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Dionelle Edep Brannon
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Philippine College of Criminology
Graduate School

PLEA BARGAINING AGREEMENT: ITS IMPACT TO DRUG POLICE OPERATIONS IN STA. MESA POLICE STATION - MANILA

A Thesis Presented to

The Faculty of the Graduate School

Philippine College of Criminology

In Partial Fulfillment

of the Requirements for the Degree

Master of Science in Criminal Justice with Specialization in Criminology

By

Dionelle Edep Brannon

July 2024

Approval Sheet

This THESIS entitled **PLEA BARGAINING AGREEMENT: ITS IMPACT TO DRUG POLICE OPERATIONS IN STA. MESA POLICE STATION-MANILA** prepared and submitted by Dionelle Edep Brannon in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Science in Criminal Justice with a Specialization in Criminology, has been examined and is recommended for oral defense.

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Accepted and approved as partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Science in Criminal Justice with Specialization in Criminology.

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Dionelle Edep Brannon
Researcher

Abstract

Plea bargaining in criminal cases is a process whereby the accused and the prosecution work out a mutually satisfactory disposition of the case, subject to court approval (Daan vs. Sandiganbayan, G.R. Nos. 163972-77). The Supreme Court (SC) has issued new guidelines that enhanced and clarified plea bargaining in illegal drug cases where an accused seeks to plead guilty to a lesser offense for a lighter penalty.

The purpose of the study is to assess the impact of plea bargaining agreements on drug police operations in Sta. Mesa Police Station, Manila. The respondents were PNP Personnel of Sta. Mesa Police Station (PS-8) currently and formerly designated as Station Drug Enforcement Unit and selected Barangay Anti-Drug Abuse Council (BADAC) Members wherein persons who availed plea bargaining reside were the respondents of the study.

The area of study was done at Sta. Mesa Police Station (PS-8), Manila. Santa Mesa is a district in Manila, Philippines. It was found out that the PNP Personnel assessed believed that the persons who entered plea bargaining agreements have fully supported the police officers in drug police operations. An operational plan was developed to increase support for the plea bargaining agreement among arrested drug suspects.

Keywords: *Plea Bargaining Agreements, Drug Police Operations, Arrested Drug Suspects, PNP Personnel, BADAC Members.*

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Lastly to my family, you are all my inspiration to keep moving forward. To my wife, thank you very much, I love you so much. My precious gifts, my children this is for all of you.

Dionelle Edep Brannon
Researcher

Dedication

To my parents, Donald Brannon Canonigo and Maria Luisa Edep Ebuenga, who are responsible for my being and allow me to know what is so-called “life”. To my wife Renelda Brannon-Sadoguio, and my children Diorhen Dave Brannon, Ma. Trishia Nhel Brannon, Maria Daniela Kyla Brannon, and Djamiel Brannon gave me inspiration and motivation to pursue my academic journey. I dedicate this thesis to you with gratitude and appreciation.

DEB

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INTRODUCTION

Background of the Study

Illegal drug trafficking is still the most pervasive drug activity in the Philippines and a widespread disease that was hard to believe. Drug traffickers never stop discovering new and various ways to hide their illegal transactions and activities. When President Rodrigo Duterte won the 2016 Philippine Presidential Election on May 9, 2016, with a promising vision to kill tens of thousands of criminals, urging people to kill drug addicts became his number one challenge as he assumed the position.

According to the Philippines Dangerous Drugs Board, in the 2015 National Household Survey, there were around 1.8 million drug users in the Philippines, 38.36% of whom are unemployed. PDEA reported as of February 2016, that 26.91% or 11,321 out of the country's 42,065 barangays were "drug-affected" (mostly in urban areas), A barangay is considered drug-affected when there is a proven existence of drug users, pusher, manufacturer, marijuana cultivator or other drug personalities regardless of number in the area.

On record, NCR has the highest rate of affectation with 92.96% of the region's barangays, followed by CALABARZON at 49.28%.

Based on PDEA's 2015 arrest data, methamphetamine hydrochloride or shabu (90%) reportedly tops the list of most abused illegal drugs, followed by marijuana and costly party drugs like cocaine and ecstasy. The aforecited statistical data is indicative of the worsening drug problem that has victimized mostly the underprivileged and

impoverished sector of society. Although much has already been done and accomplished in the national campaign to eradicate illegal drugs, the problem persists and it continues to breed social ills. Apparently, in the quest to go after high-level drug traffickers, the government seems to have overlooked the worsening drug problem at the grassroots level.

The archipelagic set-up of the Philippines is exploited by traffickers to transport illegal drug-controlled precursors and essential chemicals into the country. The international and local airports and seaports, mail and parcel services and the vast expanse of coastline are being utilized as entry and exit points.

The Supreme Court defined Plea Bargaining in criminal cases as “a process whereby the accused and the prosecution work out a mutually satisfactory disposition of the case subject to court approval. It usually involves the defendant pleading guilty to a lesser offense or only one or some of the counts of a multi-count indictment in return for a lighter sentence than that for the graver charge.”

Moreover, in the case of Santobello v. New York 404 U.S. 257 (1971), the court discussed that after plea discussions between the accused and the prosecution, the disposition of charges is an integral part of the whole process. This case has held that it allows the accused to be released at an earlier date compared to those who are denied release pending trial, while it would also protect the greater public from the accused persons who are habitual delinquents to continue such criminal activities while on pretrial release.

As mentioned in Section 2, Rule 116 of the Rules of Criminal Procedure, Plea Bargaining has two requisites: It should be with the consent of the offended party and the prosecutor; and; When R.A No. 9165 was enacted, it was provided in Section 23 thereof that "any person charged under any provision of this Act (R.A 9165) regardless of the imposable penalty shall not be allowed to avail of the provision on plea bargaining."

Plea bargaining forms part of the Rules on Criminal Procedure, particularly under Rule 118, the rule on pre-trial conference. It is only the Rules of Court promulgated by the Supreme Court pursuant to its constitutional rule-making power that breathes life into plea bargaining. It cannot be found in any statute (Salvador Estipona, Jr y Asuela vs Hon. Franke E Lobrigo, and People of the Philippines G.R No 226679).

The Supreme Court's sole prerogative to issue, amend, or repeal procedural rules is limited to the preservation of substantive rights, *i.e.,* the former should not diminish, increase, or modify the latter (Philippines Constitution Article VIII, Section 5 (5)). "Substantive law is that part of the law which creates, defines and regulates rights, or which regulates the right and duties which give rise to a cause of action; that part of the law which courts are established to administer; as opposed to an adjective or remedial law, which prescribes the method of enforcing rights or obtain redress for their invasions" (Carpio-Morales v. Court of Appeals Sixth Division, supra note 23, at 516-517).

Plea bargaining in criminal cases is a process whereby the accused and the prosecution work out a mutually satisfactory disposition of the case, subject to court approval (Daan vs. Sandiganbayan, G.R. Nos. 163972-77). The Supreme Court (SC) has

issued new guidelines that enhanced and clarified plea bargaining in illegal drug cases where an accused seeks to plead guilty to a lesser offense for a lighter penalty. The SC said a move to plea bargain, which should be done through a proper pleading, is not a right demandable by an accused in an illegal drugs case but is a matter addressed entirely to the sound discretion of the court.

At arraignment, the accused, with the consent of the offended party and the prosecutor, may be allowed by the trial court to plead guilty to a lesser offense which is necessarily included in the offense charged. After arraignment but before the trial, the accused may still be allowed to plead guilty to said lesser offense after withdrawing his plea of not guilty. No amendment of the complaint or information is necessary. The plea of guilt should be to a lesser offense which is necessarily included in the offense charged.

Undeniably, there are still controversy in the application of plea bargaining in drug cases particularly in the absence of the program and clear implementation in relation to fight against proliferation of illegal drugs. Illegal drugs peddlers is far different from bloody crime when it comes to affectation and involve income in illegal trading. A one kilo of shabu which worth of 1.1 to 1.3 million pesos is capable of destroying hundred of life and thousand of family.

In the 2019 budget, the PNP was given 173.5 billion 61.05 million ($ 1.17 billion) for intelligence activities.

For calendar year 2019, the Dangerous Drugs Board has a total allotment of Three Hundred Eighty-Three Million, Five Hundred Fifty-Three Thousand Pesos (P

383,553,000.00). Of this amount, Fifty-Four Million, Nine Hundred Ninety-Eight Thousand (P 54,998,000.00) was allocated for Personnel Services (PS), Two Hundred Twenty-Six Million, Forty-Eight Thousand (P 226,048,000.00) for Maintenance and Other Operating Expenses (MOOE), and Twenty Million, Six Hundred Ninety-Five Thousand (P 20,695,000.00) for Capital Outlay (CO). An allocation of Four Million, Eight Hundred Twelve Thousand (P4,812,000.00) was also provided for Retirement and Life Insurance Premium (RLIP). A Special Fund (SF) Allocation was also given to DDB amounting to Seventy-Seven Million (P 77,000,000.00). This was used to fund the construction and maintenance of Drug Treatment and Rehabilitation Centers and Community-Based Treatment and Rehabilitation Programs.

The purpose of the study is to assess the impact of plea bargaining agreements on drug police operations in Sta. Mesa Police Station, Manila.

International Background

It was remembered that the international drug syndicates use the Philippines as a transit hub for the illegal drug trade. Some local drug syndicates are also involved in the international illegal drug trade, and utilize drug mules to transport small amounts of illegal drugs to other countries. Some oversees Filipino worker have been utilized by drug syndicates as drug mules, either knowingly or unknowingly. Most Filipino drug mules, mainly women, are sent to China, where drug convicts will face execution via lethal injection.

The Ninoy International Airport has been previously identified as a favorable illegal drug trafficking hub. Some Filipinos choose to be involved in drug trafficking due to the promise of a high income. Some still participate in such illicit activity because they are forced by certain circumstances. There were reports in the past that some Filipinos, usually women, were forced and blackmailed by drug syndicates to work as drug couriers, and if they refused, their family's safety would be compromised.

Relative to this, in December 2013, the Philippine National Police – Anti-Illegal Drugs Special Operations Task Force and the Philippine Drug Enforcement confirmed reports that the Mexican Sinaloa Cartel had started operations in the country. Methamphetamine has also been manufactured in North Korea and brought into the Philippines. About nine are involved in most illegal drug trade in the Philippines. It was found out that Chinese drug cartels are behind the trade of drugs in the Philippines.

National Background

The drug problem in the Philippines has primarily been viewed as an issue of law enforcement and criminality, and the government has focused on implementing a policy of criminalization and punishment. When Philippine President Rodrigo R. Duterte assumed office on June 30, 2016, his government launched an unprecedented campaign against illegal drugs “Double Barrel”.

He promised to solve the illegal drug problem in the country, which, according to him, was wreaking havoc on the lives of many Filipino families and destroying the future of the Filipino youth. He declared a “war on drugs” targeting users, peddlers, producers,

and suppliers, and called for the Philippine criminal justice system to put an end to the drug menace. Furthermore, he even theorized the existence of “Narco Politics” in the country, having triumvirate symbolic relationships of Narco Drug Lords, Politicians (national, regional, and local levels alike), and Police Generals in the PNP.

In Sayre v. Judge Xenos, the Supreme Court has aptly explained that “Plea Bargaining is a vital component of restorative justice.” Preferring to work on a court-sanctioned mutually satisfactory resolution of the case over a lengthy and protracted trial benefits both the state and the accused. The Supreme Court further notes that “By shortening the time between the original charge and the disposition, it enhances the rehabilitative prospects and redeeming characteristics of the offender when the trial court approves the Plea Bargain to a lesser offense. “The aim is to rehabilitate, not punish, drug offenders. People v. Borras reminds us that the threat posed by drugs against human dignity and the integrity of society is malevolent and incessant. A pernicious effect is felt not only by the addicts themselves but also by their families. As a result, society's survival is endangered because its basic unit, the family, is the ultimate victim of the drug menace. Rehabilitation is thus key for these offenders’ orderly reintegration into society.

Plea bargaining allows the accused and the prosecution to arrive at a mutually satisfactory disposition of the case, where the defendant pleads guilty to a lesser offense. In 2017, the SC affirmed its ruling that declared unconstitutional the prohibition on plea bargaining in Republic Act 9165, or the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act. However,

the DOJ issued a circular in June 2018 that provided guidelines for plea bargaining for drug cases.

Recidivists, habitual offenders, known drug addicts and troublemakers, persons who underwent rehabilitation but relapsed and who have been charged many times; and when the evidence of guilt is strong, shall not be allowed to enter into plea bargaining if the objection is valid.

Local Background

Sta. Mesa is a district in Manila, Philippines. It is surrounded by the Pasig River on the southwestern side, and by the San Juan River on its southern and eastern sides. Land borders include the districts of San Miguel to the west and Sampaloc to the north, and the northeast is Quezon City.

Santa Mesa was formerly a part of the Sampaloc district, from which it was partitioned and separated after it had its parish in 1911. The parish is now known as Old Sta. Mesa (Poblacion), which extends from Victorino Mapa Street to Magsaysay Boulevard. (formerly known as Santa Mesa Boulevard and Calle Santa Mesa).

The Manila Police District (MPD) is the agency of the Philippine National Police (PNP) responsible for law enforcement in the City of Manila. Formerly known as the Western Police District (WPD), the MPD is under the National Capital Region Police Office (NCRPO), which also handles the Quezon City, Eastern, Northern, and Southern Police Districts. Sta. Mesa Police Station (PS-8) is one of the stations of the Manila Police District.

The Sta. Mesa Police Station (PS-8) covers a total Land Area of about 2.33 KM^2 comprising 7 Zones and divided into 51 Barangays under District VI bounded in the North by PS 4 (Sampaloc Police Station); in the East by the City of San Juan; in the South by PS 10 (Pandacan Police Station); and in the West by PS – 14 (Barbosa Police Station) one of the newly created police stations. As of November 9, 2020, the Manila Police District Activated Station 14 Barbosa Police Station under NAPOLCOM Memorandum Circular No 2019-867 dated November 12, 2019 (Organizational Structure and Staffing Pattern of Manila Police District for the creation of police Station 12-14 and additional Police Community Precinct wherein Palanca PCP and Mendiola Outpost are Area of Police Station 8 before, eventually they were transferred to Police Station 14.

The Sta. Mesa Police Station maintains 3 Police Community Precincts namely: PCP1 P. Avelino, at Plaza Avelino, Sta. Mesa, Manila, PCP 2 Bacood at corner Lubiran St. and Bagumbayan St., Bacood, Sta. Mesa, Manila, and PCP3 V. Mapa at the corner of Peralta St. and V. Mapa St., Sta. Mesa, Manila. The Sta. Mesa area is considered a residential and educational District of the City of Manila. As of July 2021, the total population of Sta. Mesa is 119,386 based on the latest PSA.

It was said that over 2,700 wanted and most wanted persons and 100 criminal gang members were apprehended in the city. The MPD also nabbed 530 suspects during its 512 operations against loose firearms while its campaign against illegal gambling yielded 5,300 suspects. More than 175,935 violators were apprehended for defying other ordinances such as obstruction and going half-naked in public. Through its campaign

against Local Communist Armed Conflict (LCAP), 39 rebels surrendered and were given P107,000 worth of financial assistance.

With the accomplishment report of Sta. Mesa Police Station, it was recorded that from 2019 to the present, there were 618 arrested drug pushers and 1,059 drug users arrested by this police station. Out of this total, 120 have availed of the plea bargain agreement of the court.

In January 2023, the Sta. Mesa Police Station approved the Anti-illegal Drugs IMPLAN (Implementation Plan) to address growing problems in illegal drugs at Sta. Mesa area of responsibility. The said IMPLAN focuses on the Demand and Supply Reduction programs; Neutralization of Drug Groups; Implementation of programs of the Manila Anti-Drug Abuse Office (MADAO); and Internal Cleansing programs. With this strategic plan, the Station Drug Enforcement Unit (PS8-SDEU) seized and confiscated 237.583 grams of Methamphetamine Hydrochloride “Shabu” with a street value of 1,615,564 Php. Also, seized and confiscation 7,896.934 grams of marijuana with a street value of 2,369,080.

Related Literature

Foreign Literature

Attempts to eradicate the drug problem have proven to be a most difficult task for many governments in the global community. It is for this reason why there is a global initiative to bond together in order to address the transshipment and distribution of illegal drugs or the chemicals and precursors being used in the production of Amphetamine Hydrochloride or most commonly known as “shabu” (UNODC Report, 2020).

Mexican drug trafficking organizations (DTOs) are the largest foreign suppliers of heroin, methamphetamine, and cocaine to the United States, according to the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration. Mexican suppliers are responsible for most heroin and methamphetamine production, while cocaine is largely produced in Bolivia, Colombia, and Peru, and then transported through Mexico. Mexican cartels are also leading manufacturers and suppliers of Fentanyl, a synthetic opioid many times more potent than heroin. U.S. seizures of the drug have soared in the last five years.

Calderon declared war on the cartels shortly after taking office in 2006. Over his six-year term, he deployed tens of thousands of military personnel to supplement and, in many cases, replace local police forces. Under his leadership, the Mexican military, with U.S. assistance, captured or killed twenty-five of the top thirty-seven most wanted drug kingpins in Mexico.

Many successful criminal prosecutions in the United States end not with jury trials, but with plea bargains. Plea bargains are agreements between defendants and prosecutors in which defendants agree to plead guilty to some or all of the charges against them in exchange for concessions from the prosecutors. These agreements allow prosecutors to focus their time and resources on other cases, and reduce the number of trials that judges need to oversee.

In plea bargains, prosecutors usually agree to reduce a defendant's punishment. They often accomplish this by reducing the number of charges of the severity of the

charges against defendants. They might also agree to recommend that defendants receive reduced sentences. Some plea bargains require defendants to do more than simply plead guilty. For example, prosecutors often offer favorable plea bargains to defendants who agree to testify for the state in cases against other defendants.

According to the Department of Justice's Bureau of Justice Assistance, "The overwhelming majority (90 to 95 percent) of cases result in plea bargaining." (Legal Information Institute, 2021)

When the Government has a strong case, the Government may offer the defendant a plea deal to avoid trial and perhaps reduce his exposure to a lengthier sentence. A defendant may only plead guilty if they committed the crime and admit to doing so in open court before the judge. When the defendant admits to the crime, they agree they are guilty and they agree that they may be “sentenced” by the judge presiding over the court — the only person authorized to impose a sentence. Sometimes the Government will agree, as part of a plea agreement, not to recommend an enhanced sentence (such as additional time in prison for certain reasons) but it is left up to the judge to determine how the defendant will be punished. If a defendant pleads guilty, there is no trial, but the next step is to prepare for a sentencing hearing (Offices of the United States Attorneys, 2022).

The traditional image of a criminal trial has become all but obsolete in the American legal system. The overwhelming majority of criminal convictions (over 90 percent) result

from plea bargains. Their prevalence has arisen as a matter of necessity for many prosecutors and judges since the criminal justice system has become overburdened and inefficient. In a plea bargain, the defendant and the prosecutor reach an agreement in which the defendant pleads guilty or no contest in exchange for concessions by the prosecutor. These might involve a reduction in the level of the charge, a recommendation for a lenient sentence, or a reduction in the number of charges if the defendant is facing multiple charges.

Many people believe that plea bargains are an improper shortcut that denies a defendant their right to have their voice heard in court. However, they are firmly entrenched in the system. Defendants often appreciate the ability to arrange a result that allows them to move forward with their lives and avoid the uncertainty of a trial (Justia, 2019).

For every person who cites a benefit of the plea-bargaining process, there is another who claims abuse. Since the guilty plea accounts for approximately 95 percent of all criminal convictions in the United States, it is important to consider both aspects of negotiating plea agreements and the impact that such bargaining has on all involved parties. The most obvious benefit is the savings in time and expense to the parties, the court, and the public. In numerous cases, the defendant may benefit from the plea-bargaining process because he receives a lighter sentence for pleading guilty to a lesser offense. The defendant, his family, and the victim are spared the public trial and

accompanying emotional trauma. The prosecutor may benefit as well, as he is burdened with proving guilt beyond a reasonable doubt, a task which is frequently difficult because of constitutional restraints. Finally, the plea agreement may include a promise by the defendant to testify against a co defendant or to assist the government in the discovery of others engaged in criminal activities. Along with benefits, however, there are abuses in the process, most of which have an adverse impact on the defendant. The process may result in waivers by defendants of their constitutional rights, unequal representation by counsel, the threat of unequal sentencing, and the possibility that guilty pleas will be entered by innocent defendants. The prevalence of plea-bargaining abuses in the Federal courts may be curtailed by the amendments to rule 11 which require the judge to develop on the record the factual basis for the plea. In addition, the judge must be assured that the plea was made knowingly and without coercion before he accepts it. Moreover, courts are not required to accept any plea agreements. Various proposals for reform of the plea-bargaining system have been made, such as requiring plea screening before an investigative magistrate before the actual bargaining session. It is suggested herein that rejection of all plea bargains could result in driving the process back underground. Footnotes are included in the article (University of Arkansas at Little Rock Law Journal, 1979).

Local Literature

The Philippine government enacted the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002 otherwise known as the Republic Act 9165, which repealed the Anti-Dangerous Drugs Board Act of 1972 or Republic Act 6425. The new law provides for stiffer penalties, the maximum of which is the imposition of death for illegal drug possession and pushing depending on the act and volume of the drug seized but, at the same time, seeks to protect the country's youth. The Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002 strengthened and revitalized the Dangerous Drugs Board (DDB) and established the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) as the sole and dedicated entity tasked with the enforcement of Republic Act 9165.

Under Section 77, Article IX of the Republic Act 9165, the Dangerous Drugs Board shall be the policy-making and strategy-formulating body in the planning and formulation of policies and programs on drug abuse prevention and control. The Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) is the law enforcement and implementing arm of the Dangerous Drugs Board (DDB), which integrated and unified all drug law enforcement agencies in the county. Despite the passage of R.A. 9165, considered one of the toughest anti-narcotics laws in Asia for its penalties for violators, including the imposition of the death penalty on drug offenders, enormous problem on illegal drugs remains and continue to gain grounds and strongholds from slum poverty-stricken areas to elite and posh villages in the metropolis and nearby provinces.

Drug dependence does not stand as a problem. This social menace has unfortunately become interlaced with poverty, lack of access to opportunities and socioeconomic services, and unfair trade practices. The cultivation of the narcotic crop, cannabis sativa, is rooted more in poverty than the sheer wants to traffic drugs. Neutralizing syndicates, saving cultivators, and at the same time uprooting cultivation sites call for a program that seems the interconnections of drug trafficking and poverty.

Drug syndicates have been producing methamphetamine in small-scale and kitchen-type laboratories to avoid detection by the Philippine authorities since 2010. Usually, drug syndicates rent warehouses for use as drug laboratories. These syndicates have moved towards renting houses in private subdivisions, condominiums and apartments to be used as bases for their illegal drug production. Private properties are becoming more favorable to drug syndicates as sites of illegal drug production.

Methamphetamine remains more feasible to sell in the Philippines than cocaine, a more costly illegal drug. Owing to its geographical location, international drug syndicates use the Philippines as a transit hub for the illegal drug trade. Some local drug syndicates are also involved in the international illegal drug trade, and utilize drug mules to transport small amounts of illegal drugs to other countries. Some overseas Filipino workers have been utilized by drug syndicates as drug mules, either knowingly or unknowingly. Most Filipino drug mules, mainly women, are sent to China, where drug convicts will face

execution via lethal injection. The Ninoy Aquino International Airport has been identified as a favorable illegal drug trafficking hub.

Some Filipinos choose to be involved in drug trafficking due to the promise of a high income. Some still participate in such illicit activity because they are forced by certain circumstances. There were reports in the past that some Filipinos, usually women, were forced and blackmailed by drug syndicates to work as drug couriers, and if they refused, their family's safety would be compromised.

The government cannot just simply let go, undertake deliberate and drastic moves to address the problem before it goes out of hand. The country has sufficient resources to combat the drug problem, community participation is very crucial as it will determine whether it will fail or succeed. But the government cannot simply pinpoint the community as it encompasses everything. It is therefore proper and timely to focus on the Filipino family and empower them being the basic social institution of our society,

It is hard to get reliable figures on the extent of drug abuse in the Philippines, though it is undoubtedly rampant.

Last October 2022, a certain Police Master Sgt. Rodolfo Mayo Jr described by the Philippines's media as the nation's best policeman in the drug enforcement group—was arrested in an operation that included the confiscation of almost a ton of shabu worth 6.7 billion pesos (or $122.4 million). It was, according to Interior Secretary Benjamin "Benhur" Abalos, the biggest drug haul in the nation's history. At least another 10 police officers

have been suspended from duties in the resulting investigation. A spokesperson for the Philippine National Police said the drugs had been in a stockroom and were either imported from China or had come from previous police operations where shabu had been seized (Recuenco, 2023).

President Marcos keeps telling foreign leaders that he's ready to improve the human rights situation in the Philippines, but this is not to happen so long as the police kill suspected drug users with impunity," said Phil Robertson, deputy Asia Director at Human Rights Watch. Marcos has a golden opportunity to prove that he is serious about human rights by ordering the end of the 'drug war.' (Https://www.hrw.org/news/2022).

"Overemphasis on a single aspect of the Philippines' war on drugs – the death toll – clouds international perceptions of President Rodrigo Duterte's signature campaign. Less publicized by the media is the health dimension of the campaign. Five months after commencing the crackdown, the government opened the country's biggest drug rehabilitation facility. By the end of 2018, three more regional rehabilitation centers had been built, with plans to construct more. Developing and running effective rehabilitation programs also presents opportunities to work with local and international partners. Nevertheless, official figures suggest that killing is not the campaign's key objective. While every life is sacred and every person deserves due process under the law, the figures demonstrate that the arrest of suspects, rescue of minors and seizure of drugs are the primary aims of the operations" -Lucio Blanco Pitlo III (2019).

Barangay ASTIG is founded on the guiding principles of the DDB Board Resolution No.12, Series of 2004 which states: A barangay or community would only be cleared from the problem of drug use and abuse if all four independent variables namely: mobilization of the community, actual clearing operation, empowerment of the community, sustainable development and self-reliance and self-policing are all present in the Barangay Clearing Operation Program, One variable without the others will result to the failure in making a drug-free barangay.

The Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA), through Republic Act of 9165 otherwise known as the “Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002”, was created and is mandated to lead the enforcement of the law on anti-narcotics. Along with Local Government Units, other government duty-bearers/stakeholders and Non-Government Organizations, PDEA enjoins collaborative and multi-stakeholder approaches towards a drug-cleared and/or drug-free status of communities through the institutionalization of Barangay Drug Clearing Program (BDCP).

To accelerate efforts against the proliferation of illegal drugs in drug-affected barangays, the government has adopted an integrated approach in securing the assistance of the local government units in drug-clearing operation.

The “pre-operation phase” starts with laying groundwork and bases for effective and sustainable clearing operations. House clusters are to be organized with designated cluster leader in each barangay, who will directly report to the Barangay Anti-Drug Abuse

Council (BADAC) Chairperson all essential facts of any illegal drug activities within his/her cluster such as names of pushers or users, marijuana cultivation activities, clandestine laboratory operations, and other drug-related data. City or municipal anti-drug abuse council and local police unit will then formulate and validate a watch list of drug personalities in every barangay.

Moreover, the “operation phase” is the actual implementation of drug supply and demand reduction strategies in priority drug-affected barangays.

Meanwhile, the “post-operation phase” aims to maintain the “drug-cleared” status of barangays, through support activities to be funded from the general fund of a barangay.

In a study made by Cabangan (2019), DILG Memorandum Circular 2015-63 and 2017-03 mandates all barangays in every local government to establish its Barangay Anti-Drug Abuse Council (BADAC) which shall render assistance to the law enforcement agencies in the eradication and clearing operations of illegal drugs. In this study, the BADAC of Cabagan, Isabela was investigated. Specifically, the following variables were examined: the extent of implementation of the BADAC in the three-phases of the anti-drug clearing operations; functionality of the council, and identified problems experienced by the BADAC in the implementation of the drug clearing operations. A total of 643 consisting of 196 BADAC and 447 community residents served as respondents. Descriptive design was used to analyze and interpret the data.

Synthesis of the Related Literature

The plea, in criminal procedure, is entered by the accused when the criminal information containing the offense charged is read during the arraignment; it may either be a plea of guilty or a plea of not guilty. If the accused enters a plea of guilty, he acknowledges the commission of the crime. With this, the judge will proceed to render a judgment and sentence the accused, unless it is a capital offense.

On the other hand, if a plea of not guilty is entered by the accused he denies the commission of the offense. This will prompt the judge to proceed to pre-trial, trial, and promulgation of judgment based on the evidence presented by the parties. In simpler words, the accused will go through a full-blown trial of the case to prove his innocence.

A plea of guilty to a lesser offense is a type of plea of guilty. It is when the accused, with the consent of the offended party and prosecutor, may be allowed by the trial court to plead guilty to a lesser offense which is necessarily included in the offense charged (Section 2, Rule 116, Revised Rules of Criminal Procedure). The period to enter this type of plea of guilty is from arraignment to pre-trial; and in some exceptional circumstances during trial. In this instance, the accused may be allowed to plead guilty to the lesser offense after withdrawing his previous plea of not guilty (Section 2, Rule 116, Revised Rules of Criminal Procedure).

Plea bargaining in criminal cases is a process whereby the accused and the prosecution work out a mutually satisfactory disposition of the case, subject to court approval. It usually involves the defendant [accused] pleading guilty to a lesser offense or to only one or some of the counts of a multi-count indictment in return for a lighter

sentence than that of the graver charge (People v. Reofor, G.R. No. 247575, November 16, 2020).

Examples of offenses that can be subject to the plea of guilty to a lesser offense are qualified theft to theft; murder to homicide; grave slander to simple slander; or frustrated homicide to serious physical injuries. It may be observed from the examples given that while the offenses have similar elements, the element that will make the offense more grave is absent or harder to prove.

Related Studies

Foreign Studies

In 2012, Gauthier, J. et al. said that it has now become a sight to see many young children as well as adults using illicit drugs such as shabu, marijuana, ecstasy, cough syrup, rugby, and glue. Researchers conducted by the Dangerous Drug Board (DDB) reveal that a high percentage of such major crimes, hold-ups, robberies, rapes, homicides, and murders are violent acts that relate to and are linked to persons under the influence of drugs. One may not be a pusher nor an addict but he is not free from the threats of drug problems as addicts might at any point in time rob, burglarize, and even kill them in their search of money to sustain their drug habits.

The Philippines has a long history of illegal drugs. Opium trade between the Philippines and China flourished during the Spanish period, under the auspices of the Spanish government monopoly. After the Spanish defeat and the transfer of power to the

Americans, civil Governor William Howard Taft proposed the reinstitution of opium through a law passed by the Philippine Assembly, whose profits to be derived therefrom would be used to finance the education of the Filipinos. US President Franklin Roosevelt, at the prodding of the cause-oriented groups both in the Philippines and the United States, rejected this proposal, and he used the tainted money for a legitimate purpose. The Philippine assembly went on to prohibit the use of opium except for medicinal purposes. The use of opium was rightly and strictly denied to all natural-born Filipinos. However, non-Filipinos mostly Chinese who were the primary users and traders of this drug and were formerly allowed to use opium for recreational purposes were granted a three-year weaning period. The United States certified that the Philippines was a drug-free colony at least some time in the early 1930s out of 42, 979 barangays in the country, 6020 or 14 percent are classified as drug-affected areas. It also shows that 70 percent of major and heinous crimes committed are associated with illegal drugs. If we go by the number, the government can't rehabilitate all drug offenders as our rehabilitation centers nationwide can only accommodate 6000 drug patients at a given time (Amnesty International, 2017).

According to the speech of Hilario Davide III (Rinen, 2019) Cebu Provincial Anti-Drug Abuse Council (CPADAO) was created to serve as a lead coordinating agency in the province of Cebu. It assists the Office of the Governor and the Sangguniang Panlalawigan in developing effective and efficient anti-drug abuse programs. The Cebu Provincial Government maintained a partnership with the private sector, civil society, and

non-government organizations, the Department of Education, and regional offices of the Dangerous Drugs Board-Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency, the Department of Justice, and the PNP's Cebu Provincial Police Office in pursuit of anti-drug abuse programs in the entire province. At Cebu Provincial Detention and Rehabilitation Center, the provincial government provides opportunities to the inmates through programs that include the provision of livelihood projects and access to education through the Alternative Learning System. Being well-known for having dancing inmates, the CPDRC now has boxing teams, a bakeshop, and an auto repair shop. If these reforms are sustained, the living conditions of inmates will continuously improve.

Local Studies

The Philippine drug war known as the War on Drugs, is the intensified anti-drug campaign of the administration of former President Rodrigo Duterte who served office from June 30, 2016, to June 30, 2022. The campaign reduced drug proliferation in the country (Valente, 2022) but has been marred by extra judicial killings allegedly perpetrated by the police and unknown assailants (Caliwan, 2022). An estimated 7,742 civilians have been killed in "anti-drug operations" carried out by the government and its supporters between 2016 and 2021.

In a study made by Silvio et al (2019), the police organization must maintain the momentum in tracking down and dismantling the operations of drug offenders get what they deserve – conviction in court. In so doing, the police organization may win public

support and cooperation in the anti-drug efforts. With the credibility intact, we can be assured of total support from various sectors of the community and together with them, it will be able to form a formidable army in the war against illegal drugs.

Prior to his presidency, Duterte cautioned that the Philippines was at risk of becoming a narco state and vowed the fight against illegal drugs would be relentless (Buenaventura, 2023) He has urged the public to kill drug addicts. The anti-narcotics campaign has been condemned by media organizations and which reported staged crime scenes where police allegedly execute unarmed drug suspects, planting guns and drugs as evidence.

The anti-narcotics campaign has been condemned by media organizations and human rights groups which reported staged crime scenes where police allegedly execute unarmed drug suspects, planting guns and drugs as evidence. Philippine authorities have denied misconduct by police.

Duterte has since admitted to underestimating the illegal drug problem when he promised to rid the country of illegal drugs within six months of his presidency, citing the difficulty in border control against illegal drugs due to the country's long coastline and lamented that government officials and law enforcers themselves were involved in the drug trade.

In 2022, Duterte urged his successor Bongbong Marcos who won the 2022 Philippine Presidential election, to continue the war on drugs in "his own way" to protect

the youth (Cervantes, 2022). Marcos declared his intention to continue the anti-narcotics campaign, focusing more on prevention and rehabilitation (Patag, 2022).

The Philippine National Police manages OPLAN Double Barrel as part of its involvement in President Rodrigo Duterte's campaign against illegal drugs in the Philippines. It consists of two main components: OPLAN Tokhang and OPLAN HVT (Talabong, 2019).

Tokhang is characterized as the lower barrel approach while HVT which stands for high value targets is described as the police's high barrel approach (Cahiles, 2019). The operation was launched in 2016 (ABS CBN News).

The Philippine police temporarily suspended its operations in October 2017 after a directive by President Duterte amidst reports of abuse by the police with the PDEA taking over as the leading agency against illegal drug activities in the Philippines. The police resumed operations in January 2018 with the police officially playing a supporting role to PDEA in Duterte's campaign (Cahiles, 2019).

Synthesis of the Related Studies

It does seem that illegal drug use is on the rise, and this has worrying implications for the future. There is an urgent need to educate young people as to the dangers of drug use, and there is also a great need to help those who are already addicted escape their misery. Failure to do this could mean there will be further deterioration within many Filipino communities.

Addiction can develop very easily and the consequences of substance abuse can cause serious problems in a person's life also harming the lives of their loved ones. Unfortunately, when a person's addicted to drugs or alcohol attaining a clean and sober lifestyle isn't nearly as easy to achieve as some may think.

The chosen topic for this research specifically concerns the welfare of the drug suspects as well as the persons in authority. Related literature and studies indicated proof that different programs, operations, and studies have been done and are continuously introduced in their respective countries to fight and eliminate drug dependency and business trading. In the review of literature and studies both published and unpublished materials related to anti-illegal drug campaigns claimed that the implementation of any drug operations program should have a period of preparation and budgeting.

Under President Rodrigo Duterte, the program of war on drugs has been launched to neutralize illegal drug personalities in the country, repress their illegal drug transactions, and eradicate any crimes caused by the usage of illegal drugs nationwide. As a result of this program, many drug pushers and users have been arrested, some are unintentionally killed because of resisting arrests and the number of police died in police drug operations. The present administration has also been criticized for violation of human rights for numerous extra-judicial killings blamed on the members of the PNP. With this effort, the crime rate dramatically decreased as compared to the previous administration and it was deemed a success for the PNP organization.

But despite the strong determination of the PNP to make the nation free from drugs, it is still not enough to prevent illegal drug transactions in the country. Some reasons may be considered for the continuous drug trafficking that challenges the capacity of the PNP organization. The main cause is the corruption, that even drug items are easily imported from other countries. Surprisingly, tons of drugs simply enter without the chance of being caught by the authorities, putting the accomplishments of the police to waste. Another factor that adds to the drug problem is the weak implementation of laws by the government in dealing with drug trafficking in the country. As compared to other countries, the Philippines has the most lenient punishment when illegal drug violations are considered. To make it strong, Death Penalty should be implemented especially for those who were involved in large illegal drug transactions. This strict legal base for preventing illegal drugs in the country may serve as a strong warning for the drug lords and protectors to turn back their intentions and corrupt the government for the accomplishment of their motives.

The PNP is the main responsible for the enforcement of laws but with the support of the government, it may be easier for the PNP to accomplish its vision of a safer place to live, work, and do business.

Theoretical Framework

The study was anchored on the theory used by Richard Lorren Jolly (2021).

Settlement is a term rarely used in criminal law. Instead, people speak almost exclusively of plea bargaining—i.e., enforceable agreements in which a defendant

promises to plead guilty in exchange for a prosecutor's promise to seek leniency in charging or at sentencing. But a traditional plea agreement is just the most visible instance of a much broader class of possible criminal settlement agreements. In terms of their fundamentals, criminal settlements are indistinguishable from their civil counterparts: through either an atomized or comprehensive bargain, parties exchange what they have for what they want, advancing their respective interests in cost minimization, risk mitigation, and value maximization. Focusing only on a defendant's promise to plead guilty discounts the diversity and complexity of the agreements into which defendants and prosecutors may and regularly do enter. This Article advances a comprehensive framework of criminal settlement—one that leverages incomplete or partial settlements as an analytical frame that stretches beyond mere plea bargaining. As in the civil context, criminal settlements need not resolve disputes outright but may instead limit or redefine a dispute in a way that the parties find mutually beneficial. A crucial difference in the criminal context, however, is that these bargains necessarily take place in the shadow of judicial discretion that regulates access to the state's power to punish. Consequently, prosecutors and defendants may agree to reshape procedures, issues, and potential outcomes in order to constrain or influence judicial decision-making in ways that are congruent with their respective interests. But judges are not passive in this landscape. They, too, may act strategically to prompt the bargains we ultimately observe. By modeling this interplay between parties and judges, this Article fashions a more complete picture of the motivations, consequences, and policy implications of criminal settlement.

Plea bargaining has been widely used in criminal cases as an agreement to avoid lengthy trial or to employ lesser sentence. It is defined as the disposition of criminal charges by agreement between the prosecutor and the accused where the mutually satisfactory disposition in a criminal case is employed subject to court's approval. This is in consonance to the definition and basis laid down in section 2, Rule 115 of the Revised Rules of Criminal Procedure.

The Supreme Court, through guidelines issued in recent years, has allowed plea bargaining in drug cases under specific circumstances. This is particularly true for lesser amounts of drugs, where the accused may plead guilty to a lesser offense than originally charged.

The purpose in allowing plea bargaining in drug cases, especially for minor offenses, is to decongest the courts and provide a mechanism for repentant offenders to reform without the heavy consequence of longer detention. Plea bargaining can expedite case resolution, it must be handled carefully to avoid undermining the objectives of the Dangerous Drugs Act, which aims to rigorously combat the drug problem in the Philippines.

Plea bargaining in cases involving Sections 5 and 11of the dangerous Drugs act is legally permissible under certain conditions in Sta. Mesa Police Station, focusing on the amount of drugs and the specifics of the cases. Drug suspects work closely with legal counsel to understand their options and the implications of entering a plea bargain. The

judicial system continues to balance the need for efficient justice with the stringent requirements of drug regulations.

Conceptual Framework

This study utilized the Conceptual Framework as the basis of analysis. Each phase of the system is a box containing the variables, process, and results of the study. The framework is composed of three important steps.

The first box is to assess the impact of plea bargaining on drug police operations at PS-8 in terms of supply reduction, demand reduction, arrest of suspected drug offenders, internal cleansing, and cooperation of LGUs. Further, the testing of difference between the police officers and arrested drug suspects' assessment on the impact of plea-bargaining agreements on drug police operation at Sta. Mesa Police Station in terms of the aforementioned variables and the level of seriousness of the problems encountered by arresting officers in encouraging arrested drug suspects to enter plea bargaining agreements are also included in the first box.

The second box included the data gathering used in the study: survey questionnaire, interview and documentary analysis.

Third, the output of this study was to develop programs to increase support for the plea-bargaining agreement among arrested drug suspects, and the fourth box is the impact of the program towards an enhance plea bargaining.

These four (4) boxes are all related to the process of a plea-bargaining agreement.

Figure 1

Conceptual Framework

Significance of the Study

This study will be meaningful and beneficial to the following:

Philippine National Police may be provided with significant inputs in restructuring and modifying the current operational procedures in drugs to be implemented nationwide. This study may also help police officers who were assigned to drug units to easily bring up their concerns in the conduct of drug operations.

The Prosecution and Court will be informed of the impact of plea-bargaining agreements on drug suspects. From this, they can modify or create rules that will be more helpful to drug suspects.

Local Government Units may be afforded relevant information on how to establish a harmonious relationship between the local government personnel and the PNP in the attainment of the same vision. It may also serve as a reference tool to support the fight against illegal drugs at the barangay level, hence will result in fewer drug pushers and users.

The Community may utilize the findings of this study to fight against illegal drugs and criminality. Promote a more peaceful environment that may lead to the economic development of the community. Youth will be properly informed of the various adverse effects of drugs, further encouraging them to refrain from exploring them. To the drug victims, they may have the opportunity to be rehabilitated. The public to be educated

regarding the concept of drug operations and the role of everyone in eradicating drugs in the country.

Arrested Drug Suspects and their Families. With the outcome of this study, the first people who will benefit from this study are the drug suspects and their families. It may result in more humanitarian, peaceful, and cooperative drug operations.

Masters Students with the output of this research, students may be inspired to conduct studies that will be useful to improve the organization they are working with. This will be an eye-opener for them to look into the strengths and weaknesses of the organization they belong to.

Researchers may serve as a basis for other researchers, especially in the study of illegal drugs, and look at the deeper impact of plea-bargaining agreements. It may also provide them with additional knowledge and skills during the conduct of the study. Further, this study may be used as a reference for conducting research in the future.

Definition of Terms

To establish a common frame of reference, the following terms are hereby defined in the context by which they were used in this study.

Anti-Drug Watch Groups refer to any citizen-based community groups or people's organizations whose primary purpose is to conduct anti-illegal drug intelligence

operations and reporting as well as to actively participate in community activities against illegal drug use, abuse, and trafficking in their respective communities.

Arrest of Suspected Drug Suspects to take or keep in custody by authority of law. The suspect is being arrested for the alleged commission of a violation of RA 9165.

Buy Bust Operation is a police operation used in anti-drugs campaign wherein a police purchase drugs from a suspected drug pusher through the use of marked money to establish the drug-pushing activities of the suspect in flagrante delicto and justify arrest without warrant.

A campaign is a series of military operations intended to achieve a particular objective, confined to a particular area, or involving a specified type of fighting.

Cooperation of LGUs and NGOs Active cooperation of LGUs and NGOs with the PNP in making their respective areas a drug-free community.

Coordination stage refers to coordinating with the government agencies, stakeholders, and non-government organizations before the conduct of actual house-to-house visitations.

Dangerous Drugs include those listed in the schedules annexed to the 1961 Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, as amended by the 1972 Protocol, and in the Schedules annexed to the 1971 Single Convention on Psychotropic Substances.

Demand Reduction refers to efforts aimed at reducing the public desire for illegal and illicit drugs.

Double Barrel PNP Anti-Illegal Drugs Campaign Plan with a two-pronged approach: Upper and lower barrel.

Drug Affected Barangay has reported the presence of drug users, pushers, manufacturers, marijuana, cultivators, or other drug personalities, drug dens, marijuana plantations, clandestine laboratories, and facilities related to the production of illegal drugs.

Drug Cleared Barangay is hereby amended to classify as previously drug-affected and subjected to drug-clearing operations and declared free from any illegal drug activities.

Drug Enforcement Unit is the unit of the PNP that spearheads the implementation of OPLAN Double Barrel in every city and municipality.

Drug Syndicate is any organized group of two (2) or more persons forming or joining together to commit any offense prescribed under this Act.

Drug Users refers to a person who either regularly or occasionally uses or consumes illegal drugs like marijuana, shabu, ecstasy, and other dangerous or prohibited drugs.

House to House Visitation Stage is the house-to-house visitations of suspected drug personalities.

Internal Cleansing refers to an anti-illegal drug strategy that involves the arrest and prosecution of PNP personnel who are engaged in unlawful activities such as, but not limited to, illegal arrest, illegal detention, hulidap, bangketa/areglo or case fixing, recycling of confiscated drugs, and planting of evidence, bungling of drug cases, or acting as protectors, coddlers, and financiers of drug personalities. It also includes the continuous drug testing of all PNP personnel and the filing of appropriate charges against those who will be found positive.

Monitoring and Evaluation Stage is the continuous drug activities persist despite the house-to-house visitations, immediate arrest and filling of appropriate criminal charges against persons will be initiated. Weekly monitoring of drug personalities and their whereabouts.

Operational Procedures refer to science and art aimed at getting an advantageous position, a careful plan or method for achieving an end.

Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) is the lead agency created under RA 9165 to implement the policies, and provisions of RA 9165 it is the law enforcement arm of the Dangerous Drugs Board.

Plea Bargaining Agreement in law, is the practice of negotiating an agreement between the prosecution and the defense whereby the defendant pleads guilty to a lesser offense or (in the case of multiple offenses) to one or more of the offenses charged in exchange for more lenient sentencing, recommendations, a specific sentence, or a dismissal of other charges. The processing and Documentation Stage pertains to the voluntary surrenderers being required to fill out a Voluntary Surrender Form, subscribed under oath before a notary public. Any person suspected to be involved in illegal drug trafficking who denies or refuses the house-to-house visitation will be referred to Anti-Illegal Drug Units for immediate case build-up and negation, and in the absence of suspected drug personality, immediate kins or guardians shall be notified about the purpose of the visit.

Provincial/City/Municipal/Barangay Anti-Drug Abuse Councils (ADACs) and Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) coordinated with the PNP in the conduct of Project Tokhang in all drug-affected barangays throughout the country.

Republic Act 9165 also known as Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002. It is the policy of the State to safeguard the integrity of its territory and the well-being of its citizenry particularly the youth, from the harmful effects of dangerous drugs on their physical and mental well-being, and to defend the same against acts or omissions detrimental to their development and preservation.

Supply Reduction is suppression of the flow or trafficking of illegal drugs through the conduct of sustained anti-illegal drug operations such as buy-bust, search and seizure, mobile checkpoint operation, airport/seaport interdiction, controlled delivery, undercover operation, narcotics investigation, barangay clearing operations, and other similar police operations.

Watchlist lists of people or members of organizations submitted by the BADAC and PDEA for Background Investigation and identified as related to drug activities or operations.

Statement of the Problem

The study assessed the impact of plea-bargaining agreements on drug police operations at Sta. Mesa Police Station (PS-8), Manila from year 2019 to present. Specifically, the has answered the following problems:

1. What is the impact of the plea bargaining agreement on drug police operations at Sta. Mesa Police Station (PS-8) as assessed by respondents in terms of:

    1.1 supply reduction;

    1.2 demand reduction;

    1.3 arrest of suspected drug offenders;

    1.4 internal cleansing; and

    1.5 cooperation between LGUs and NGOs.

2. What are the differences of the respondents' assessment on the impact of plea-bargaining agreements on drug police operation at Sta. Mesa Police Station in terms of the aforementioned variables?

3. What is the level of seriousness of the problems encountered in arresting drug suspects to enter plea bargaining agreements?

4. What enhance operational procedure may be recommended in order to increase support for the plea-bargaining agreement among arrested drug suspects?

METHODOLOGY

Research Design

The research method used in this study is the descriptive design since this study aimed to assess the impact of plea-bargaining agreements on drug police operations at Sta. Mesa Police Station (PS-8), Manila.

According to Calmorin (2010), descriptive type of research aims to describe events, phenomena situations, practices, processes, and trends developing.

Furthermore, Macaballug (2012) stressed that descriptive type of research also involves the process of obtaining, classifying, analyzing, and allotting data about situations, processes, practices, and trends that may be interpreted meaningfully. It is less expensive and time-consuming. It collects a large amount of data for detailed study.

As it is used to describe and not make any conclusions it is easier to start the research with and it can identify further areas of study.

Research Method

This study developed through a qualitative and quantitative approach involving the presentation of obtained information, analysis of relevant data to the subject of research, and discussion of the subject with the respondents.

Population of the Study

The respondents were PNP Personnel of Sta. Mesa Police Station (PS-8) currently and formerly designated as Station Drug Enforcement Unit and selected Barangay Anti-Drug Abuse Council (BADAC) Members wherein persons who availed plea bargaining reside were the respondents of the study.

Locale of the Study

The area of study is Sta. Mesa Police Station (PS-8), Manila. Santa Mesa is a district in Manila, Philippines. It is surrounded by the Pasig River on the southwestern side, and by the San Juan River on its southern and eastern sides. Land borders include the districts of San Miguel to the west and Sampaloc to the north, and the northeast is Quezon City.

Santa Mesa was formerly a part of the Sampaloc district, from which it was partitioned and separated after it had its parish in 1911. The parish is now known as Old Sta. Mesa (Poblacion), which extends from Victorino Mapa Street to Magsaysay Boulevard. (formerly known as Santa Mesa Boulevard and Calle Santa Mesa).

Figure 2. Geographical Map of Sta. Mesa

Scope and Limitation of the Study

The period of the study was conducted for the calendar year 2019 to 2023 at Sta. Mesa Police Station (PS-8) not including other Police Stations in Manila. It focus on the impact of plea-bargaining agreements on drug police operations at Sta. Mesa Police Station (PS-8), Manila from year 2019 to 2023.

Data Gathering Tool/s

This research make use of the following instruments and techniques. Survey Questionnaire, Interview and Documentary Analysis. Notes taking was also done by the researcher while making observations at the Sta. Mesa Police Station. Special attentions was focus on the work procedures, particularly the determination in apprehending drug related cases offenders. The personnel likewise observed for these men is familiar in the implementation of BADAC in their area of responsibility.

Data Gathering Procedure

The following instruments were used in this study:

1. Questionnaire. A researcher-made questionnaire was used by the researcher to answer the statement of the problems. The questionnaire are compose items that describe the respondents' assessment.

Construction. In constructing the questionnaire, the researcher was guided by the ideas that was drawn from literature and studies. The concepts and theories from the literature and studies were utilized as a guide in the formulation of the questions.

Validation. After the drafting the questionnaire, it was presented to the adviser for comments and suggestion. All corrections were incorporated to the final draft of the questionnaire. It was tried out to five PNP Personnel of the Sta. Mesa Police Station (PS-8) to find out items that needed revision. The respondents were not anymore included in the final conduct of the study.

Administration and Retrieval. The researcher sought approval to the Station Commander, Sta. Mesa Police Station (PS-8), and Barangay Chairmen of the selected barangay. Questionnaires were administered personally to assure greater percent of retrieval and for explanation of items for reliable and complete filling of the items of the said instrument.

2. Semi-Structured Interview was used in this study. It sought to gather information that satisfied the problems of the study. It also has been viewed as a

qualitative research strategy to test validity through the convergence of information from selected sources.

Treatment of the Data

The study used the following statistical treatment.

1. Weighted Mean was used in the study. Weigh/range scale and verbal interpretations was used. The weighted mean score was obtained using this formula:

$$W x = \frac{f x}{N}$$

where: f x - Sum of the product of the frequency

N - number of respondents

Statements on the questionnaire were answerable through a corresponding converted it using the four-point Likerts' Scale and its interpretation as follows:

Scale	Range	Level of Implementation
4	3.50 – 4.00	High Impact (HI) Very Serious Fully Recommended
3	2.50 – 3.49	Impact (I) Serious Recommended
2	1.50 – 2.49	Less Impact (LI) Less Serious

		Less Recommended
1	1.00 – 1.49	Don't Have Impact (DHI) Not Serious Not Recommended

Ethical Considerations

As to ethical consideration, approving authority and participants are fully informed how the data were used. Voluntary participation and confidentiality are also observed.

The answers of the respondents on the survey questionnaire were treated confidential.

Dissemination of the Research Outcome

The letter was submitted to the Station Commander, Sta. Mesa Police Station (PS-8) Manila for his approval on the conduct of this research.

Further, personnel of PS-8 were oriented to the purpose of the study. Details were also discussed with the BADAC Members for their participation.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This chapter included the presentation, analysis and interpretation of the data in terms of the questions formulated in this study.

Impact of the Plea Bargaining Agreement on Drug Police Operations at Sta. Mesa Police Station (PS-8) as Assessed by Respondents

The following tables illustrated the impact of the Plea-Bargaining Agreement on Drug Police Operations at Sta. Mesa Police Station (PS-8) as assessed by PNP Personnel and BADAC Members.

Supply Reduction. Table 1 displays the impact of the Plea Bargaining Agreement on Drug Police Operations at Sta. Mesa Police Station (PS-8) in terms of supply reduction.

Table 1. Impact of the Plea Bargaining Agreement as to Supply Reduction

Supply Reduction	PNP Personnel		BADAC Members	
	Mean	VI	Mean	VI
1. Arrested drug persons who undergone plea bargaining agreements do not anymore been involved in any drug pushing.	3.29	I	3.20	I
2. Arrested drug persons who availed plea bargaining agreements discourages other drug pushers to stop their drug activities.	3.19	I	3.54	HI
3. Persons who entered plea bargaining agreements have fully supported the police officers in preempting drug pushing.	3.47	I	3.05	I
4. Arrested drug persons who availed plea bargaining agreements participates in police operations as tipster.	2.73	I	3.37	I
5. Regular intensified anti-drug operations conducted by Sta. Mesa Police station	3.38	HI	3.36	HI

uniformed personnel in their area of responsibility				
Over-all Mean	3.21	I	3.30	I

Data showed that the assessment of PNP Personnel to item no. 3 “Persons who entered plea bargaining agreements have fully supported the police officers in preempting drug pushing” rated with the mean score of 3.47 has impact, same with item no. 5 Regular intensified anti-drug operations conducted by Sta. Mesa Police station uniformed personnel in their area of responsibility to a highly impact.

While item no. 1 Arrested drug persons who undergone plea bargaining agreements do not anymore been involved in any drug pushing, garnered a mean score of 3.29. This tend to show that plea bargaining is of great help not only to the police station in preventing illicit drugs in Sta. Mesa, Manila, but drug suspects were also benefited at the same time.

On the other hand, Item No. 2 “Arrested drug persons who availed plea bargaining agreements discourages other drug pushers to stop their drug activities” as described with the mean score of 3.19. Drug personalities who avail plea bargaining agreement able to talk with known drug pushers and users to stop them in their illegal activities. The least in rank pertains to indicator “Arrested drug persons who availed plea bargaining agreements participates in police operations as tipster” with a mean score of 2.73 with a verbal interpretation of Impact. The drug suspects themselves avail to promote the illegal drug campaign of Sta. Mesa Police Station.

On the other hand the assessment of BADAC Members has high impact to item no. 2 “Arrested drug persons who availed plea bargaining agreements discourages other drug pushers to stop their drug activities” as reflected with the mean score of 3.54, in contrast with item no. 3 “Persons who entered plea bargaining agreements have fully supported the police officers in preempting drug pushing” as they rated with score of 3.05. This tend to show that BADAC members believed that plea bargaining is a tool to maintain a drug free barangays in Sta. Mesa, Manila.

As the new law of RA 9165 provides stiffer penalties, maximum for those persons who were found involved in supplying and pushing large quantity of drugs, strengthened and revitalized the Dangerous Drugs Board and Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency that created the additional arms in controlling and suppressing the supply of drugs in the country.

To many, it seems obvious that reducing the supply of drugs offers an important way to control the drug problem. If there were no drugs to use, there would be no problem. If lesser quantities of drugs reached consumers, the problem would be diminished. If drugs were harder to find, or riskier to obtain, or simply more expensive, some potential users might be discouraged from starting, and some current users might seek treatment or abandon their use.

Supply reduction strategies are strictly directed to the PNP in the prohibition of illegal drugs and enforcing access to legal drugs and substances particularly those that

are of a high probability for abuse, including pharmaceuticals and other precursors and essential chemicals.

Demand Reduction. Table 2 displays the impact of the Plea Bargaining Agreement on Drug Police Operations at Sta. Mesa Police Station (PS-8) in terms of demand reduction.

Table 2. Impact of the Plea Bargaining Agreement as to Demand Reduction

Demand Reduction	PNP Personnel		BADAC Members	
	Mean	VI	Mean	VI
1. The arrested drug persons who undergone plea bargaining agreements have completely turn their backs to drugs.	2.87	I	3.53	HI
2. Arrested drug persons encourages other people to never be involved in using drugs.	3.18	I	3.48	I
3. Conducts of preventive education and awareness programs in schools and other sectors of the community to abate the flow of illegal drugs in Sta. Mesa, Manila	2.73	I	3.37	I
4. Establishment of a rehabilitation referral desk on every barangay	3.02	I	2.90	I
5. Distribute informative materials in schools, workplaces and other sectors of the community to reduce the consumer's demand for drugs and other substances through massive preventive education and awareness program.	3.10	I	3.20	I

Over-all Mean	2.97	I	3.30	I

Findings indicated that according to the PNP Personnel, item no. 2 “Arrested drug persons encourages other people to never be involved in using drugs” as seen with mean score of 3.18 and interpreted with impact. Distribute informative materials in schools, workplaces and other sectors of the community to reduce the consumer’s demand for drugs and other substances through massive preventive education and awareness program obtained a mean score of 3.10 and interpreted with impact. Followed by indicator “Establishment of a rehabilitation referral desk on every barangay” obtained a mean score of 3.02 and interpreted with impact. Item no. 3 “Arrested drug persons who availed plea bargaining agreements participates in police operations as tipster” has the lowest the mean score of 2.73. The assessment made by the uniformed personnel of Sta. Mesa Police Station (Ps-8) shows that the demand reduction strategy is of great help in molding a drug free barangay to live in.

On the other hand, the BADAC Members assessed that item no. 1 “The arrested drug persons who undergone plea bargaining agreements have completely turn their backs to drugs” has mean score of 3.53, and that it has high impact while item no. 3 “Arrested drug persons who availed plea bargaining agreements participates in police operations as tipster” has impact with lowest mean score of 3.37. A mean score of 3.20 from the BADAC members as to Distribute informative materials in schools, workplaces and other sectors of the community to reduce the consumer’s demand for drugs and other

substances through massive preventive education and awareness program, while "Establishment of a rehabilitation referral desk on every barangay" obtained a mean score of 2.90 also with a verbal interpretation of impact.

Demand reduction refers to efforts aimed at reducing the public desire for illegal and illicit drugs. The drug policy is in contrast to the reduction of drug supply, but the two policies are often implemented together. Some discussions of demand reduction make a distinction between policies that address single issues (such as public "knowledge-of-harms") or are short-term interventions(in-school programs), and those that approach drug demand as a complex issue with multiple social risk factors.

The Philippine National Police plays a vital role in addressing the drug problem by conducting strategies that preempt drug supply and demand. The Dangerous Drug Board Resolution No. 12 Series of 2004 which sets the guidelines in the conduct of barangay drug clearing operations, declared tasks to sustain a drug free community through the conduct of Barangay Clearing Drug Clearing Operation activities working alongside with supply and demand reduction effort.

The law of supply and demand in drugs is ideally the law that should be used to reduce the use of drugs in the long-term. The barangay is really in need for this job and the utilization of anti-drug abuse council in the barangay and cities can contribute a lot.

Arrest of Suspected Drug Offenders. Table 3 presented the impact of the Plea Bargaining Agreement on Drug Police Operations at Sta. Mesa Police Station (PS-8) in terms of arrest of suspected drug offenders.

Table 3. Impact of the Plea Bargaining Agreement as to Arrest of Suspected Drug Offenders

Arrest of Suspected Drug Offenders	PNP Personnel		BADAC Members	
	Mean	VI	Mean	VI
1. Drug pushers/users who undergone plea bargaining agreements voluntarily give information for the arrest of other drug suspects.	3.03	I	2.93	I
2. Arrested drug suspects who chose plea bargaining agreement helps in determining the target drug offenders.	2.78	I	3.11	I
3. In availing plea bargaining agreements, arrested drug suspects cooperates in locating the whereabouts of drugs and persons involved therein.	3.31	I	3.56	HI
4. Drug dependents who availed plea bargaining helps the police operatives in their drug prevention campaign	3.32	I	3.36	HI
5. Able to report to the proper authorities regarding the proliferation of drugs in their community	3.36	i	3.38	HI
Over-all Mean	3.16	I	3.27	I

It was found out that the PNP Personnel assessed item no. 5 Able to report to the proper authorities regarding the proliferation of drugs in their community. Obtained the highest mean score of 3.36, followed by indicator “Drug dependents who availed plea

bargaining helps the police operatives in their drug prevention campaign" with a mean score of 3.32 garnered a verbal interpretation of impact.

Item No. 3 "In availing plea bargaining agreements, arrested drug suspects cooperates in locating the whereabouts of drugs and persons involved therein" reflected with impact and has mean score of 3.31, and that item no. 2 "Arrested drug suspects who chose plea bargaining agreement helps in determining the target drug offenders has impact with the mean score of 2.78. The drug suspects themselves avail to pinpoint other pushers and or users in their barangay. They are the source person that helps the police station in arresting illegal drugs personalities.

On the other hand, the BADAC Members assessed that item no. 3 "In availing plea bargaining agreements, arrested drug suspects cooperates in locating the whereabouts of drugs and persons involved therein" has high impact as indicated from the mean score of 3.56,item no. 5 "Able to report to the proper authorities regarding the proliferation of drugs in their community: obtained a mean score of 3.38 while item no. 4 "Drug dependents who availed plea bargaining helps the police operatives in their drug prevention campaign" obtained a mean score of 3.36. All the given above indicators were interpreted highly impact.

Item no. 1 "Drug pushers/users who undergone plea bargaining agreements voluntarily give information for the arrest of other drug suspects" as seen from the mean score of 2.93. The arrested drug suspects able to give information on the other illegal

drugs personalities they know in order to show their sincerity in helping the police station in their illegal drug campaign.

Police operatives who will join the new "OPLAN Tokhang" or 'knock and plead campaign' may not arrest suspected drug dependents but only urge them to seek medical help. Based on the guidelines, drug dependents may surrender voluntarily, go to the police station or seek rehabilitation, but that's it. If a drug dependent refuses to surrender, police officers cannot do anything. The police officers cannot detain a drug dependent.

According to new Philippine National Police Guidelines OPLAN Double Barrel Reloaded (2017), instead of arresting suspected drug users, "Tokhangers" may instead endorse hostile drug dependents to drug enforcement units for the conduct of case build-up and negotiation. Meanwhile, drug dependents who want to undergo rehabilitation will be referred to a concerned agency, or to PNP Recovery and Wellness personnel.

Internal cleansing. Table 4 showed the impact of the Plea Bargaining Agreement on Drug Police Operations at Sta. Mesa Police Station (PS-8) in terms of Internal Cleansing.

Table 4. Impact of the Plea Bargaining Agreement as to Internal Cleansing

Internal Cleansing	PNP Personnel		BADAC Members	
	Mean	VI	Mean	VI

1. Plea bargaining agreements served as tool to eradicate PNP personnel in drugs and change them for the better.	3.22	I	3.39	I
2. Plea bargaining agreements encourages PNP personnel to exert best effort in preempting drugs inside the organization.	3.32	I	3.31	I
3. Plea bargaining agreements show the total commitment of the government in the eradication of illegal drugs that pushes the PNP to act the same.	3.37	I	3.26	I
4. Served as a tool to show the dedication of Sta. Mesa Police Station in ensuring a mutual relationship between their uniformed personnel and drug suspects	3.30	i	3.32	i
5. Ensured a fair and just disposition of cases	3.27	i	3.30	i
Over-all Mean	3.30	I	3.32	I

Data reveals that the PNP Personnel assessed that item no. 3 “Plea bargaining agreements show the total commitment of the government in the eradication of illegal drugs that pushes the PNP to act the same” has impact and seen with the mean score of 3.37, while indicator “Served as a tool to show the dedication of Sta. Mesa Police Station in ensuring a mutual relationship between their uniformed personnel and drug suspects” obtained a mean score of 3.30. Indicator Ensured a fair and just disposition of cases, with a mean score of 3.27. On the other hand item no. 1 “Plea bargaining agreements

served as tool to eradicate PNP personnel in drugs and change them for the better" was rated with 3.22 mean score interpreted with impact. Based from the assessment made by the PNP personnel it shows that plea bargaining is one way of eradicating illegal drug personalities in their area of jurisdiction. They were able to arrest drug suspects operating in the different barangay of Sta. Mesa, Manila.

The BADAC Members believed that item no. 1 "Plea bargaining agreements served as tool to eradicate PNP personnel in drugs and change them for the better" has impact with the mean score of 3.39. which obtained the highest score, On the other hand, item no. 3 "Plea bargaining agreements show the total commitment of the government in the eradication of illegal drugs that pushes the PNP to act the same" has the lowest mean of 3.26.

Internal cleansing is a term that is often heard every time a new Chief of the Philippine National Police assumes office. It is similar to politicians promising to eradicate poverty when they win but as always, poverty is still prevalent.

Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) Director Lapeña (2017) intensified campaign against illegal drugs of the government following the recent deactivation of all anti-drug units of the Philippine National Police (PNP). On the personal experience of the researcher as a member of the PNP, though police are conducting anti-drug operations, they shall maintain close coordination with the PDEA on all drug-related matters such as gathering, processing and validating anti-drug information and monitoring of drug

personalities, including self-confessed drug users and pushers who voluntarily surrendered nationwide.

Cooperation of LGUs and NGOs. Table 5 described the impact of the Plea Bargaining Agreement on Drug Police Operations at Sta. Mesa Police Station (PS-8) in terms of Cooperation of LGU and NGOs.

Table 5. Impact of the Plea Bargaining Agreement as to the Cooperation of LGUs and NGOs

Cooperation of LGUs and NGOs	PNP Personnel		BADAC Members	
	Mean	VI	Mean	VI
1. Plea bargaining agreements develop rapport with the LGU and NGOs for support.	3.27	I	3.30	I
2. Strengthening the coordination and cooperation between LGU, NGO and DEU.	2.92	I	3.29	I
3. Plea bargaining agreement contributes to drug related efforts of the government in providing chances for the suspected persons involved in illegal drugs.	3.04	I	3.17	I
4. Encourages sharing of best practices among law enforcement units, LGU, NGOs and the community.	2.90	I	3.15	I
5. Conducts joint operations among law enforcement units, with the support of the LGUs, NGOs and the community to strengthen their partnership in the fight against illegal drugs.	2.89	I	3.10	I

Over-all Mean	3.01	I	3.20	I

Data reveals that the PNP Personnel assessed the item no. 1 “Plea bargaining agreements develop rapport with the LGU and NGOs for support” has impact based from the mean score of 3.27, and item no. 2 “Strengthening the coordination and cooperation between LGU, NGO and DEU”. With the implementation of plea bargaining agreement among arrested drug suspects in Sta. Mesa, Manila, it shows that Local Government Units and Non-Government Organizations are of great help in supporting the programs and activities of Sta. Mesa Police Station (PS-8).

With the assessment of the BADAC Members, that item no. 1 “Plea bargaining agreements develop rapport with the LGU and NGOs for support” has impact as reflected in the mean score of 3.30, and item no. 3 “Plea bargaining agreements contributes to drug related efforts of the government in providing chances for the suspected persons involved in illegal drugs” with 3.17 mean score. The BADAC members themselves believed that with the help of the LGUs and NGOs, plea bargaining agreement among arrested drug suspects is being implemented in accordance to law.

The development of Philippine Anti-Illegal Drugs Strategy (PADS) as a blueprint of the government’s strategies and programs in addressing the country’s drug use problem by tapping the LGU and NGOs was a comprehensive and balanced approach to drug demand and drug supply reduction. The strategy suppressed the flow of illegal drugs supply through sustained law enforcement operations in the barangay and reduce

consumer demand for drugs and other substances that maybe done through massive preventive education and awareness programs.

The Philippines hopefully in the span of time will be a drug-free country with the effort of the strong law enforcement with consistent adherence and observance to human rights, coupled with comprehensive demand reduction initiatives and supported by LGU and NGOs and strong international ties.

In the Barangay level, they assured that they are doing their part to eradicate drugs within their community by involving barangay tanods and volunteers in conducting OPLAN Tokhang or house to house visitation.

Similarly, the PNP admired the contribution of the barangay in giving confidential related information on the suspected persons involved in illegal drugs.

This close coordination and involvement of LGUs and NGOs provided an extensive framework for law enforcement to imposed penalties for violations. It also served as the reason for compassionate approach by the police to the victims of drug used and encouraged them for voluntarily surrender to undergo treatment and rehabilitation.

Significant Difference of the Respondents' Assessment on the Impact of Plea Bargaining Agreements on Drug Police Operation at Sta. Mesa Police Station

Table 6 described the significant difference between the PNP Personnel and BADAC Members' Assessment on the impact of plea bargaining agreements on drug police operation at Sta. Mesa Police Station.

Table 6. Significant Difference between the PNP Personnel and BADAC Members' Assessment on the Impact of Plea Bargaining Agreements on Drug Police Operation at Sta. Mesa Police Station

Impact	Weighted Mean		z-value		Decision	Remarks
	PNP Personnel	BADAC Members	Comp	Tab		
1. Supply Reduction	3.21	3.30	1.24	1.96	Accept	Not Significant
2. Demand Reduction	2.97	3.30	2.59	1.96	Reject	Significant
3. Arrest of suspected drug offenders	3.16	3.27	1.87	1.96	Accept	Not Significant
4. Internal cleansing	3.30	3.32	1.04	1.96	Accept	Not Significant
5. Cooperation of LGU and NGOs	3.01	3.20	1.33	1.96	Reject	Significant

Supply Reduction. There was no significant difference between the respondents' assessment on the impact of plea bargaining agreements on drug police operation at Sta. Mesa Police Station in terms of supply reduction since the computed **z**-value of 1.24 is greater than the tabular **z**-value of 1.96 using 0.05 level of significance. Findings reveal that the PNP Personnel and BADAC Members do not differ in their assessment on the impact of plea bargaining agreements on drug police operation at Sta. Mesa Police Station in terms of supply reduction.

Demand Reduction. The hypothesis was rejected and concludes that there is a significant difference between the respondents' assessment on the impact of plea bargaining agreements on drug police operation at Sta. Mesa Police Station in terms of demand reduction since the computed **z**-value of 2.59 is greater than the tabular **z**-value of 1.96 using 0.05 level of significance. Findings indicated that the respondents differ in their assessment on the impact of plea bargaining agreements on drug police operation at Sta. Mesa Police Station in terms of demand reduction.

Arrest of Suspected Drug Offenders. There was no significant difference between the respondents' assessment on the impact of plea bargaining agreements on drug police operation at Sta. Mesa Police Station in terms of arrest of suspected drug offenders since the computed **z**-value of 1.87 is greater than the tabular **z**-value of 1.96 using 0.05 level of significance. Findings revealed that the respondents do not differ in

their assessment on the impact of plea bargaining agreements on drug police operation at Sta. Mesa Police Station in terms of arrest of suspected drug offenders.

Internal Cleansing. There was no significant difference between the respondents' assessment on the impact of plea bargaining agreements on drug police operation at Sta. Mesa Police Station in terms of internal cleansing since the computed **z**-value of 1.04 is greater than the tabular **z**-value of 1.96 using 0.05 level of significance. Findings revealed that the respondents do not differ in their assessment on the impact of plea bargaining agreements on drug police operation at Sta. Mesa Police Station in terms of internal cleansing.

Cooperation of LGU and NGOs. The hypothesis was rejected and concluded that there is a significant difference between the respondents' assessment on the impact of plea bargaining agreements on drug police operation at Sta. Mesa Police Station in terms of cooperation of LGU and NGOs since the computed **z**-value of 1.33 is greater than the tabular **z**-value of 1.96 using 0.05 level of significance. Findings indicated that the respondents differ in their assessment on the impact of plea bargaining agreements on drug police operation at Sta. Mesa Police Station in terms of cooperation of LGU and NGOs.

3.3. Level of Seriousness on the Problems Encountered in Arresting Drug Suspects to Enter Plea Bargaining Agreements

Table 7 illustrated the level of seriousness on the problems encountered in arresting drug suspects to enter plea bargaining agreements as given by the PNP Personnel.

Table 7. Seriousness on the Problems Encountered in Arresting Drug Suspects to Enter Plea Bargaining Agreements

Problem	Mean	Verbal Interpretation
1. Lack of knowledge in the rulings of plea bargaining, its pros and cons to the arrested.	2.96	Serious
2. Potential risk it poses to the community, that their rights were waived.	3.12	Serious
3. With their believe that plea bargaining is the fastest track towards lesser penalty but hook poor arresting and investigation.	3.35	Very Serious
4. Weak enforcement of the law on the prohibition and regulation of illegal drugs	4.00	Very Serious
5. Insufficient skills to conduct supply and demand reduction strategy that leads for the continuous flow or trafficking of illegal drugs in Sta. Mesa, Manila	3.33	Serious
6. Poor attitude of some personnel in the conduct of intelligence operation that affects their operation in the identification and location of drug personalities and other targets in Sta. Mesa, Manila.	3.36	Very Serious
Over-all Mean	3.23	Serious

Data showed that the PNP Personnel assessed that the problem on “Weak enforcement of the law on the prohibition and regulation of illegal drugs” was very serious as seen from the mean score of 4.24. On the other hand, indicator poor attitude of some

personnel in the conduct of intelligence operation that affects their operation in the identification and location of drug personalities obtained a weighted mean of 3.36, followed immediately “With their believe that plea bargaining is the fastest track towards lesser penalty but hook poor arresting and investigation” from the mean score of 3.35 also to a very serious problem. The indicator Insufficient skills to conduct supply and demand reduction strategy that leads for the continuous flow or trafficking of illegal drugs in Sta. Mesa, Manila obtained a weighted mean of 3.33 to a serious problem. On the other hand “Potential risk it poses to the community, that their rights were waived” as described from the mean score of 3.12. The respondents’ lowest assessment was that the “Lack of knowledge in the rulings of plea bargaining, its pros and cons to the arrested” as serious based from the mean score of 2.96.

This in line with the study made by Piquero (2022) drug problem is not the sole responsibility of the police and other law enforcement officer, the active responsive community correlates with each other in terms of curbing this drug menace. He stressed that the community refers to the family itself considering that the parents are the ones responsible for the moral fiber of their children, to educate them being the first teacher and to discuss the will of taking drugs. By doing this, there will be a strong foundation in terms of drug prevention. The educational institution, from the primary grade, secondary level or even in college level, it is the moral responsibilities and obligation of the teachers to inculcate into the mind of the pupils/students the disadvantages of taking dangerous drugs. The evil effects of it when it is taken to the body, it produces abnormal effect

emotionally and physically. He also mentioned that in spite of the commendable efforts of the government under the Duterte administration, illicit narcotics activities still remain as a principal concern that keeps on threatening to violate human dignity without remorse and destroying the moral fiber of our society slowly and relentlessly. As cited in the guidelines in the conduct of Barangay drug Clearing Operations, the PNP plays a vital role and bears heavy responsibility in addressing the drug problem in their respective area of jurisdiction mainly the drug supply and demand reduction strategy.

An interviewee stated that he believe in the saying that *"prevention is better than cure"*. He said that the strategy in demand reduction has not been given enough attention, more so, with appropriate funds. This was supported by other interviewees from the community and members of the barangay unit who all said that they have yet to read nor hear any anti-illegal drug informative materials.

As the given problems was assessed by the PNP Personnel and BADAC Members, they even themselves admitted that they got problems in the implementation of law.

As part of the PNP organization, police were the one blamed for any ineffectiveness of plea bargaining, reasons were that the PNP is the front liners.

Programs Developed to Increase Support for the Plea Bargaining Agreement among Arrested Drug Suspects

Table 8 displays the suggested programs forwarded by the PNP Personnel to increase support for the plea bargaining agreement among arrested drug suspects.

Table 8. Programs Developed to Increase Support for the Plea Bargaining Agreement among Arrested Drug Suspects

Programs	Mean	Verbal Interpretation
1. Conduct of awareness program to the arrested drug suspects in MPD Custodial Facility and Manila City Jail to provide awareness on the pros and cons of entering plea bargaining agreements.	3.27	Recommend
2. Strengthen coordination among the Barangays officials/members and the PNP pertaining to the plea bargaining agreements and its effect to the community members.	3.47	Fully Recommend
3. Strengthen the intelligence gathering through Police and Barangay Community partnership with the help of the community.	3.29	Recommend
4. Strict enforcement of laws, executive orders, decrees and other related ordinances on the prohibition and regulation of illegal drugs.	3.64	Fully Recommend
5. Strict supervision in the conduct of illegal drugs investigation through regular conduct of case conference among arresting officers and investigators.	3.38	Fully Recommended
6. Conduct frequent dialogue/meetings with NGOs and cause oriented groups to encourage their participation in the anti-illegal drugs campaign of Sta. Mesa Police Station programs and activities.	3.35	Fully Recommended
7. Educate concerned agency on its intensified efforts in establishing and organizing joint intelligence build-up with other law enforcement units, LGU and NGOs to encourage sharing of intelligence or information of known drug suspects.	3.60	Fully Recommended
Over-all Mean	3.27	Recommend

It was found out that the respondents fully recommended to “Strict enforcement of laws, executive orders, decrees and other related ordinances on the prohibition and regulation of illegal drugs” as seen from the mean score of 3.64, followed by the indicator “Educate concerned agency on its intensified efforts in establishing and organizing joint intelligence build-up with other law enforcement units, LGU and NGOs to encourage sharing of intelligence or information of known drug suspects” with an obtained weighted mean of 3.60 also to a fully recommended mean. On the other hand, “Strengthen coordination among the Barangays officials/members and the PNP pertaining to the plea bargaining agreements and its effect to the community members” as described from the mean score of 3.47, and that the recommended on the “Strict supervision in the conduct of illegal drugs investigation through regular conduct of case conference among arresting officers and investigators” with a weighted mean of 3.38. While indicator “Conduct frequent dialogue/meetings with NGOs and cause oriented groups to encourage their participation in the anti-illegal drugs campaign of Sta. Mesa Police Station programs and activities” garnered a weighted mean of 3.35 which correspond to a verbal interpretation of fully recommended. The above indicators mentioned in the table shows that drug prevention is not the sole responsibility of the police, but the community as well.

“Strengthen the intelligence gathering through Police and Barangay Community partnership with the help of the community” as indicated from the mean score of 3.29. The respondents’ lowest assessment was that they recommended to “Conduct of

awareness program to the arrested drug suspects in MPD Custodial Facility and Manila City Jail to provide awareness on the pros and cons of entering plea bargaining agreements" as indicated from the mean score of 3.27. This tend to show that the community is of great help in the anti-illegal drug campaign of Sta. Mesa Police Station.

PBGEN Banac, PNP Spokesperson (2019) stressed that the PNP continuously strengthen the administration campaign against illegal drugs and they are doing their best to make the campaign stays for the people. Exerting all the effort, they assure less problems will occur and immediate remedies will be implemented to avoid worries from the community and win the majority of the Filipino people to support the program.

The PNP need to conduct a surveillance procedure as to the information on suspected illegal drugs activities with the help of the Barangay officials and the community to effectively implement the tokhang. With the personnel views, the intelligence gathering and barangay connection should be strengthen and widen through Police and Barangay Community partnership.

Operational Procedures Developed to Increase Support for the Plea Bargaining Agreement among Arrested Drug Suspects

To increase support for the plea bargaining agreement among arrested drug suspects, the researcher composed an ideal Implementing Plan (IMPLAN) to make this possible. It also aims to help the full implementation of drug police operations in Manila.

I. Rationale and Intents

The Philippine National Police plays a vital role in the enforcement of laws and maintenance of peace and order. It also bears heavy responsibility in addressing the problems of the community especially drugs and drug abuses. The implementation of drug police operations mainly have the objectives to stop the drug demand and supply in the country. With the efforts of the PNP and allied units in implementing the drug resistance program, still the project was subjected for criticisms and issues that may be used by the oppositions for total abolishment of the program.

To increase support for the plea bargaining agreement among arrested drug suspects, the Implementing Plan (IMPLAN) aims to make this program realize. Further, it also envisions to help in the drug police operations in Manila.

II. Outcomes or Changes

The Implementing Plan (IMPLAN) is an action plan to increase support for the plea bargaining agreement among arrested drug suspects. This is in response to the findings of the study as can be seen in the action plan matrix and categorized into key areas of consideration namely:

Supply Reduction. The procedure seeks to preempt, hold and prevent the deliveries and travel of illegal drugs in the country. Through the intelligence validation of information of drug offenders, it can be used to locate and search possible sources of illegal drugs.

Demand Reduction. To stop the abuse of illegal drugs in the community and avoid the curiosity of turning into drugs. To encourage drug dependents to voluntarily surrender and undergo rehabilitation program or community based program.

Arrest of Suspected Drug Offenders. For those identified and validated drug offenders who resisted to voluntarily surrender are subjected for police operations.

Internal Cleansing. Strict implementation of internal cleansing program in the PNP organization. Police officers identified as drug offenders are not exempted for OPLAN tokhang but subject for deeper investigation. Administrative charges against erring police officers applied.

Cooperation of LGUs and NGOs. Imparting the role of barangay, city and non-government organization for the success of the conduct of house-to-house visitation (OPLAN Tokhang).

III. Strategies and Actions

These operational procedures cover the activities that increase support for the plea bargaining agreement among arrested drug suspects, and involve members of the PNP, LGU, NGO and community for the full implementation of the program. These strategies were enumerated as follows:

1. Conduct of awareness program to the arrested drug suspects in MPD Custodial Facility and Manila City Jail to provide awareness on the pros and cons of entering plea bargaining agreements.

2. Strengthen coordination among the Barangays officials/members and the PNP pertaining to the plea bargaining agreements and its effect to the community members. Cordial coordination with the LGUs and NGOs should be done for their continuous support in the program.

3. Intense police operations like case build-up operation, checkpoint, chokepoint, Simultaneous Anti-Criminality Law Enforcement Operations (SACLEO), intelligence gathering, surveillance and other related operations may be regularly done to preempt drug trafficking.

4. The Plea Bargaining Agreement helps in reducing the demand and supply of illegal drugs in the country. Implementation of laws prohibits the use, carrying and selling drugs may be strictly impose by the law enforcement agencies to all identified guilty.

IV. Timeline

The proposed action plan may apply on first quarter of calendar year 2025.

V. Resources

a. Persons in Charge

To ensure the effective implementation of the program, integrated efforts of the PNP may employ with the Lead Office Concept. By Lead Office, means that specific PNP offices shall be designated to the responsibilities supported by several offices.

1. District Director, MPD

The District Director lead the overall implementation of the plan and assures the effectivity of its program in all police stations in Manila.

2. District Drug Enforcement Unit

a. Assistant of the DD, MPD in the implementation of the plan;

b. Prepares the Memorandum Circular of this IMPLAN signed by the DD, MPD to be disseminated nationwide;

c. Submit weekly, monthly and quarterly reports of the accomplishments; and

d. Consolidate reports on drug operations and arresting drug personalities including those who avail the plea bargaining agreements.

3. Station Commanders

a. To assist the DD, MPD in the implementation of the program in their stations;

b. Organize, train, equip and monitor personnel to be assigned in the implementation of the program; and

c. Disseminate Memorandum Circular to their station.

4. Logistics Division Chief

a. Provide logistical support for the implementation of the program;

b. Ensure the availability and readiness of logistical requirements for the implementation of this project; and

c. Perform other tasks as directed.

5. Comptrollership Division Chief

a. Allocate necessary funding for the purpose; and

b. Perform other tasks as directed.

6. Personnel Records Management

a. Issue orders to personnel assigned in the implementation of the program; and

b. Align personnel to be assigned in the program and assure that all are qualified, competent and committed for the job.

b. Other Resource Requirements

1. Regular conduct of training in relation to new laws on drugs regulations and supreme court rulings.

2. Allot budget for the conduct of symposiums related to the new trends on drugs regulations.

VI. Monitoring and Evaluation

On a continuing process, the basis of evaluation, monitoring and assessment of the program shall be undertaken and measured following the operational procedure matrix:

Table 9. Enhanced Operational Procedures Matrix for the Program of Increasing Support for the Plea Bargaining Agreement

PLANS AND PROGRAMS	STRATEGIES AND ACTIONS	TIMELINE	RESPONSIBLE UNIT/OFFICE	RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS	MONITORING PROCEDURE
Sta. Mesa Police Station Competency Program This will increase and update the knowledge and skills of Sta. Mesa PS-8 uniformed personnel on its anti-illegal drugs campaign and the implementation of plea bargaining agreement	Make a requisition letter to DHRDD in the conduct of career development program towards a well trained uniformed personnel of Sta. Mesa Police Station on plea bargaining	4th Quarter of CY 2024	DHRDD Manila Police District Sta. Mesa Police Station (PS-8)	100,000 PHP P 50,000 PHP	Close supervision to ensure the activities are implemented

Supply Reduction Strategy This will prevent and decrease the illicit supply of illegal drugs in Sta. Mesa, Manila	Pre-empt, hold and prevent the deliveries and travel of illegal drugs in Sta. Mesa, Manila To gather information of those persons and their companions involved in producing, cultivating and delivering illegal drugs and paraphernalia To create productive training and programs for the surrenderers and families	1st Quarter of CY 2025	Drug Enforcement Units, Patrollers Intelligence Unit, Drug Enforcement Units Police Community Relations Section, LGUs and NGOs	100,000 PHP 100,000 PHP 100,000 PHP	Weekly report of the drug accomplishments indicating the section violations and total grams/items and cash amount recovered Weekly report of arrested drug personalities and assessment on the aimed no. of target for drug police operations After Activity Report and Performance Evaluation Report reflecting the target and actual
Demand Reduction Strategy This will reduce the public desire for illegal and illicit drug	To stop the abuse of illegal drugs in the community by conducting police community relations program such as information drive, summer sports clinic and other similar activities To regularly post information on the effects of	1st Quarter of CY 2025	Police Community Relations Section, Drug Enforcement Unit, Patrollers Public Information Officer, Police	100,000 PHP 50,000 PHP	Pre and post assessment tool for the participants, monthly police community relations report After Activity Reports

	using illegal drugs To encourage drug dependents to voluntarily surrender and undergo rehabilitation program or community based program		Community Relations Officer Drug Enforcement Unit, Barangay and City Anti-Drug Abuse Council, Rehabilitation Centers Facilitators	50,000 PHP	Update the Drug Watchlist, Monthly Report of the total surrenderers and total no. of surrenderers graduated in the rehabilitation program or community based program
Arrest of Suspected Drug Offenders	Arrest of personalities who resisted to surrender and was identified and validated to be involved in drug activities Intelligence gathering for the arrest of Top 10 Drug Personalities	1st Quarter of CY 2025	Drug Enforcement Unit, Intelligence Unit, Patrollers, Barangay and City Anti-Drug Abuse Council, Media Intelligence Unit, Drug Enforcement Unit, Patrollers, Barangay Anti-Drug Abuse Council	200,000 PHP 200,000 PHP	Weekly report of arrested personalities indicating the case filed and total amount and drugs recovered, matching of top drug watchlist checklists Regular intelligence report of the drug personalities
Internal Cleansing This will implement a cleansing strategy through moral and spiritual recovery	Strict implementation of internal cleansing program done in seminars, training and symposiums related to drug prevention following the National Control Drug Program Encourage those police	2nd Quarter of CY 2025	Station Commanders, Intelligence Unit, LGUs, NGOs	300,000 PHP 50,000 PHP	Submission of Complete Background Investigation Report (CBIR) of the subject police officers allegedly involved in drug activities Monitoring of Tactical

	officers allegedly involved in drug activities to voluntarily surrender in OPLAN Tokhang Filing of administrative charges to those police officers validated with information involved in drug activities		Station Drug Enforcement Unit Station Commanders, Pre-charged Officers	 100,000 PHP	Interrogation Form and Sworn Statement of the subject Monitoring of issuance of subpoena to erring personnel
Cooperation of LGUs and NGOs This will promote a well balanced relationship between the uniformed personnel of Sta. Mesa PS-8 and LGUs and NGOs	Strengthening the role of Anti-Drug Abuse Council in the Project Double Barrel Active participation of barangay in the conduct of OPLAN tokhang activities Active involvement of LGUs and NGOs in facilitating rehabilitation programs and community based programs for the surrenderers	2nd Quarter of CY 2025	Station Commanders Station Commanders, Tokhangers, Barangay Police Focal Persons Station Commanders, Police Community Relations Officers	20,000 PHP 20,000 PHP 20,000 PHP	Constant communication with the anti-drug abuse council Constant communication with the barangay Accomplishment reports of the surrenderers who successfully graduates from rehabilitation programs and community based programs offered by LGUs and NGOs

Summary of Findings, Conclusions, and Recommendations

This chapter presented the summary of findings from the result of the data gathered, analysis on the result of the assessment, conclusions drawn from the findings, and recommendations offered by the researcher in light of the problems encountered in arresting drug suspects to enter plea bargaining agreements that resulted in the proposal of programs to increase support for the plea bargaining agreement among arrested drug suspects.

4.1 Summary of Findings

From the data yielded from the instruments, the researcher summarized the following findings.

1. It was found out that the PNP Personnel assessed believed that the persons who entered plea bargaining agreements have fully supported the police officers in preempting drug pushing and the arrested drug persons encourages other people to never be involved in using drugs. Arrested drug suspects according to the results of the assessment of the PNP Personnel cooperates in locating the whereabouts of drugs and persons involved therein. With plea bargaining agreements, it show the total commitment of the government in the eradication of illegal drugs that pushes the PNP to act the same. Further, they have high believe that plea bargaining agreements develop rapport with the LGU and NGOs for support.

2. On the BADAC Members point of view, the arrested drug persons who availed plea bargaining agreements discourages other drug pushers to stop their drug activities and have completely turn their backs to drugs. In availing plea bargaining agreements, the BADAC Members assessed that the arrested drug suspects cooperates in locating the whereabouts of drugs and persons involved therein. The Plea bargaining agreements served as tool to eradicate PNP personnel in drugs and change them for the better.
3. Based on the results of the assessment, the two respondents differs their believes in the assessment for Demand Reduction and Cooperation of LGUs and NGOs.
4. The respondents assessed the problem on weak enforcement of the law on the prohibition and regulation of illegal drugs very serious and least is the lack of knowledge in the rulings of plea bargaining, its pros and cons to the arrested.
5. Data revealed that the respondents fully recommended to implement strict enforcement of laws, executive orders, decrees and other related ordinances on the prohibition and regulation of illegal drugs to satisfy the main problem and least recommended the conduct of awareness program to the arrested drug suspects in MPD Custodial Facility and Manila City Jail to provide awareness on the pros and cons of entering plea bargaining agreements since this should not be prioritized.

4.2 Conclusions

Based from the findings of the study, the following conclusions were drawn:

1. The PNP Personnel and BADAC Members believed that the plea bargaining agreement is helpful in gathering and validating information of drug personalities and activities that may lead for the arrest if the arrested drug suspects continuously involve themselves in any drug police operations to help the PNP. In entering of arrested drug suspects, respondents acknowledged the involvement of LGU and NGO to assist them. Likewise, the commitment of the government to totally eradicate illegal drugs was appreciated by the respondents. Both respondents consider the strong relationship and rapport of the PNP to the LGUs and NGOs to support the plea bargaining agreements.
2. It was found out that the PNP Personnel and BADAC Members have same and different conclusions on the degree of impact of plea bargaining on drug police operations. With the supply reduction, arrest of suspected drug offenders and internal cleansing both believed that the plea bargaining agreements are duly implemented and they are aware of the effort of the government in doing its best to succeed the program. On the contrary, with the demand reduction and cooperation of LGUs and NGOs in the impact of plea bargaining agreements they have different perspectives. The two mentioned variables are in need to be strengthened to contribute for the over-all success of the program.
3. The main problem identified by the respondents was the weak enforcement of the law that prohibits and regulates the usage of illegal drugs. The researcher concluded that weak enforcement of the law results to lesser percentage of arrested drug suspects

entering plea bargaining agreements. There are factors that may affect the arrest of drug personalities, as personally experienced it includes political involvement, corruption, lack of sufficient evidence, lack of reasons to conduct arrest and other technicalities upon filing of cases into the prosecution. This problem assessed as the main problem may be given appropriate solution and remedies.

4. As first solution to the problems mentioned, respondents fully recommend the strict enforcement of laws, executive orders, decrees and other related ordinances on the prohibition and regulation of illegal drugs. Initial step in any police operations, deeper intelligence gathering must be done to duly understand the personality of the person, know its everyday routine and validate any possible drug activities involving such person. As a member of the PNP, the researcher agreed to the result of the assessment of the respondents due that the information gathered in surveillance is vital to proceed with following step which is the arresting of the person.
5. An operational plan was developed to increase support for the plea bargaining agreement among arrested drug suspects.

4.3 Recommendations

Based from the findings and conclusions of the study, the following recommendations are forwarded:

1. The law enforcement agency shall provide post plea bargaining agreement monitoring system in coordination with Department of Justice and Dangerous Drug Board.

2. Established an mandatory evaluation and selection program during the pendency of application of Plea Bargaining Agreement application. This program aim to examine mental, physical and spiritual status of the applicant.

3. Conduct of awareness program to the arrested drug suspects in Sta. Mesa Police Station-MPD Custodial Facility and Manila City Jail to provide awareness on the pros and cons of entering plea bargaining agreements.

4. Strengthen coordination among the Barangays officials/members and the PNP pertaining to the plea bargaining agreements and its effect to the community members. Cordial coordination with the LGU and NGOs should be done for their continuous support in the program.

5. Intense police operations like case build-up operation (Intelligence gathering and surveillance), checkpoint, chokepoint, Simultaneous Anti-Criminality Law Enforcement Operations (SACLEO), house-to-house visitation and other related operations may be regularly done to preempt drug trafficking.

6. Continuously conduct trainings and programs, livelihood projects and anti-drug information drive with the coordination to the local government and non-government organization which may enlighten members of the community to avoid using and selling of drugs and involve theirselves to be productive members of the community and earn living through exerting their own effort.

7. Utilize social media in the immediate dissemination of drug related information and take advantage in the convenience of receiving reports from concern citizens that may result for the identification of drug personalities and their arrest.

8. Design modes of encouragement and incentives, may be in kind or cash, for the arrested drugs suspects, to let them believe that the government is serious in rehabilitating them and give them better future together with families.

9. Strong and established rehabilitation programs (community based programs) with proper supply of medications may be recommended to open the eye of the arrested drug suspects to totally turn their back in using and selling illegal drugs and aim for brighter days ahead.P

10. Cordial coordination with the LGU and NGO may be sealed with Oath of Undertaking that may strengthen their advocacy to fight illegal drugs in the community. It may symbolize their continuous commitment with the PNP to hold together and help each other in implementing the drug prevention programs.

11. Regular conduct of seminars, training, and symposium may be conducted to the members of the PNP and Barangay officials in the proper handling of drug related cases, from the effect of arrest of the suspects, recovering and markings of evidence, proper completion of required documents in filing of case to court, particular cases to be filled, treating the suspects for drug and medical test observing human rights policy

and presenting the case and suspect before the prosecution within the period covered of 36 hours. This is to avoid reasons of dismissal of cases filed in court.

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CURRICULUM VITAE

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Master of Science in Criminal Justice
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EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

Level	Degree (Year graduated, awards, if any)	School & Address
Graduate	Master in Public Administration	Saint Jude College Manila City
Tertiary	BS in Criminology (1999)	Philippine College of Criminology Manila City
Secondary	High School Diploma (1995)	Carlos P Garcia High School Pandacan, Manila
Elementary	Elementary Diploma (1991)	Bagong Diwa Elementary School Pandacan, Manila

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS RECEIVED		
Awards/Citation Received	**Award Giving Body**	**Date**
Medalya ng Papuri	National Capital Region Police Office	April 30, 2024
Medalya ng Kasanayan	National Capital Region Police Office	April 2, 2024
Medalya ng Kagalingan	National Capital Region Police Office	February 04, 2024
Medalya ng Pagkilala	Manila Police District	August 3, 2022
Medalya ng Kadakilaan	National Capital Region Police Office	June 01, 2020
Medalya ng Paglilingkod sa Mindanao	Police Regional Office CARAGA	November 7, 2009

NATIONAL EXAMINATION PASSED	
Examination	**Administering Body**
Board Criminologists Licensure Examination	Professional Regulatory Board of Criminology September 25-27, 1999 in Manila
Civil Service: Police Officer Exam	July 4, 1999, in Quezon City

PROFESSIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE		
Position/Work	**Agency/ Company/ Institution**	**Inclusive Date**
Station Commander	Philippine National Police, Manila Police District, Sta. Ana Police Station (PS-6)	March 15, 2024 - present
Station Commander	Philippine National Police, Manila Police District, Sta. Mesa Police Station (PS-8)	October 5, 2022 - March 14, 2024
Admin Holding Unit	Philippine National Police, Manila Police District	September 16, 2022 - October 4, 2022
Station Commander	Philippine National Police, Manila Police District, Sta. Mesa Police Station (PS-8)	April 18, 2022 - September 15, 2022
Station Commander	Philippine National Police, Manila Police District, Ermita Police Station (PS-5)	November 11, 2021 - April 17, 2022
Station Commander	Philippine National Police, Manila Police District, Delpan Police Station (PS-12)	September 4, 2021 - November 10, 2021
Chief	Philippine National Police, Manila Police District, District Drug Enforcement Unit	May 11, 2021 - September 3, 2021
Assistant Chief	Philippine National Police, Manila Police District, District Drug Enforcement Unit	January 28, 2021 - May 10, 2021
Acting Chief	Philippine National Police, Manila Police District, District Drug Enforcement Unit	October 1, 2020 - January 27, 2021
Acting Chief	Philippine National Police, Manila Police District, District Anti-Carnapping Unit	August 3, 2020 - September 30, 2020
Assistant Chief	Philippine National Police, Manila Police District, District Anti-Carnapping Unit	June 19, 2020 - August 2, 3030
Chief	Philippine National Police, Manila Police District, District Anti-Carnapping Unit	April 14, 2020 - June 18, 2020

Deputy Chief	Philippine National Police, Manila Police District, District Police Community Relations Division	September 23, 2019 - April 13, 2020
Deputy Station Commander	Philippine National Police, Manila Police District, Sta. Ana Police Station (PS-6)	July 30, 2018 - September 22, 2019
	Philippine National Police, Manila Police District	November 21, 2016 - July 29, 2024
	Philippine National Police, Manila Police District	October 23, 2013 - June 5, 2014
	Philippine National Police, National Capital Region Police Office, Regional Operations Division	August 23, 2013 - October 22, 2013
	Philippine National Police, National Capital Region Police Office, Regional Police Records Management Division, Regional Police Holding and Accounting Section	August 12, 2023 - August 22, 2023
	Philippine National Police, Manila Police District	November 23, 2012 - August 11, 2023
	Philippine National Police, National Capital Region Police Office, Regional Headquarters Support Unit	August 17, 2012 - November 22, 2012
	Philippine National Police, National Capital Region Police Office, Regional Police Records Management Division, Regional Police Holding and Accounting Section	July 16, 2012 - August 16, 2012
	Philippine National Police, Police Regional Office CARAGA	December 28, 2011 - July 15, 2012
	Philippine National Police, Directorate for Personnel and Records Management,	September 27, 2011 - December 27, 2011

	Personnel Holding and Accounting Unit	
	Philippine National Police, Police Regional Office CARAGA, Agusan Del Norte Police Provincial Office	April 25, 2011 - September 26, 2011
Officer in-Charge	Philippine National Police, Police Regional Office CARAGA, Dinagat Island Police Provincial Office, Loreto Municipal Police Station	March 31, 2011 - April 24, 2011
Investigator	Philippine National Police, Police Regional Office CARAGA, Dinagat Island Police Provincial Office	October 31, 2010 - March 30, 2011
Officer in-Charge	Philippine National Police, Police Regional Office CARAGA, Dinagat Island Police Provincial Office, Libjo Municipal Police Station	August 31, 2009 - October 30, 2010
Chief of Police	Philippine National Police, Police Regional Office CARAGA, Dinagat Island Police Provincial Office, San Jose Municipal Police Station	April 30, 2008 - August 30, 2009
Executive Officer	Philippine National Police, Police Regional Office CARAGA, Dinagat Island Police Provincial Office, Provincial Mobile Force Battalion	January 31, 2008 - April 29, 2008
Officer in-Charge	Philippine National Police, Police Regional Office CARAGA, Dinagat Island Police Provincial Office, San Jose Municipal Police Station	December 5, 2007 - January 30, 2008
Patrol Officer	Philippine National Police, National Capital Region Police Office, Regional Mobile Force Batallion	November 25, 2004 - January 1, 2006

	Philippine National Police, National Capital Region Police Office, Regional Headquarters Support Unit	January 1, 2003 - November 24, 2004
	Philippine National Police, National Capital Region Police Office	November 9, 1999 - December 31, 2002

MEMBERSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Organization	Position	Duration
Professional Criminologists Association of the Philippine, Incorporation (PCAP)	Member	1999
Association of Police Officers via Lateral Entry Incorporation (APOLE)	Member	2006

RESEARCHES COMPLETED, IF ANY

Title	Funding	**Date Completed** (Indicate, if published)

PUBLISHED MATERIALS, IF ANY

Title	ISBN/ ISMN	Publishing Company

SEMINARS/ TRAININGS/ SCHOOLINGS COMPLETED

Training/Schooling	Organizer/Date
Investigation Officer Basic Course	PNP Directorate for Investigation and Detection Management, 2017

Narcotics Interdiction Course	PNP Training Service Feb 8-11, 2011.
Drug Investigation Course	National Drug Enforcement and Prevention, Coordinating Center (NDEP), July 2000

I hereby certify that the above information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

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