

APPLICATION OF RESTORATIVE JUSTICE TO THE CRIME OF MILD THEFT (Lhokseumawe police research study)

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ABSTRACT

Lhokseumawe stands out as a city where criminal activity, especially theft, frequently occurs. This assertion is strengthened by data collected from the records of the Lhokseumawe Police Criminal Investigation Unit. In 2021, the city witnessed a total of 211 theft incidents, 121 The following year 2022, 192 cases were reported and 114 cases in 2023, 85 cases. Currently, a large number of criminal offenses are handled through Restorative Justice, which includes the police, prosecutor's office, and justice system. The purpose of this research is to find out about the application of restorative justice to crimes of light theft at Lhokseumawe Police, to find out and explain the factors that influence restorative justice to crimes of light theft at Lhokseumawe Police, and to explain efforts to increase restorative justice to crimes of light theft at Lhokseumawe Police. Lhokseumawe Police. This research method uses qualitative research methods with a methodology that produces descriptive data through collecting written narratives and careful observation of human behavior. The approach used in this study is an empirical juridical approach. The empirical juridical approach, which is usually called sociological legal research or field research, is rooted in collecting primary data, information sourced directly from the community through in-depth field activities. The results of this research are, the application of Restorative Justice to petty theft crimes at the Lhokseumawe Police is through a mediation process, negotiation between the perpetrator of the crime, the victim, the perpetrator's family and the victim. community and law enforcement so as to reach a mutual agreement. What influences restorative justice for petty theft crimes at the Lhokseumawe police station is the willingness of victims and perpetrators to carry out restorative justice, as for efforts to increase restorative justice for light theft at the Lhokseumawe police station.

Keywords: *criminal, restorative, theft.*