical reality in a systematic and factual manner, while linking it to the applicable legal and police policy framework (Sugiyono, 2020). Data collection was carried out directly in the field through three main techniques, namely observation, interviews, and document studies. Observation was used to directly observe the implementation of the Samapta Unit's two-wheeled patrols, including activity patterns, the patrol area situation, and interactions between officers and the community. In-depth interviews were conducted with informants consisting of investigators from the General Criminal Investigation Directorate, police officers, and the community to obtain comprehensive information about the role of the police, the effectiveness of patrols, and the obstacles faced in preventing vehicle theft. Document studies were used to examine legislation, internal police regulations, data on motor vehicle theft cases, and patrol activity reports relevant to the research focus. The data obtained was analyzed using qualitative data analysis techniques, which included data reduction, data presentation, and conclusion drawing or verification. Data reduction was carried out by sorting and focusing on data relevant to the research objectives, particularly those related to the implementation of two-wheeled patrols and efforts to combat motor vehicle theft. The reduced data was then presented in the form of a narrative description to facilitate understanding of the patterns, relationships, and findings of the study. The final stage of drawing conclusions was carried out gradually and continuously verified throughout the research process so that the conclusions reflected the empirical conditions in the field and had strong scientific validity.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Legal Regulations of the Bengkulu Regional Police in Combating Motorcycle Theft

Motorcycle theft is a form of crime that is very detrimental and disturbing to the community. This crime is one of the most common types of crime in various regions in Indonesia. It is not surprising that motorcycle theft cases rank at the top of the list of most reported criminal cases. This can be seen from the large number of reports filed in court, both by victims and perpetrators who have been arrested (Affan et al., 2022). Motorcycle theft not only causes material losses, but also creates a sense of insecurity and discomfort in society. Therefore, serious efforts are needed from various parties to overcome this problem. Law enforcement and the community must work together to create a safer and more secure environment from this crime.

In the Criminal Code (KUHP), the crime of theft is regulated in Article 362. This article states that anyone who commits theft can be punished with a maximum imprisonment of five years or a maximum fine of sixty rupiah. Despite the legal sanctions, motorcycle theft cases continue to be rampant, indicating that addressing this problem requires a more comprehensive approach (Handayani & Irawati, 2025; Husen et al., 2024). According to the Head of Criminal Investigation

at the Bengkulu Regional Police, Kompol Arie Yansah, S.H., one of the main factors causing the high number of motorcycle theft cases is the lack of security systems on these vehicles.

Many motorcycles are not equipped with adequate security devices, making it easy for perpetrators to steal them. In addition, economic factors and high market demand for motorcycle spare parts also contribute to the prevalence of this crime. To reduce motorcycle theft rates, effective preventive measures are needed. One such measure is to raise public awareness about the importance of using additional security systems, such as double locks or alarms. Additionally, law enforcement agencies must increase patrols and surveillance in areas prone to theft.

**RESULTS OF THE REVEAL OF MOTORCYCLE THEFT
CASE IN THE BENGKULU POLICE AREA**

• TO name : **Satria Rajeschan, 25 th**
 • Number of LPs : **14 LP**

NO	L.P	TIME	---	BB
1	LP/B/491/X/2024/SPKT/RESTA.BKL	October 21, 2024	Sukamerindu	1 unit R2 Honda Beat Street Black 2021
2	LP/B/426/IX/2024/SPKT/RESTA.BKL	12 Sep 2024	Lempuing	1 unit R2 Honda Beat White 2024
3	LP/B/60/IX/2024/SPKT/SEK.TS	27 Sep 2024	Balinese Village	1 unit R2 Honda Beat Black
4	LP/B/71/X/2024/SPKT/SEK.TS	October 13, 2024	Serut River	1 unit Honda Beat Street Silver
5	LP/B/56/X/2024/SPKT/SEK.MBH	Oct 7, 2024	Bentring	1 unit of 2021 Black Honda Beat R2
6	LP/B/60/X/2024/SPKT/SEK.MBH	October 14, 2024	Lemonade Cage	1 unit of Honda Sonic
7	LP/B/179/IX/2024/SPKT/SEK.SLB	24 Sep 2024	God's Fence	1 unit Yamaha Aerox
8	LP/B/49/IX/2024/SPKT/SEK.RS	02 Sep 2024	Behind the Cottage	1 unit Honda Beat Street Silver
9	LP/B/20/III/2024/SPKT/SEK.RS	19 Mar 2024	Behind the Cottage	1 unit Honda Beat Sporty 2024

Figure 1. Results of the Investigation into Motorcycle Theft Perpetrators in the Bengkulu Police District

Source: 3C Vulnerability Data, Bengkulu City Police Criminal Investigation Unit

The practice of taking stolen vehicles out of the city or province is one of the strategies used by vehicle thieves to avoid detection and maximize profits. Efforts to combat this crime require good coordination between police officers, increased public awareness, and stricter law enforcement. Thus, it is hoped that vehicle theft can be reduced and public safety can be better guaranteed. Overall, the statements of the suspects indicate that vehicle theft crimes are carried out using relatively simple yet effective modus operandi. Economic motives, particularly to meet daily needs and bad habits such as drugs and online gambling, are the main drivers of this crime. Efforts to combat vehicle theft must be comprehensive, involving the community, law enforcement agencies, and rehabilitation programs to break the chain of this crime. Members of the Criminal Investigation Directorate of the Bengkulu Police Department emphasize that:

In order to improve the effectiveness of handling vehicle theft, the Bengkulu Regional Police also coordinates with relevant agencies, such as other regional police forces and law enforcement agencies. This cooperation aims to expand the scope of enforcement and ensure that perpetrators of vehicle theft cannot easily move locations. In addition, the Bengkulu Regional Police also utilizes data and information from the community to identify crime patterns and take preventive measures. (Interview with a member of the Bengkulu Regional Police Criminal Investigation Unit, April 2024).

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measures. The Bengkulu Regional Police also recognizes that handling vehicle theft is not only the responsibility of the police, but also requires active participation from the community. Therefore, the Bengkulu Regional Police continues to encourage the community to participate in crime prevention efforts, for example by forming community groups that care about neighborhood safety. With community participation, it is hoped that a safer and more orderly environment can be created (Mansah et al., 2023; Sapan et al., 2025).

In addition, the Bengkulu Regional Police also conducts periodic evaluations of the efforts that have been made to combat vehicle theft. These evaluations aim to identify weaknesses and challenges faced, as well as to find more effective solutions. Thus, the strategy for handling vehicle theft can be continuously improved in accordance with developments in the situation and conditions in the field. The Bengkulu Regional Police's efforts to combat vehicle theft include law enforcement, prevention, education, and cooperation with various parties. These measures are expected to reduce the number of vehicle theft crimes and create a sense of security for the community within the jurisdiction of the Bengkulu Regional Police. With clear legal regulations and active community participation, it is hoped that vehicle theft crimes can be minimized and public order can be achieved.

Implementation of Organizational Resources by the Criminal Investigation Unit of the Bengkulu Police Department in Combating Vehicle Theft

Primary prevention is a crime prevention strategy that focuses on addressing the root causes of crime through interventions in the economic, social, and public policy spheres. The goal is to create conditions that support successful socialization and reduce factors that can trigger crime. In the Bengkulu Police jurisdiction, primary prevention efforts can be carried out by improving community access to education, employment, and recreational facilities. For example, the Bengkulu Regional Police can collaborate with local governments to provide skills training programs for young people who are vulnerable to involvement in vehicle theft. By providing positive alternatives, it is hoped that the community will not be trapped in criminal acts such as motorcycle theft (Prathama et al., 2023; Sapan et al., 2025).

In addition, primary prevention can also be carried out by improving housing and environmental conditions. The Bengkulu Regional Police can encourage the development of decent and safe housing, as well as create an environment conducive to community growth and development. By improving socio-economic conditions, it is hoped that the pressures of life that often trigger crime can be reduced. Programs such as these not only prevent crime but also build community resilience against negative influences that can encourage criminal behavior. Members of the Bengkulu Regional Police Criminal Investigation Unit explained that:

"Secondary prevention focuses more on the early identification of conditions that have the potential to cause crime and efforts to influence those conditions. In the context of combating vehicle theft in the Bengkulu Regional Police area, secondary prevention can be carried out through routine patrols in crime-prone areas and increased surveillance in strategic locations. The Bengkulu Regional Police can utilize technology such as CCTV" (Interview with a member of the Bengkulu Regional Police Criminal Investigation Unit, July 2024).

Secondary prevention focuses more on early identification of conditions that have the potential to cause crime and efforts to influence these conditions. In the context of combating vehicle theft in the Bengkulu Police jurisdiction, secondary prevention can be carried out through routine patrols in crime-prone areas and increased surveillance in strategic locations. The Bengkulu Regional Police can utilize technology such as CCTV and online reporting systems to monitor suspicious activity. In addition, the police can also work with the community to establish an effective neighborhood watch system (Manalu et al., 2023; Ulath & Mugiati, 2024).

The role of the mass media is also important in secondary prevention. The Bengkulu Regional Police can utilize the media to disseminate information about the modus operandi of motorcycle theft and ways to prevent it. By increasing public awareness, it is hoped that the

chances of motorcycle theft will be reduced. In addition, motor vehicle insurance can also be part of secondary prevention, as it can provide financial protection for victims and reduce the impact of losses caused by motorcycle theft. Members of the Bengkulu Regional Police Criminal Investigation Unit explained that:

"Tertiary prevention focuses more on efforts to prevent recidivism or the repetition of crimes by perpetrators who have been involved in criminal acts. In the Bengkulu Regional Police area, tertiary prevention can be carried out through guidance and rehabilitation programs for former motorcycle thieves. This program can include skills training, psychological counseling, and assistance with reintegration into society. By providing better alternatives in life, it is hoped that former offenders will not return to crime." (Interview with a member of the Bengkulu Regional Police Criminal Investigation Unit, March 2024).

Tertiary prevention focuses more on efforts to prevent recidivism or the repetition of crimes by perpetrators who have been involved in criminal acts. In the Bengkulu Regional Police area, tertiary prevention can be carried out through guidance and rehabilitation programs for former perpetrators of vehicle theft. This program can include skills training, psychological counseling, and assistance with reintegration into society. By providing better life alternatives, it is hoped that former perpetrators will not return to crime (Mahka et al., 2023).



Figure 2. The General Criminal Investigation Directorate and Jatanras Conducting Raids and Guidance for Young People in Bengkulu
Source: Personal Documentation

Challenges Faced by the Bengkulu Police in Combating Motorcycle Theft

Technological developments also pose a unique challenge for the Bengkulu Regional Police in combating vehicle theft. Criminals often use sophisticated technology to break into vehicle security systems, while the police may still lag behind in terms of countermeasure technology. For example, criminals can easily manipulate vehicle electronic systems or use special devices to unlock doors without leaving a trace. This requires greater efforts from the police to keep pace with the technological developments used by criminals (Ritonga & Hadiningrum, 2025). To reduce the number of vehicle theft crimes, the Bengkulu Regional Police have made various

efforts. One of them is to increase patrols and surveillance in crime-prone areas. Routine patrols are carried out to deter perpetrators and create a sense of security for the community. In addition, the Bengkulu Regional Police also utilizes technology, such as CCTV, to monitor strategic locations that are often targeted for theft. This effort is expected to reduce the opportunities for perpetrators to carry out their actions.

In addition to patrols and surveillance, the Bengkulu Regional Police are also actively educating the public. They regularly hold seminars and community events, as well as using social media, to raise awareness about the importance of securing vehicles and using additional security measures. The community is encouraged to be more vigilant and proactive in protecting their vehicles, such as avoiding parking in quiet areas or using additional locks. By raising public awareness, it is hoped that vehicle thieves will find it increasingly difficult to carry out their crimes (Gemilang et al., 2024). Cross-regional cooperation is also an important strategy in combating vehicle theft. Given that the perpetrators' network often involves parties from outside the region, the Bengkulu Regional Police collaborates with other regional police forces to break the chain of this crime. Information exchange and coordination between regions are carried out to track stolen vehicles and identify perpetrators. In addition, the Bengkulu Regional Police also coordinates with relevant parties, such as insurance companies and official repair shops, to monitor the circulation of motor vehicles suspected of being stolen.

Although efforts to combat vehicle theft have been made, challenges and obstacles remain. However, with synergy between the police, government, and community, it is hoped that this crime can be significantly reduced. The community is expected to be more vigilant and proactive in protecting their vehicles, while the police continue to improve their capacity and prevention strategies. With good cooperation, a sense of security and comfort in the community can be restored, and vehicle theft can be minimized (Yani, 2024). On the other hand, the role of the community in assisting efforts to combat vehicle theft is also very important. The community can act as the eyes and ears of the police by reporting suspicious activities around them. Unfortunately, many people are still reluctant to report for various reasons, such as fear of threats from perpetrators or feeling that their reports will not be followed up.

To overcome this, the Bengkulu Regional Police need to build public trust by responding seriously to every report and providing protection to the reporters. In addition, technology can also be utilized to facilitate efforts to combat vehicle theft. For example, the use of GPS-based vehicle tracking applications can help vehicle owners and the police track the location of stolen vehicles. Several insurance companies have also offered this service as part of their vehicle protection packages. By utilizing this type of technology, the chances of finding stolen vehicles can increase significantly. However, this also needs to be balanced with public awareness campaigns so that people understand the benefits and how to use this technology (Saputra, 2025; Sukama & Aldiansyah, 2022).

The Bengkulu Regional Police can also strengthen cooperation with private parties, such as leasing companies and motor vehicle dealers. These companies often have complete data on the vehicles they sell or lease, which can assist the police in tracking stolen vehicles. In addition, leasing companies can also provide information about payment patterns or suspicious activities carried out by customers, which may be related to vehicle theft. This synergy between the police and the private sector can be a strategic step in combating vehicle theft. In addition to enforcement efforts, the Bengkulu Regional Police also needs to focus on prevention efforts. One of these is to increase patrols in crime-prone areas, especially at night when vehicle theft often occurs. Patrols are not only carried out by police officers, but can also involve the community through programs such as neighborhood watch (siskamling). By involving the community, the collective sense of responsibility for maintaining security in the neighborhood will be stronger, and it will be more difficult for vehicle thieves to operate.

Education and training for police officers are also important factors in combating vehicle theft. Officers need to be equipped with the latest knowledge and skills regarding the modus

operandi of vehicle thieves, as well as how to use technology to track stolen vehicles. In addition, training on how to handle vehicle theft cases professionally and quickly is also necessary so that the investigation process can run effectively. By increasing the capacity of officers, it is hoped that efforts to combat vehicle theft can be optimized (Arif et al., 2022).

At the national level, the government also needs to take an active role in combating vehicle theft. One way to do this is by strengthening regulations on the ownership and distribution of motor vehicles. For example, the government can require the installation of GPS tracking devices on all new vehicles sold, or tighten the process of processing documents for used vehicles to prevent the circulation of stolen vehicles. In addition, the government can also provide incentives to companies that develop vehicle security technology, so that innovation in this field can continue to grow.

Finally, efforts to combat vehicle theft must be carried out holistically and sustainably. The focus should not only be on enforcement, but also on prevention, education, and raising public awareness. The Bengkulu Regional Police, together with the government and the community, need to continue to innovate and adapt to the times in order to deal with this increasingly sophisticated crime. With solid cooperation and strong commitment, it is hoped that vehicle theft can be reduced, and a sense of safety and comfort in the community can be achieved. The success of these efforts will not only reduce crime rates but also increase public trust in police institutions and the government.

CONCLUSION

Based on the research findings and discussion, motor vehicle theft has emerged as a serious and persistent criminal problem within the jurisdiction of the Bengkulu Regional Police, posing significant threats to public security and social order. This crime is driven by multiple interrelated factors, including inadequate vehicle security systems, economic pressures, and high market demand for motorcycle spare parts. Perpetrators often operate within organized networks, employ increasingly sophisticated technologies, and exploit security gaps in public spaces such as poorly monitored parking areas. The consequences extend beyond material losses suffered by victims, generating widespread feelings of insecurity and discomfort among the community. Although the Bengkulu Regional Police have undertaken various countermeasures such as routine patrols, targeted operations, and the utilization of technology the effectiveness of these efforts remains constrained by limited resources, extensive territorial coverage, and the rapid technological adaptation of offenders. Furthermore, public participation in preventive efforts has not yet reached an optimal level, while existing legal sanctions have not fully produced a deterrent effect. These conditions underscore the need for a more comprehensive, integrated, and collaborative approach to effectively address motor vehicle theft.

SUGGESTION

In light of these conclusions, several strategic recommendations are proposed to enhance the prevention of motor vehicle theft in the Bengkulu jurisdiction. First, the public should be encouraged to adopt additional vehicle security measures, such as double locking systems, alarms, and GPS trackers, while the Bengkulu Regional Police intensify public education and awareness campaigns on vehicle security and the importance of reporting suspicious activities. Such initiatives can be delivered through social media platforms, seminars, and direct community engagement to strengthen vigilance and collective responsibility. Second, both the government and the Indonesian National Police should consider revising existing legal frameworks governing motor vehicle theft to impose stricter sanctions that generate a stronger deterrent effect, alongside ensuring expedited and consistent law enforcement processes. In addition, the Bengkulu Regional Police should enhance coordination with other regional police units and private sector stakeholders to dismantle criminal networks and improve the tracing and recovery of stolen vehicles in a more effective and systematic manner.

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