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# **RESEARCH ARTICLE**

# **CRIMINOLOGIST JOURNEY IN CITY TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT**

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### ABSTRACT

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### **INTRODUCTION**

Criminology gained prominence as an academic area of study because of the constant threat of crimes and the social problems it highlights. However, much doubt and criticism exist among professionals within social and human sciences regarding the role. To become a Criminologist, any person needs to be a graduate of a Baccalaureate Degree in Criminology, pass the examination for Criminologist, and to be registered as such by the Professional Regulatory Board of Criminology. Criminologist wait for the recruitment of the Philippine National Police, Bureau of Jail Management and Penology, Bureau of Fire Protection and other agencies related to criminology so that they can pass their application online or by visiting the offices. They prepare for the necessary documents and other requirements needed to become eligible to apply for their desired position on the tri-bureaus. After passing the board examination the Criminologist attempts to apply but some failed to process like neurological and medical examination and ended in other field outside the tri-bureaus. However, some Criminologist fail to become a police officer because of various reasons. Since they need to earn money for a living and sustain their family's needs, most of the Criminologist decide to apply in other fields or in private sector.

A Criminologist is any person who is a graduate of the Degree of Criminology, who has passed the examination for criminologists and is registered as such by the Board and is deemed to be engaged in the practice of Criminology if he holds himself out to the public in any of the following capacities: as a professor, as law enforcement administrator, as technician in any scientific aspects of crime detection, as correctional administrator or officer in any correctional and penal institution as counselor, expert, researcher in any government or private agency on any aspects of criminal project involving the causes of crime, law enforcement or public welfare administrations. This research usedof a qualitative research strategy to collected and gatheredrelevant information from the experiences of Criminologists in the City Traffic Enforcement Unit. The study used the Colaizzi's strategy in descriptive phenomenology. This gain deeper understanding of the meaning of people's everyday experiences and directing the understanding of phenomenon which is consciously experience. Phenomenological research does not develop theory; it provides insight into reality and make us closer to living world.

Some of the Criminologist choose to work on private companies or other police related job such as City Traffic Enforcer. A traffic enforcer is the one who takes charge of the enforcementof all traffic rules and regulations, implement or administer all programs and activities within their respective areas of operations and boundaries. Also, directs and maintains the smooth flow of vehicles and make traffic fast moving in his or her area of responsibility. The researchers find this study very important in order to determine the experiences of Criminologists in the City Traffic Enforcement Unit. The researchers already submitted a formal letter to the Chief of the City Traffic Management Unit and asked permission to interview our informants. This study aimed to contribute for a deeper understanding with regards to Criminologist who were not able to pass the Philippine National Police or other law enforcement agencies and create programs that can help aspiring Criminologists in the future. This study is anchored by Self-Determination Theory by Edward L. Deci and Richard M. Ryan, and is an empirically based theory of human motivation, development, and wellness. It addresses the social conditions that enhance versus diminish these types of motivation, proposing and finding that the degrees to which basic psychological needs for autonomy, competence, and relatedness are supported and affects both the type and strength of motivation. It also examines people's life goals or aspirations, showing differential relations of intrinsic versus extrinsic life goals to performance and psychological health. In this theory, it also discusses recent development concerning mindfulness and vitality, and highlight the applicability within

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applied domains, including work, relationships, parenting, education, virtual environments, sport, sustainability, healthcare, and psychotherapy. In addition to that Self-Determination theory is related to Criminologist who have determination to achieve their dreams and goals in life. Working in the Philippine National Police or any law enforcement agencies, to serve and protect the country is the main dream of Criminologists. Even if there were already threats to their work they still think that it is only part of their job even if their lives are in danger they still manage to keep up with the flow of lifeas long as they do their part. Even though their dream of becoming a law enforcement officer was shattered but they still pour their knowledge as a Criminologist into their work as a City Traffic Enforcer at the same time they seem to have fulfilled their dream. Another theory according to Abraham Maslow is Theory of Human Motivation, itpoints out thatthese physiological drives or needs are to be considered unusual rather than typical because they are isolate, and because they are localizable somatically. That is to say, they are relatively independent of each other, of other motivations. One main implication of this phrasing is that gratification becomes as important a concept as deprivation in motivation theory, for it releases the organism from the domination of a relatively more physiological need, permitting thereby the emergence of other more social goals. The physiological needs, along with their partial goals, when chronically gratified cease to exist as active determinants or organizers of behavior. They now exist only in a potential fashion in the sense that they may emerge again to dominate the organism if they are thwarted. But a want that is satisfied is no longer a want. The organism is dominated and its behavior organized only by unsatisfied needs. The safety needs.If the physiological needs are relatively well gratified, there then emerges a new set of needs, which we may categorize roughly as the safety needs. All that has been said of the physiological needs is equally true, although in lesser degree, of these desires. The organism may equally well be wholly dominated by them. They may serve as the almost exclusive organizers of behavior, recruiting all the capacities of the organism in their service, and we may then fairly describe the whole organism as a safety-seeking mechanism. Another supporting theory by R.J Sullivan is the Immanuel Kant's Moral Theory according to this theory the rightness or wrongness of actions does not depend on their consequences but on whether they fulfill our duty. Many actions are permissible but not required by duty are neutral in this way. We should do only those actions that conform to rules that we could be adopted universally. This theory can be applied to our Criminologists in the City Enforcement Traffic Unit because as a City Traffic Enforcer. The concept of duty can be applied on how they perceive and perform their duty being one of the instruments as a traffic enforcer for the peace and order in the society specifically in the road way. They also maintain high morale and they only do what is right and proper for their duty.

**Related Studies:** The study revealed that the board examination for the criminologists showed marginal improvement though the year-end examinations lag behind compared to mid-year exams. It was also observed that the board examination is composed of 6 subjects including law enforcement, criminalistics, criminal jurisprudence, procedure and evidence, correctional administration, crime detection and investigation, criminal sociology, ethics, and human relations. (Tamayo, 2015).

There is a great demand for Registered Criminologist. The criminology profession as the study of crime and its effect is dynamic. Thus, providing public safety and order maintenance services becomes dynamic. In government public services, Criminologists are employed as personnel in the criminal justice system. They are appointed to the PNP, NBI, PDEA and other Law Enforcement Agencies or as Jail or Correction Officers or the Fire Safety and Protection ranks. The annual recruitment program for police recruits involves on average of 7,000 slots for Police Officer I, in order to meet the 1:500 police-to-population ratio. (PRC.GOV.PH). The study is anchored to the McClelland's theory of needs that explains the process of motivation by breaking down what and how needs are and how they have to be approached. David McClelland was an American Psychologist who developed his Theory of Needs or Achievement Theory of Motivation, which revolves around three important aspects, namely, Achievement, Power and Affiliation. This theory was developed in the 1960s and McClelland points out that regardless of our age, sex, race or culture, all of us possess one of these needs and are driven by it. This theory is also known as the Acquired Needs as McClelland put forth that the specific needs of an individual are acquired and shaped over time through the experiences he has had in life. Psychologist David McClelland advocated Need theory, also popular as Three Needs Theory. This motivational theory states that the needs for achievement, power, and affiliation significantly influence the behavior of an individual, which is useful to understand from a managerial context.

This theory can be considered an extension of Maslow's hierarchy of needs. Per McClelland, every individual has these three types of motivational needs irrespective of their demography, culture or wealth. These motivation types are driven from real-life experiences and the views of their ethos. The need for achievement as the name itself suggests is the urge to achieve something in what you do. If you are a lawyer it is the need to win cases and be recognized, if you are a painter it is the need to paint a famous painting. It is the need that drives a person to work and even struggle for the objective that he wants to achieve. People who possess high achievement needs are people who always work to excel by particularly avoiding low reward low-risk situations and difficult to achieve high-risk situations. Such people avoid low-risk situations because of the lack of a real challenge and their understanding that such achievement is not genuine. They also avoid high-risk situations because they perceive and understand it to be more about luck and chance and not about one's own effort. The more the achievements they make the higher their performance because of higher levels of motivation. These people find innovative clever ways to achieve goals and consider their achievement a better reward than financial ones. They take calculated decision and always appreciate feedback and usually works alone. The individuals motivated by needs for achievement usually have a strong desire of setting up difficult objectives and accomplishing them. Their preference is to work in a resultsoriented work environment and always appreciate any feedback on their work. Achievement based individuals take calculated risks to reach their goals and may circumvent both high-risk and low-risk situations. They often prefer working alone. This personality type believes in a hierarchical structure derived primarily by work-based achievements. The need for power is the desire within a person to hold control and authority over another person and influence and change their

### Table 1. Summary of significant statements and themes challenges

INFORMANT	STATEMENT	MAIN THEME
	Nowadays due to large number of vehicles plying in the road it can cause too much traffic, inevitably there are for hire drivers such Jeepney, Pedicab and UDOTCO drivers that are	
1 (IDI)	reckless drivers because they just loading/unloading passengers everywhere and not in the designated area and they no longer worry that they are interfering with traffic.	
	Of Course, those people, motoristare stubborn, even traffic signs for example no parking, instead there is No Parking sign but still they parked and then if you reprimand them they	
2 (IDI)	will get angry, those are some problems we encountered with motorist.	Ignorance is No Excuse
	Lack of seminar, others just bought their license from fixers they didn't undergo seminars, It would be better for you to go through a seminar because at least you will know what	
	common violations you have encountered on the road, there is no parking, no stopping. If there a simple violation on the road that is still opposed.	
3 (FGD)	I often encounter in our work are those stubborn drivers, no discipline that's it.	
	In my side I usually encounter are those non-educated drivers since it is hard for them to understand especially when you implement traffic rules, they are hard to understand since	
4 (FGD)	they are lack of education. Second, those arrogant drivers, we have always encountered, those arrogant drivers.	
	Teach them because they are new to the job, help them and teach them on how to manage the flow of traffic, how to handle those stubborn drivers that would not result to a fight, just	
1 (IDI)	put a little patience and just manage.	
2 (IDI)	It's so simple before the traffic enforcer can handle the traffic it is necessary that he will be trained, we will give him basic study, ideas, present City ordinances included the National	
	Laws, Traffic Laws in regards to Republic Act 4136 that is the Traffic Code of the Philippines after the 1 week lecture, we have observe him on his on the spot performance not only	
	apprehension but also on how he manned the traffic once his already in the field at least he already have knowledge on how to handle the traffic.	
	For me at first, for those who apply as Traffic Enforcer they undergo seminars, seminar so that they will be knowledgeable if what are the common violations and then deploy them to	Training for Improvement
5 (FGD)	the field because some of the applicants didn't know what to do so they need to undergo 1 week seminar.	I
	PNP, I tried to apply in Manila before in NCR but unfortunately, I don't have a backer and that time I don't want to initiate on having a backer but at that time its already in that	
1 (IDI)	system, more or less 3 or 4 times I did try to apply in PNP-NCR and I didn't try to apply Region 7 or another unit of PNP.	
	Actually, I'm a Criminologist, I graduated on 2001, I took the board examination on the same year and passed. I attempt to apply in the Airport Police (APD) actually I already joined	Red Tape
2 (IDI)	I'm just waiting for the call but I'm not lucky since the present Director or Manager of the MCIA was replaced together with our application but I'm already an enforcer in the field.	4
	I have a lot of experience as a Criminologist and also a Napolcom passer , for 4 times that I tried to apply in region 7 but that it is sad to say that it is not fit for me because on my	
4 (FGD)	qualification I was failed in the medical because my blood pressure is so high that is why I'm looking for an option I applied to Airport Police Department (APD) but the APD needs	
	endorsement that time just like in the City they need endorsement for Cebu City then the Government that time was Governor Gwen Garcia that needs an endorse from her and sad to	
	say We also got pandemic at our Global Crisis before and the airport is slowing down so I just stay as City Traffic Enforcer, 18 years in the service.	
	When I started here, I'm already over age, I cannot join in other units, there is PDEA but I didn't apply since I was depressed in the "Padrino system" I think I'm just discourage to	Course Advantage
1 (IDI)	apply you will just spend money for nothing that's why I didn't try. I stay here because I already enjoy here as an Inspector in the CTMS.Second, it is related to my course, I'm	
	already 11 years here almost 12 this coming March if they want us to continue then if not, we have nothing to do about it since its more on Political System.	
2 (IDI)	You know I really believe in first line; every people have its own line. Imagine I entered as City Traffic Enforcer since 2002 and our salary is 196 per 8 hours, I have lots of	
	challenges encountered but I didn't never lose the urge to be out of duty. I just like my job it is fit, related to my course until I start to become a City Traffic Enforcer until now it has	
	not been cut off for almost 20years almost 18 years ago I was here I was the longest in our group here.	
	In fact, this traffic enforcer is very fit for us as a Criminologist we already have a background since we have a traffic management subject LEA 4 or what's the name of that subject it	
5 (FGD)	fits to us, regarding to other government agencies although you will be able to join CSU or Civil Security Unit but it's still very different from traffic enforcer because we have a lot,	
	we have a little knowledge since we was an intern we already know about the traffic.	-
	It is very related because we have also been here for a long time because at an old age we will not be accepted by other agencies since we have age limit which is 30 years old so we	
4 (FGD)	stayed here as City Traffic Enforcer in Lapu-Lapu City because for us it is okay than looking for another job	
1 (IDI)	I was Low Moral, but it's just one time before I tried to apply in Manila, I didn't always get the job I always exists so I inevitably become Low Moral you will discourage a little but	A Strong Positive, Self-
	eventually you will recover that it will not be my fate so I concentrate what I have now, I concentrate on what I have at work because it can affect if you keep thinking, I just	
	concentrate so that we can be effective at work and then we can apply a the knowledge we know.	Image
2 (IDI)	From 2006 up to now this is exactly where I am headed for I took it as a challenge this is not a problem and we can't call it a problem, this is a challenge because the traffic is not	
2 (IDI)	really easy this is where you can see, here you can meet all kinds of people from the ordinary up to the highest, those arrogant, we didn't choose when we work all people are equal	
2 (ECD)	needs to be equal even it is a tricycle driver, pedicab driver your approach is just the same.	A Strong Desitive S-16
3 (FGD)	You become Low Moral.	A Strong Positive, Self-
4 (FGD)	Although you become discourage but soon you will cope-up later.	Image
5 (FGD)	Discourage but we have nothing to do but just accept it.	

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## **Table 2. Aspirations**

INFORMANT	STATEMENT	MAIN THEME
1 (IDI)	There is no such thing as a worker, we have to look forward on what we can do good, even in any way as long as it can bring good to us. In the PNP its usually the promotion that is the one, that is the one we are looking forward that we will lift a little and if given a chance that's what we are looking forward that will be benefited with, it is better if we have standard.	Strengthen the Organization
2 (IDI)	Actually the dainty of the organization actually this our CTMS office is under or the mayor's office so for the current administration we have my own plans here the copy code of Towing Ordinance, Clamping Ordinance our very own engineering equipment's we really got it now they give it the transaction is easy once you request they will give it immediately, so our only challenge for now because it would be nice if they could make it as a department, it will be separated it will no longer under of the Mayor's Office separate department and it is complete that there is traffic engineering, we have that we have legal counsel to atleast our office is complete if there are problems it is easy to respond	
5 (FGD)	The CTMS is not an office, it is just a satellite office of the Mayor but it much better if the CTMS will become an office so that it will have called one organization. In our organization in the CTMS there are already 3 E's Education, Enforcement and Engineering we already have that but sad to say there is still no one wants to hold the CTMS since it is not easy and we are trying our best to polish the organization if someone will hold this like the retired police or attorney although we already have attorney that is the only lacking to strengthen the organization and also to improve the foundation of the organization	
1 (IDI)	All I know about traffic I can share to them to my co-workers as an organization what I know that they do not know I just share to them on what to do.	Knowledge is Power
2 (IDI)	Actually, being Criminologist what I learned in school I applied it in the field because the basic is different from actual basic knowledge that you studied has a big help if you apply it formally in your job but, it does not end there once your experience you encounter daily it will add to your knowledge. Actually, I can't do it alone it needs the support of another group, the mayor for us traffic enforcer specially when we talk about operation it is risky. It is very dangerous because some of us have been shot dead, especially we have operations, those clearing operations we have to ask for a back-up from the police because if we don't have back-ups our traffic enforcer will hesitant to apprehend specially because even with others, you cannot just mention another person because there are other people here in groups that if you catch them they will get mad you already know who they are its very dangerous but that is the reality here there are the one who done wrong, they will get angry and threaten you.	
4 (FGD)	It has a big help as a Criminologist our job is just to implement our traffic rules you already know it very well. Second, you can already adjust on different individual you encounter on the road different from others like as what sir said earlier that nothing knows that is why there is a bigger chance if you are a Criminology graduate, we apply on what we learned here in our job. Professional and knowledge already.	
5 (FGD)	Here, it is very big because for us Criminologist it is already an advantage to us, advantage because we already have educational background.	
1 (IDI)	First, it will happen that you need to find for a job and you will apply for it, first is Turn a Living the second as your profession you are passionate of it and you will think of it that is why it combines.	Find a Solution Find a Solution
2 (IDI)	Actually, there are lots of plans but it will never be fulfilled if the traffic now I tell you the vehicles now is getting bigger think of it the vehicles increases everyday but the road didn't increase what will happen to it, the number of vehicles is very high especially during rush hours so we have nothing else to do with you need study what those solutions are. Like now that the number of vehicles increases then we have no new roads to be opened so it will build up if what you saw in actual you need to make a report and recommend it to higher authority if what will be the possible solution if they will put a sky way or a fly over like that atleast solution there is solution because if you will depend on them you have nothing to do you will just look at that, it needs to forward and propose it to higher authority atleast they will have idea. We are lacking in our CTMS groups its not even as big as the DPWH here because they have an obligation on the road. We traffic enforcers need to manned the traffic if there are ideas we can find, a solution we share that's it.	
5 (FGD)	Here is my personal development that I get in the Traffic Enforcer that all drivers will be educate not only in driving they will educate on what are the violations what thing they will not do. Second, those pedestrians that will not dazedly cross the street. Third, those sidewalk vendors that they should put their goods properly in place to keep our traffic flowing. That's what our traffic demands a hassle-free traffic.	
1 (IDI)	Of course, there is a big help because we really have salaries that help interms with the financial needs of the household because that is exactly what we are trying to do for our purpose, so we work to help our family then we can support our daily needs, and in the PNP, usually in the final interview, they will be said actually it is turn a living that is the interview of final board examination one of the qualifications will appear in the final interview. Aside from the fact that you want to join in the service but you also wants to support your family.	Financial Stability Financial Stability
2 (IDI)	Yes of course! There is a big help first of all even if your salary, your salary as the Traffic Enforcer is 408 for 8 hours even with that salary you have a work that You guarantee that you will borrow from someone who will lend you money if you do not have a real job, that's true. Example I say I want to owe you to lend then I have no job of course you're not going to allow me to borrow from you. Your job is stable so you can pay if there are problems come to think of this 196 is my salary before it increases then it reach to 200 plus, it rises to 300 until become 400 plus I don't know if it can even increase more because it is the mayor's plan, there are a lot of police started to work here before, this is their stepping stone, you can apply, at least it will master and sharpen what you know because we have many acquaintances who started here.	
4 (FGD)	A very big help.	
5 (FGD)	Here we stayed longer as a Traffic enforcer first work our daily wage is P196.00-year 2003 that time it is not very expensive yet so we can survive, now our minimum wage P 525.00, our number of days is only 5 days our Saturday and Sunday is overtime so the financial here as Traffic Enforcer It's okay here and its very different from other private companies that rely on overtime only we have exact benefits then our salary is above minimum for only 8hours. After 8 hours you can have part time jobs that can add up to your financial if you are going to private it is true that you will spend 12hours but is it very different from the government that the payment is enough and appropriate.	

decision in accordance with his own needs or desires. The need to enhance their self-esteem and reputation drives these people and they desire their views and ideas to be accepted and implemented over the views and ideas over others. These people are strong leaders and can be best suited to leading positions. They either belong to Personal or Institutional power motivator groups. If they are a personal power motivator, they would have the need to control others and an institutional power motivator seeks to lead and coordinate a team towards an end. The individuals motivated by the need for power have a desire to control and influence others. Competition motivates them and they enjoy winning arguments. Status and recognition are something they aspire for and do not like being on the losing side. They are self-disciplined and expect the same from their peers and teams. They do not mind playing a zero-sum game, where, for one person to win, another must lose and collaboration is not an option. This motivational type is accompanied by needs for personal prestige, and better personal status. The need for affiliation is the urge of a person to have interpersonal and social relationships with others or a particular set of people. They seek to work in groups by creating friendly and lasting relationships and has the urge to be liked by others. They tend to like collaborating with others to competing with them and usually avoids high-risk situations and uncertainty. The individuals motivated by the need for affiliation prefer being part of a group. They like spending their time socializing and maintaining relationships and possess a strong desire to be loved and accepted. These individuals stick to basics and play by the books without feeling a need to change things, primarily due to a fear of being rejected.

### METHODOLOGY

The researchers utilized the qualitative phenomenological research design. The study wasconducted in City Traffic Enforcement Unit's Office specifically in City Traffic Management System (CTMS) located at Purok Gabi, Barangay Gun-ob, Lapu-Lapu City Beside the Bureau of Fire Protection Regional Office VII which composed of 205 traffic enforcers. The researchers chosethe 5 Criminologist as informants who have been already five (5) years from being a Licensed Criminologist and already three (3) years in the service as a City Traffic Enforcer, does not try to apply or no longer qualified to apply in the tri-bureaus. This research interview guide used Two (2) informants participatedIn-Depth Interview while the remaining three (3) informants were subjected in the Focused Group Discussion. Those informants that being interviewed are those have of plenty time who'd share their personal experience. The informants agree for the interview and all the conversation during interview was been recorded by the researchers.

### **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

Table 1 & 2 shows the presentation and analysis of data. The collected data were thoroughly read and patiently analyzed by the researchers. Along the process, the researchers came up with 10 emerging themes based on the challenges and aspirations experienced by the informants in the performance of their duty. The presented themes were based on the response to the sub-problems and are summarized as follows;

Table 1. Based on the result from the gathered statements and the formulated themes mentioned above, the organizational and personal challenges encountered by the informants in the performance of their duties are; Ignorance is no excuse, training for improvement, red tape, course advantage then lastly a strong positive image since they still even though they are discouraged. Based on the result, it relates to the theory of Edward L. Deci and Richard M. Ryan entitled The Self-Determination theory. According to this theory It addresses the social conditions that enhance versus diminish these types of motivation, proposing and finding that the degrees to which basic psychological needs for autonomy, competence, and relatedness are supported affect both the type and strength of motivation. Immanuel Kant's Moral Theoryaccording to this theory the rightness or wrongness of actions does not depend on their consequences but on whether they fulfill our duty. Many actions are permissible but not required by duty are neutral in this way. We should do only those actions that conform to rules that we could be adopted universally. The result from the extracted statement of informants showed their aspirations they want to fulfill as a City Traffic Enforcers in Lapu-Lapu they are looking forward for the better progress not just for themselves but for the society.

#### CONCLUSION

Based upon the interview conducted to the informants, Criminologist City Traffic Enforcers plays an important role in the organization, they motivate themselves despite the challenges they encounter in the performance of their duties and also looking forward at possible good work to develop not only themselves, for family but also the organization to which they belong. This study established the challenges experience and the aspirations of the City Traffic Enforcer and their big contribution even though they didn't able enter the tri-bureau's at least they can still use their profession in other government agencies that are still relevant to their course completed.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the conclusion we the researchers recommend that: Primarily, create training's and compensation plan in motivating not just only for Criminologist City Traffic Enforcers but for the newly hired City Traffic Enforcers as well. This will broaden their knowledge, showcase their skills and improve their mindsets to have a depth understanding to find the best way to become successful. Hopefully the government will enable to come-up with mechanism to best addressed the predicaments and set-back in their profession as Criminologist. Lastly, Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) in directing the Local Government Unit (LGU)and Tri-bureaus under its supervision to give high consideration in the selection of the hiring of Criminologists and provide appropriate benefits and remunerations.

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