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## Research Article

### Enforcement of the Comprehensive Dangerous Drug Law: Implications to Supply and Demand Reduction

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## ABSTRACT

This study assessed the enforcement of the comprehensive dangerous drug law in Carmona City, Province of Cavite, and its implications for the supply and demand reduction drive. A descriptive method of research was employed to conduct this study. The respondents were the police personnel assigned and the barangay captains of the different barangays within the study setting. The statistical tools used were frequency and percentage distribution, weighted mean, and the chi-square test. The level of significance was established at 0.05.

The study's findings reveal that the enforcement of the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act in Carmona City is largely effective, yet impeded by significant operational constraints; nonetheless, this effective enforcement positively impacts both supply and demand reduction efforts concerning dangerous drugs, underscoring the essential requirement for ongoing capacity-building, institutional support, and policy reinforcement to guarantee the sustained success of anti-drug initiatives in local communities.

**Keywords:** Drug Law, Constraints, Enforcement, Supply Reduction Drive, and Demand Reduction Drive.

## Introduction

A significant national concern in the Philippines is the persistent menace of hazardous drug trafficking, which has a direct impact on the security and well-being of its citizens. Marijuana and methamphetamine hydrochloride, which are commonly referred to as "damo" and "shabu," are two of the most prevalent and valuable illicit substances in the country. The drug trade attracts a significant

number of Filipinos, either as a result of the high profits or economic and social pressures. The Philippines was identified as a key producer of synthetic drugs for the entire Asian region in a 2019 report by the Manila-based firm Pacific Strategies and Assessments, in addition to serving as a transshipment point.

In addition, Blum (2021) underscored that the law enforcement paradigm in substance

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abuse prevention is predicated on the enforcement of prohibitory laws and the threat of punishment. This perspective views substance abuse as a moral shortcoming, presuming that punitive measures must be implemented to deter or rectify individuals for the benefit of society and their well-being. The Dangerous Drugs Act of 1972, also known as R.A. No. 6425, was enacted by the Philippine government in response to the growing drug problem. It was subsequently replaced by R.A. No. 9165, also known as the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002. This law fortified national anti-drug initiatives by designating the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) as the operational arm of the Dangerous Drugs Board (DDB), the primary policy-making and coordinating entity for drug prevention and control.

Drug enforcement strategies continue to be controversial, despite the implementation of these legislative measures. According to Delo Tufo (2023), the elimination of drug production, distribution, and retail—traditional strategies intended to reduce the supply—has not substantially reduced the availability of hazardous drugs. The drug problem's complexity is underscored by the disparity between strategy and outcome, necessitating both national coordination and local adaptation.

Under the Philippine National Police (PNP) leadership in 2016, programs such as "Oplan Double Barrel" addressed this disparity. These programs utilized a dual approach of community rehabilitation and law enforcement to reduce both the supply and demand of drugs. Nevertheless, the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act's implementation remains a recurring issue in public discourse and national security due to its operational and ethical challenges.

Localized assessments are essential in comprehending how these broader policies are translated into community-level outcomes in light of this national context. In this context, the current study was conducted to evaluate the enforcement of the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act in Carmona City, Cavite.

The Drug Enforcement Team of the Carmona City Police Station (DET, CCPS), which is under the jurisdiction of the Cavite Police Provincial Office (CPPO), conducted a total of 59

anti-drug operations from January to December 2023. These actions led to the apprehension and prosecution of 73 individuals, and the confiscation of 15 grams of marijuana and 44 grams of shabu. Males comprised 95.89% of the individuals apprehended, while females comprised 4.11%. Regarding educational attainment, 63.01% of the population were college graduates, while a lesser proportion had only received a rudimentary education or none. The age distribution indicated that most individuals were between the ages of 21 and 50, with a substantial proportion (63.01%) being gainfully employed. Notably, 76.71% of the arrests took place on the streets, while 23.29% occurred in private residences.

These figures offer a localized perspective on the persistent obstacles in drug enforcement, particularly in urban areas. The prevalence of street-level arrests emphasizes the necessity of proactive, community-based policing strategies. Additionally, it underscores the significance of assessing the implementation of national laws in the field and the adaptation of local law enforcement units to the distinctive social, economic, and geographical conditions of their respective jurisdictions.

As a result, this study aims to enhance national strategies and ensure the long-term success of anti-drug campaigns by providing a more comprehensive comprehension of the effectiveness and constraints of the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act's enforcement at the local level.

### **Theoretical Framework**

This study is anchored on Fox and Forbing's (2021) theory of creating drug-free schools and communities, which advocates for a comprehensive, multi-layered approach to addressing drug abuse. This theory emphasizes that while education and community engagement are vital, effective enforcement mechanisms must also be integrated to disrupt drug networks and reduce substance abuse in both school and community settings.

However, traditional drug enforcement tools have proven to be increasingly inadequate in confronting the complexities of modern drug trafficking (Block & Weidman, 2021). Conventional methods often fall short

due to the evolving tactics of drug syndicates, technological sophistication, and the socio-economic motivations driving individuals into the drug trade. These limitations point to the need for a more strategic, intelligence-led approach in drug law enforcement.

To address this gap, the present study builds upon a framework that highlights four key operational tools commonly used by law enforcement in combating drug-related crimes:

Standard Investigations are initiated based on complaints or reports from witnesses or victims. In drug cases, investigators face challenges in securing evidence due to the covert nature of transactions and the risks involved in witness cooperation. Identifying the network beyond the point of sale remains essential.

**Surveillance Operations** – Visual and electronic surveillance are critical for gathering intelligence. Yet, these operations often suffer from limitations in information analysis and criminal countermeasures, such as coded language or transient meeting points. Meticulous documentation and pre-operation planning are, therefore, crucial.

**Informants' Utilization** – The use of informants allows law enforcement to infiltrate deeper into drug syndicates. However, it comes with high risks and ethical concerns, especially when informants are incentivized or themselves involved in criminal activity. Proper training and oversight are essential to mitigate these risks.

**Cooperative Investigation** – Collaboration among multiple law enforcement agencies

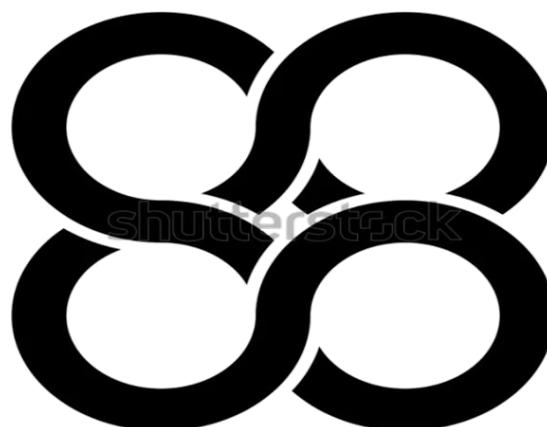
can amplify resources and expertise. Nonetheless, differences in policies and procedures often hinder effectiveness. These can be addressed through joint training and clear inter-agency protocols to ensure seamless cooperation.

Underpinning this framework is R.A. No. 9165, The Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002, which articulates the state's policy to protect the integrity of its territory and the well-being of its people, particularly the youth, from the adverse effects of dangerous drugs. The law mandates a relentless campaign against drug trafficking through a well-coordinated system of planning, implementation, and enforcement.

Despite these legal provisions, recent analyses (Delo Tufo, 2023) argue that the conventional supply-reduction focus has not led to significant drug availability or use declines. This suggests a critical gap between policy and enforcement outcomes. Therefore, this study responds to the need for local-level evidence on the effectiveness and constraints of current enforcement strategies.

This theoretical framework draws from established models and critically assesses their limitations. By examining the local enforcement of the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act in Carmona City, this research aims to refine operational approaches and strengthen institutional capacities needed for more effective anti-drug interventions.

Figure 1 presents the Theoretical Paradigm of the Study.



*Figure 1. Theoretical Paradigm of the Study*

### Conceptual Framework

Dangerous drug trafficking has long been a critical national issue, but the past two decades have seen significant shifts in the nature and complexity of the problem. According to the National Institute on Drug Abuse (2019), modern drug trafficking has evolved, requiring specialized investigative strategies and a multifaceted approach by law enforcement agencies. This evolution is reflected in how drug-related cases have become distinct within law enforcement operations, necessitating advanced intelligence and inter-agency coordination.

Duncan and Gold (2019) emphasize that developing actionable intelligence on sources, methods of supply, and distribution networks is central to successful anti-drug operations. This has led to adopting various investigative tools across agencies, such as surveillance, informant use, and cooperative investigations, reinforcing the role of data-driven, proactive policing.

Building on this, Dela Rosa (2019) outlines two core strategies for drug enforcement in the Philippines: first, direct enforcement of drug laws targeting users and traffickers; and second, efforts to curb supply through interdiction and international collaboration, mainly handled by the Dangerous Drugs Board (DDB) and the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency

(PDEA). While coordination between national and local agencies occasionally occurs, fragmented operations and jurisdictional disputes often hinder operational effectiveness

As Soriano, Ibutnande, and Jaudian (2021) observe, several government bodies—including the Bureau of Customs (BOC), National Bureau of Investigation (NBI), Philippine National Police (PNP), National Intelligence Coordinating Agency (NICA), and others—play varying roles in enforcing drug laws. Among them, the police remain the most actively engaged, with Drug Enforcement Teams (DETs) formed at the municipal level. These teams are mandated to coordinate with PDEA before launching operations, yet such coordination is not always systematic or consistent.

While these studies provide insight into the broader institutional context, few have explicitly focused on the local enforcement of R.A. No. 9165, the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002, particularly in smaller urban centers like Carmona City, Cavite. This presents a notable research gap that this study seeks to address. By examining the effectiveness, operational tools, and constraints experienced by local police units, the study contributes context-specific data that can inform policy and operational adjustments at the regional and national levels.

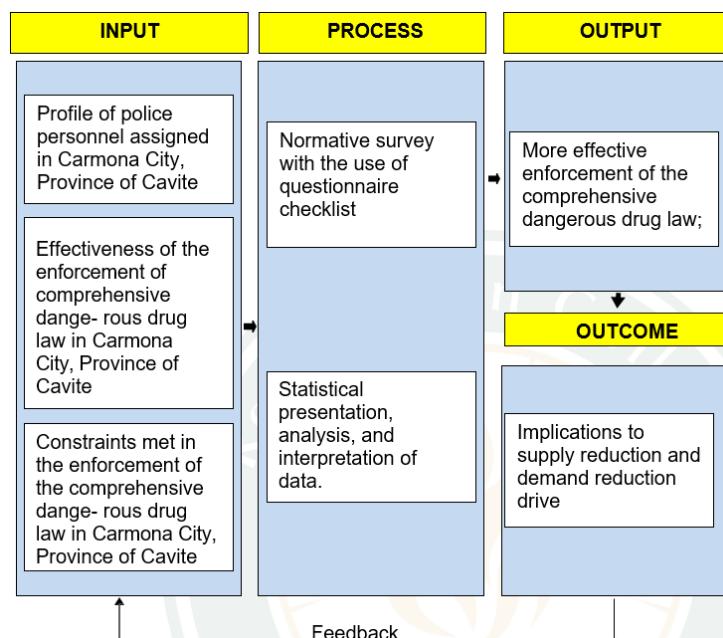


Figure 2 presents the Conceptual Paradigm of the Study.

### **Statement of the Problem**

This study assessed the enforcement of the comprehensive dangerous drug law in Carmona City, Province of Cavite, and its implications to supply reduction and demand reduction drive.

Specifically, it sought to answer the following problems:

1. What is the profile of police personnel assigned in Carmona City, Province of Cavite in terms of:
  - 1.1 Education;
  - 1.2 Eligibility;
  - 1.3 Appointment;
  - 1.4 Rank Classification;
  - 1.5 Years in Service; and
  - 1.6 Career Training?
2. What is the effectiveness of the enforcement of the comprehensive dangerous drug law in Carmona City, Province of Cavite in terms of:
  - 2.1 Standard Investigation;
  - 2.2 Surveillance Operation
  - 2.3 Informants' Utilization; and
  - 2.4 Cooperative Investigation?
3. What are the constraints met in the enforcement of the comprehensive dangerous drug law in Carmona City, Province of Cavite in terms of:
  - 3.1 Organized Capabilities;
  - 3.2 Intelligence Requirements;
  - 3.3 Sources of Information; and
  - 3.4 Inter-agency Cooperation?
4. Is there any significant relationship between the effectiveness and the constraints met in the enforcement of the comprehensive dangerous drug law in Carmona City, Province of Cavite?
5. What are the implications of the results of the study to supply reduction and demand reduction drive?

### **Hypothesis**

Relatively with the conduct of this study, the researcher tested the null hypothesis that "there is no significant relationship between the effectiveness and the constraints met in the enforcement of the comprehensive dangerous drug law in Carmona City, Province of Cavite."

### **Significance of the Study**

The results of this study were significant to the following:

**General Public and Community.** The results of the study may benefit the general public by making them more aware whether the drug problems are effectively addressed by the government through its law enforcement agencies, and the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act are effectively being enforced to protect them from becoming victimized from its ill effects.

**Carmona City Police Station (CCPS).** The results of the study may benefit the Carmona City Police Station (CCPS) in terms of assessment and validation of the actual level of the extent of the effectiveness of enforcement of the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act. Therefore, it may also serve as an agent of change in improving and modifying existing enforcement process.

**Local Government Unit (LGU).** The results of the study may benefit the concerned Local Government Unit (LGU) because it may use as a parameter to gauge the responsiveness of the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act in effectively meeting the problems brought about by the dangerous drugs in the locality, and its effects to the citizenry.

**Dangerous Drug Board (DDB).** The results of the study may benefit the Dangerous Drugs Board (DDB) because it may also give way to patch-up the lack of coordination and cooperation from among the different law enforcement agencies involved in the effective enforcement of the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Law in the different places of the country.

**Other and Future Researchers.** The results of the study may also serve as a basis in the conduct of another research on areas related to the present study. It may also serve as a reference in the formulation of new policies, rules and regulations aimed of improving the effectiveness of enforcement of the provisions of the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act.

### **Scope and Limitations of the Study**

The study was conducted in Carmona City, Province of Cavite. The subject of the study was

the Carmona City Police Station, Cavite Police Provincial Office (CCPS, CPPO), while the respondents of the study were the police personnel (PP) assigned in the subject of the study and the Barangay Captains (BC) of the different barangays within the setting of the study. This study covered a period of one academic year, that is, from June 2023 to March 2024.

This study was limited only on the specific problems in the questionnaire checklist by giving emphasis on the following: profile of police personnel assigned in Carmona City, Province Cavite, extent of the effectiveness of the enforcement of the comprehensive dangerous drug law in Carmona City, Province of Cavite, and degree of the constraints met in the enforcement of the comprehensive dangerous drug law in Carmona City, Province of Cavite.

### **Research Methodology**

This section presents the following: research design, research setting, respondents and sampling procedures, validity and reliability of instrument, data gathering procedures, and statistical treatment of data.

### **Research Design**

This study employed a descriptive research design, which is appropriate for examining the current status, practices, and challenges in enforcing the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act (R.A. No. 9165) in Carmona City, Cavite. As defined by Good and Scates (2014), descriptive research aims to answer the questions who, what, when, where, and how of a particular phenomenon. Best and Khan (2003) further clarify that descriptive research involves the systematic collection and analysis of data to understand and present the current condition or status of a subject or issue. Likewise, Noaks and

Wincup (2014) describe this design as a scientific approach to investigating and portraying existing conditions based on factual data collection.

### **Population and Sampling**

The research employed a non-probability purposive sampling method, choosing participants according to their designated roles in drug law enforcement in Carmona City.

This method effectively targets a specific group, namely police officers in drug enforcement units, who possess relevant knowledge and are directly engaged in executing anti-drug policies and operations—the sample comprised [insert number here, e.g., 50] police personnel from local enforcement agencies.

### **Research Setting**

This study was conducted at Carmona City, Province of Cavite. As published in [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carmona,\\_Cavite](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carmona,_Cavite). Accessed as of September 30, 2023, the research setting is a 1st class component city in the Province of Cavite. According to the 2020 census, it has a population of 106,256 people. Carmona is also one of the newest cities in the Philippines. It is located on the easternmost part of the province of Cavite, approximately 36 kilometers south of Manila and 24 kilometers from Trece Martires, Cavite's seat of government. It is bounded on the north, east and south by the City of Biñan, Laguna, Municipality of General Mariano Alvarez in the north-west and Silang on the south-west. The geographic coordinates of Carmona are about 14.32° latitude and 121.06° longitude.

As indicated in [cavite.gov.ph/home/cities-and-municipalities/municipality-of-carmona](http://cavite.gov.ph/home/cities-and-municipalities/municipality-of-carmona). Accessed as of September 30, 2023, the topography is generally flat to strongly rolling or sloping, partly lowland and partly hill. Carmona is divided into four physiographical areas: the lowest lowland area, the lowland area, the central hilly area and the upland mountainous area. The city is also within the path of a fault line, the Valley Fault System which starts from the Sierra Madre mountains. It is politically subdivided into 14 barangays, and with a total of 106,256 population as of POPCEN 2020. Is an industrial community that prides itself as the only town in the Philippines that gives its residents a chance to till communal agricultural lands for three years free of any financial liabilities through their "Sorteo ng Bukid", a method of raffling off communal agricultural lands to any qualified son and/or daughter of the town every three years.

Figure 3 presents the research setting of the study.



Figure 3. Research Setting of the Study

### Respondents and Sampling Procedure

The respondents of the study were the 76 police personnel assigned in Carmona City, Province of Cavite and the 14 barangay

captains of the different barangays, within the research setting of the study.

Table 1 presents the respondents and sample of the study.

Table 1. Respondents and Sample of the Study

Respondents	Population	Sample
Police Personnel	73	73
Barangay Captains	14	14
<b>Total</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>87</b>

From the above table, the samples of the study were determined thru the total enumeration or 100% of the total number of both the different groups of respondents. The study was having a total population of 87, and a total sample of 87, respectively.

The above sampling design was adopted based on the rationale that the true pictures on effectiveness of the enforcement of the comprehensive dangerous drug law in Carmona City, Cavite and the constraints met in the enforcement of the comprehensive dangerous drug law in Carmona City, Cavite, were determined using the above stated sample as target respondents.

### Research Instrument

This study used a questionnaire checklist that was devised with the help and guidance of a thesis adviser, and used the work of Soriano,

Ibutnade and Jaudian (2021) as reference. It was divided into three parts, as follows:

**Part I** of the instrument was designed to draw information on the profile of police personnel assigned in Carmona City, Province of Cavite in terms of: education, eligibility, appointment, rank classification, years in service, and career training.

**Part II** of the instrument was composed of 20-item checklist under four sub- headings, and which are all designed to draw information on the effectiveness of the enforcement of the comprehensive dangerous drug law in Carmona City, Province of Cavite in terms of standard investigation, surveillance operations, informants' utilization, and cooperative investigation.

**Part III** of the instrument was composed of 20-item checklist under four sub- headings, and which are all designed to draw information on the constraints met in the enforcement of the comprehensive dangerous drug law in Carmona City, Province of Cavite in terms of human capabilities, intelligence requirements,

sources of information, and inter-agency cooperation.

### **Data Gathering Procedure**

The researcher first sought permission from the Chief of Police, Carmona City Police Station, Carmona City, Province of Cavite of allowing her to float the questionnaire checklist from among the target respondents within the research setting of the study.

The researcher has personally administered and explained the mechanics and concepts in answering the questionnaire for a period of one (1) month from among the different groups of respondents. Individual and personal approach was likewise be made by the researcher, purposely to facilitate the expeditious and early retrieval of the duly accomplished questionnaire checklist.

### **Validity and Reliability of the Instrument**

As discussed by Barts (2009), the validity, which refers to the degree to which a study supports the intended conclusions drawn from the results was established through construct validity by examining each item to know whether the instrument in question does in fact measure what it has been designated to measure. The questionnaire had been revised further for fine tuning to suit the needs, relatively with the conduct of this scientific inquiry.

Based on the work of Best & Khan (2013), the reliability which refers to the consistency of measuring instrument, often used to describe a test was determined through the conduct of test-retest method by administering the questionnaire checklist to the 10 drug enforcement personnel and to the 10 barangay captains, both within the research setting of the study

Using the work of Cox, Fitzgerald & Fox (2016) as reference, the reliability coefficient was computed by using the Pearson r. The results on both parts of the instrument were than 1.00; hence, both parts of the instrument were reliable. The instrument was revised further for fine tuning to suit the needs of the study.

### **Scoring Procedures**

In Part I of the instrument, the profile of police personnel assigned in Carmona City, Province of Cavite was determined by the use of frequency and percentage distribution.

In Part II of the instrument, the effectiveness of the enforcement of the comprehensive dangerous drug law in Carmona City, Province of Cavite was evaluated according to hereunder five-point scale.

In Part III of the instrument, the constraints met in the enforcement of the comprehensive dangerous drug law in Carmona City, Province of Cavite was evaluated according to hereunder five-point scale.

<b>Ranges</b>	<b>Scale</b>	<b>Verbal Description</b>	<b>Qualifying Description</b>
4.50 - 5.00	5	Strongly Agree (SA)	Very Effective (VE)
3.50 - 4.49	4	Agree (A)	Effective (E)
2.50 - 3.49	3	Moderately Agree (MA)	Moderately Effective (ME)
1.50 - 2.49	2	Less Agree (LA)	Less Effective (LE)
1.00 - 1.49	1	Not Agree (NA)	Not Effective (NE)

<b>Ranges</b>	<b>Scale</b>	<b>Verbal Description</b>	<b>Qualifying Description</b>
4.50 - 5.00	5	Strongly Agree (SA)	Very Serious (VS)
3.50 - 4.49	4	Agree (A)	Serious (S)
2.50 - 3.49	3	Moderately Agree (MA)	Moderately Serious (LS)
1.50 - 2.49	2	Less Agree (SA)	Less Serious (SS)
1.00 - 1.49	1	Not Agree (NA)	Not Serious (NS)

Moreover, in determining the qualifying description from the verbal description of responses made by respondents in Part II and Part III of the instrument, the following modes were taken into consideration: if the response

is strongly agree, it is very effective or very serious; if it is agree, it is effective or serious; if it is moderately agree, it is moderately effective or moderately serious; if it is less agree, it is less

effective or less serious; and if it is not agree, it is not effective or not serious.

Therefore, translating the verbal description to qualifying description is an important statistical terminology, since real-world problems do not often present themselves in statistical terms. Hence, the statistical data often has to be inferred from the context of the qualifying description.

### **Statistical Treatment**

Having collected, computed, analyzed, and interpreted the data gathered, the researcher will employ the following statistical tools:

Initially, by using the work of Concepcion (2007), the profile of police personnel assigned in Carmona City, Province of Cavite was studied through the use of frequency and percentage distribution with the application of Microsoft Excel.

Moreover, by using the work of Ybanez-Monzon (2007), the effectiveness of the enforcement of the comprehensive dangerous drug law in Carmona City, Province of Cavite and the constraints met in the enforcement of the comprehensive dangerous drug law in Carmona City, Province of Cavite were both studied by the use of weighted frequency and

weighted mean through the application of Microsoft Excel.

Finally, by using the work of Blalock (2007), the hypothesis formulated in the conduct of this study, "there is no significant relationship between the effectiveness and the constraints met in the enforcement of the comprehensive dangerous drug law in Carmona City, Province of Cavite," was tested by using the  $\chi^2$  or the chi-square test, the most widely used non-parametric test through the application of SPSS v. 1.0.0.1406, Series of 2017. The level of significance was established at 0.05 level.

## **Results and Discussions**

This section provides the presentation of statistical data related to the problems as earlier posited. Corresponding analysis and interpretation of these data are likewise incorporated in this portion.

### ***Sub-problem No. 1. Profile of Police Personnel Assigned in Carmona City, Province of Cavite***

#### **1. Education**

Table 2 below presents the profile of police personnel assigned in Carmona City, Province of Cavite as to education.

*Table 2. Education of Police Personnel Assigned in Carmona City, Province of Cavite*

<b>Education</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>	<b>Ranking</b>
Master's Graduate	3	3.95	2
College Graduate	73	96.5	1
<b>T o t a l</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>-</b>

Ranked first and obtained a frequency of 73 and percentage distribution of 95.05% are college graduate; and ranked second and obtained a frequency of 3 and percentage distribution of 3.95% are master's graduate.

As can be deduced from the table, the dominance of college graduates in the study population may suggest that focusing on educational initiatives, particularly targeting this demographic profile, could be an effective strategy for enhancing awareness and compliance with

drug laws. Additionally, while the percentage of master's graduates is lower, their expertise could be leveraged for more specialized roles within the enforcement system implementing targeted interventions.

#### **2. Eligibility**

Table 3 below presents the profile of police personnel assigned in Carmona City, Province of Cavite as to eligibility.

*Table 3. Eligibility of Police Personnel Assigned in Carmona City, Province of Cavite*

<b>Eligibility</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>	<b>Ranking</b>
NAPOLCOM Exam. Eligibility	44	57.89	1
PRC Examination Eligibility	30	39.47	2
CSC Prof. Exam. Eligibility	2	2.63	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>100.00</b>	-

Ranked first and obtained a frequency of 44 and percentage distribution of 57.89% are with National Police Commission (NAPOLCOM) examination eligibility; ranked second and obtained a frequency of 30 and percentage distribution of 39.47% are with Professional Regulations Commission (PRC) examination eligibility; and ranked third and obtained a frequency of 2 and percentage distribution of 2.63% are with Civil Service Commission (CSC) professional examination eligibility.

As can be gleaned from the table, the high percentage of individuals with NAPOLCOM examination eligibility suggests a strong emphasis on police training and qualification, which is crucial for effective law enforcement, especially

in dealing with issues related to dangerous drugs. The presence of individuals with PRC and CSC examination eligibility adds diversity to the skill set within the enforcement system, potentially improving the overall effectiveness of the efforts of the concerned local police unit. This interpretation is based on the assumption that eligibility in these examinations corresponds to active involvement in law enforcement activities related to the enforcement of the comprehensive dangerous drug law.

### **3. Appointment**

Table 4 below presents the profile of police personnel assigned in Carmona City, Province of Cavite as to appointment.

*Table 4. Appointment of Police Personnel Assigned in Carmona City, Province of Cavite*

<b>Appointment</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>	<b>Ranking</b>
Permanent	74	93.37	1
Temporary	2	6.63	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>100.00</b>	-

Ranked first and obtained a frequency of 74 and percentage distribution of 93.37% are permanent; and ranked second and obtained a frequency of 2 and percentage distribution of 6.63% are temporary.

As can be inferred from the table, the high percentage of permanent employees implies a dedicated and stable workforce committed to the enforcement of drug laws. Permanent positions often allow for a deeper understanding of the local context, and a more sustained effort towards achieving long-term goals, such as reducing drug-related incidents. The stability

associated with appointment can contribute to the development of expertise and a sense of accountability within the concerned police unit.

However, it is important to note that the effectiveness of drug law enforcement involves various factors beyond status of appointment of police personnel, but most importantly is the required community support and involvement.

### **4. Rank Classification**

Table 5 below presents the profile of police personnel assigned in Carmona City, Province of Cavite as to rank classification.

*Table 5. Rank Classification of Police Personnel Assigned in Carmona City, Province of Cavite*

<b>Appointment</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>	<b>Ranking</b>
<b>Patrolman/ Woman</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>28.95</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Police Corporal</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>19.74</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Police Staff Sergeant</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>14.47</b>	<b>3</b>

Appointment	Frequency	Percentage	Ranking
<b>Police Master Sergeant</b>	8	10.53	4
<b>Police Senior Master Sgt.</b>	6	7.89	5
<b>Police Chief Master Sgt.</b>	5	6.58	6
<b>Police Exec. Master Sgt.</b>	4	5.26	7
<b>Police Lieutenant</b>	3	3.95	8
<b>Police Captain</b>	1	1.32	9
<b>Police Lieutenant Colonel</b>	1	1.32	9
<b>Total</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>100.00</b>	-

Ranked first and obtained a frequency of 22 and percentage distribution of 28.95% are Patrolman/woman; ranked second and obtained a frequency of 15 and percentage distribution of 19.74% are Police Corporal; ranked third and obtained a frequency of 11 and percentage distribution of 14.47% are Police Staff Sergeant; ranked fourth and obtained a frequency of 8 and percentage distribution of 10.53% are Police Master Sergeant; ranked fifth and obtained a frequency of 6 and percentage distribution of 7.89% are Police Senior Master Sergeant; ranked sixth and obtained a frequency of 6 and percentage distribution of 7.89% are Police Chief Master Sergeant; ranked seventh and obtained a frequency of 4 and percentage distribution of 5.26% are Police Executive Master Sergeant; ranked eighth and obtained a frequency of 4 and percentage distribution of 3.95% are Police Lieutenant; and ranked ninth and obtained a frequency of 1 and percentage

distribution of 1.32% are the Police Captain and Police Lieutenant Colonel.

As can be surmised from the table, the distribution of rank profile suggests a hierarchical structure within the concerned local police unit. The presence of officers at various levels, from entry-level Patrolmen/women to the highest rank of Police Lieutenant Colonel, indicates a diverse and layered approach to drug law enforcement. This hierarchy allows for the delegation of responsibilities, specialization, and the implementation of comprehensive strategies. However, for a more effective enforcement of the comprehensive dangerous drug law, the 4Cs, that is, cooperation, coordination, collaboration, and communication.

##### 5. Years in Service

Table 6 below presents the profile of police personnel assigned in Carmona City, Province of Cavite as to years in service.

Table 6. Years in Service of Police Personnel Assigned in Carmona City, Province of Cavite

Years in Service	Frequency	Percentage	Ranking
1 - 5	13	17.11	4
6 - 10	16	21.05	3
11 - 15	19	25.00	1
16 - 20	18	23.68	2
21 - 25	10	13.16	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>100.00</b>	-

Ranked first and obtained a frequency of 19 and percentage distribution of 25.00% are 11 to 15 years in police service; ranked second and obtained a frequency of 18 and percentage distribution of 23.68% are 16 to 20 years in police service; ranked third and obtained a frequency of 16 and percentage distribution of 21.05% are 6 to 10 years in police service; ranked fourth and obtained a frequency of 13 and

percentage distribution of 17.11% are 1 to 5 years in police service; and ranked fifth and obtained a frequency of 10 and percentage distribution of 13.16% are 21 to 25 years in police service.

As can be amassed from the table, the distribution of years of service reflects a diverse and experienced policing and law enforcement

workforce in the locality. A balanced mix of personnel across different service durations is essential for effective law enforcement. However, to enhance the effectiveness of drug law enforcement, it would be beneficial to implement training programs that cater to the specific needs of police personnel at different stages of their careers. The collaboration among police

personnel with varying levels of experience can contribute to a comprehensive and adaptive approach to tackling drug-related challenges.

### 6. Career Training

Table 7 below presents the profile of police personnel assigned in Carmona City, Province of Cavite as to career training.

Table 7. Career Training of Police Personnel Assigned in Carmona City, Province of Cavite

Years in Service	Frequency	Percentage	Ranking
PS Basic Recruit Course	45	59.21	1
PS Junior Leadership course	14	18.42	2
PS Senior Leadership Course	7	9.21	3
PS Officers Candidate Course	5	6.58	4
PS Officers Basic Course	3	3.95	5
PS Advance Officers Course	2	2.63	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>100.00</b>	-

Ranked first and obtained a frequency of 15 and percentage distribution of 59.21% completed the Public Safety Basic Recruit Course; ranked second and obtained a frequency of 14 and percentage distribution of 18.42% completed the Public Safety Junior Leadership Course; ranked third and obtained a frequency of 7 and percentage distribution of 9.21% completed the Public Safety Senior Leadership Course; ranked fourth and obtained a frequency of 5 and percentage distribution of 6.58% completed the Public Safety Officers Candidate Course; ranked fifth and obtained a frequency of 3 and percentage distribution of 3.95% completed the Public Safety Officers Basic Course; and ranked fifth and obtained a frequency of 2 and percentage distribution of 2.63% completed the Public Safety Officers Advance Officers Course.

As can be figured from the table, the distribution of courses completed by the police personnel in the concerned local police unit reflects a comprehensive approach to training

law enforcement personnel in Carmona City. The emphasis on foundational training, that is, the PSBRC, leadership development, such as, PSJLC, PSSLC, and advanced courses, namely: PSOCC, PSOBC, PSAOC, suggests a commitment to preparing officers at various stages of their careers for the challenges associated with enforcing laws, including those related to dangerous drugs. The varieties of completed courses of police personnel indicates a diverse skill set within the force, which can contribute to a multifaceted and adaptive approach to addressing the complexities of drug-related issues.

### Sub-problem No. 2. Effectiveness of the Enforcement of the Comprehensive Dangerous Drug Law in Carmona City, Province of Cavite

#### 1. Standard Investigation

Table 8 below presents the assessments of respondents of the effectiveness of the enforcement of the comprehensive dangerous drug law in Carmona City, Province of Cavite as to standard investigation.

Table 8. Effectiveness of the Enforcement of the Comprehensive Dangerous Drug Law in Carmona City, Province of Cavite as to Standard Investigation

Indicators	PP		BC		OWM	VD
	WM	VD	WM	VD		
1. Conducting investigation in accordance with the comprehensive drug law, and other pertinent laws.	4.36	VE	4.14	E	4.25	VE

Indicators	PP		BC		OWM	VD
	WM	VD	WM	VD		
2. Observing transparency in the investigation by giving emphasis on integrity of the chain of custody.	4.50	VE	4.18	E	4.34	VE
3. Strictly adhering to provisions of the Constitution and the drug law in all anti-illegal drug investigation.	4.50	VE	4.12	E	4.31	VE
4. Building-up of drug cases relatively with anti-drug investigation in identifying and locating the suspect.	4.57	VE	4.03	E	4.30	VE
5. Preparing of case operation plan detailing the investigation against specific target personalities.	4.57	VE	4.09	E	4.33	VE
<b>OWM &amp; OVD</b>	<b>4.50</b>	<b>VE</b>	<b>4.11</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>4.31</b>	<b>VE</b>

**Legend**

WM	-	Weighted Mean
VE	-	Very Effective
VD	-	Verbal Description
E	-	Effective
OWM	-	Overall Weighted Mean
ME	-	Moderately Effective
LE	-	Less Effective
OVD	-	Overall Verbal Description
NE	-	Not Effective

The study's findings indicate that police officers in Carmona City, Province of Cavite view the enforcement of the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act as highly effective, especially regarding standard investigation practices. According to the evaluations from two groups of respondents, a number of key practices were consistently rated as "very effective." The practice of maintaining transparency and upholding the integrity of the chain of custody during investigations received the highest weighted mean of 4.34. The subsequent steps included the formulation of comprehensive case operation plans aimed at particular individuals (4.33), adherence to constitutional protections and drug legislation (4.31), methodical case development for identifying and locating suspects (4.30), and the overall execution of investigations in line with applicable legal standards (4.25). The overall mean score for this dimension of enforcement was 4.21, indicating a significant level of operational effectiveness.

The findings underscore the commitment of local law enforcement to established investigative protocols and demonstrate a methodical, organized strategy in anti-drug initiatives. The systematic implementation of these procedures bolsters the reliability of drug-related prosecutions and reduces the likelihood of

technical dismissals stemming from procedural oversights.

These findings correspond with the previous claims made by Blum (2011), who highlighted that the success of extensive drug enforcement initiatives is significantly dependent on the efficacy of established investigative methods. These practices encompass the meticulous gathering of evidence, accurate documentation, adherence to due process, and the dignified treatment of all individuals involved. Through the establishment of these procedures, the police force enhances the administration of justice while simultaneously bolstering public confidence in law enforcement.

The study highlights numerous significant policy consequences. Continuous training and professional growth are needed to maintain this elevated level of performance. Officers must stay updated on both conventional investigation methods and new technologies, including digital evidence management and AI-based analytics.

The efficacy shown in Carmona should be institutionalized by national policy and inter-agency frameworks, maybe overseen by the PDEA or DDB. Implementing national standards and reproducible models may enhance practices across jurisdictions.

The results underscore the significance of inter-agency coordination. Although local law enforcement is at the forefront, effective drug enforcement requires cohesive collaboration with customs, intelligence agencies, and prosecuting entities. Establishing communication channels and collaborative activities helps mitigate current fragmentation.

Ultimately, community involvement must be a fundamental component of enforcement efforts. Informing the public on the functions of law enforcement and procedural standards may enhance trust, augment intelligence collection, and cultivate community support in the battle against illicit substances.

Carmona City's achievement demonstrates that successful drug law enforcement relies on resources, professional skill, strategic alignment, and public cooperation. These observations provide significant guidance for improving local and national enforcement initiatives.

## 2. Surveillance Operations

Table 9 below presents the assessments of respondents of the effectiveness of the enforcement of the comprehensive dangerous drug law in Carmona City, Province of Cavite as to surveillance operations.

*Table 9. Effectiveness of the Enforcement of the Comprehensive Dangerous Drug Law in Carmona City, Province of Cavite as to Surveillance Operation*

Indicators	PP		BC		OWM	VD
	WM	VD	WM	VD		
1. Initiating the use of technical and scientific devices to enhance seeing the subject's activities.	4.57	VE	4.14	E	4.36	VE
2. Utilizing eavesdropping through electronic means, such as hidden microphone or radio transmitter.	4.57	VE	3.91	E	4.24	VE
3. Employing the services of undercover agents to join certain organizations for close surveillance.	4.50	VE	4.01	E	4.26	VE
4. Blending-in with the community in playing the role that the people will accept without suspicion.	4.43	VE	3.96	E	4.19	E
5. Ensuring that thoroughness is given to the preliminary preparations in handling contingencies.	4.50	VE	4.08	E	4.29	VE
<b>OWM &amp; OVD</b>	<b>4.51</b>	<b>VE</b>	<b>4.02</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>4.27</b>	<b>VE</b>

### Legend

WM	-	Weighted Mean
VE	-	Very Effective
VD	-	Verbal Description
E	-	Effective
OWM	-	Overall Weighted Mean
ME	-	Moderately Effective
GWM	-	Grand Weighted Mean
LE	-	Less Effective
OVD	-	Overall Verbal Description
NE	-	Not Effective

The two groups of respondents assessed the effectiveness of the enforcement of the comprehensive dangerous drug law in Carmona City, Province of Cavite as to surveillance operation based on the following indicators: initiating the use of technical and scientific devices to enhance seeing the subject's activities, with a weighted mean of 4.36, very effective; ensuring that

thoroughness is given to the preliminary preparations in handling contingencies, with a weighted mean of 4.29, very effective; employing the services of undercover agents to join certain organizations for close surveillance, with a weighted mean of 4.26, very effective; utilizing eavesdropping through electronic means, such as hidden microphone or radio transmitter, with a weighted mean of 4.24, very

effective; and blending-in with the community in playing the role that the people will accept without suspicion, with a weighted mean of 4.19, effective. The grand weighted mean is 4.27 and the overall verbal description is very effective.

As evidenced in the table, the respondents assessed the effectiveness of the enforcement of the comprehensive dangerous drug law in Carmona City, Province of Cavite as to surveillance operations as very effective. This is analogous to the findings in the work of Delo Tufo (2013), that the effectiveness of the enforcement of the comprehensive dangerous drug law is significantly influenced by the implementation of surveillance operations. Surveillance serves as a critical tool in monitoring and gathering intelligence on individuals and networks involved in illegal drug activities. The use of modern technology, such as closed-circuit television (CCTV) cameras, advanced data analytics, and other surveillance methods, enhances the ability of the concerned local police unit to track and apprehend those engaged in drug-related offenses. By maintaining a vigilant eye on potential suspects, surveillance operations contribute to the prevention and detection of illicit drug trade within the locality. Moreover, strategic and well-coordinated surveillance operations also play a crucial role in

identifying patterns and trends in drug-related activities. This predictive approach enables authorities to disrupt drug operations at various stages, from production and distribution to sale.

The findings demonstrate significant operational capacity in local surveillance initiatives, highlighting Carmona City's proactive stance on drug enforcement. However, to sustain and enhance effectiveness, several policy directions are recommended: continued investment in advanced surveillance technologies, strict adherence to legal and ethical standards, improved community engagement through trust-based policing, strengthened inter-agency coordination for real-time intelligence sharing, and institutionalized training programs with specialized units for modern surveillance techniques. These steps are crucial for maintaining alignment with the increasing complexity of illicit drug activities.

### 3. Informants' Utilization

Table 10 below presents the assessments of respondents of the effectiveness of the enforcement of the comprehensive dangerous drug law in Carmona City, Province of Cavite as to informants utilization.

*Table 10. Effectiveness of the Enforcement of the Comprehensive Dangerous Drug Law in Carmona City, Province of Cavite as to Informants' Utilization*

Indicators	PP		BC		OWM	VD
	WM	VD	WM	VD		
1.Creating an opportunity to develop informants through an intimate knowledge of the neighborhood.	4.34	VE	4.14	E	4.24	VE
2.Cultivating potential informants and motivating them at opportune moment to share what they know.	4.43	VE	4.07	E	4.25	VE
3.Increasing the scope of area coverage within the capability of the local police unit through informants.	4.50	VE	4.12	E	4.31	VE
4.Uncovering drug trafficking operation that are not been discovered through the services of informants.	4.40	VE	4.13	E	4.27	VE
5.Utilizing informants as continuous and covert sources of information concerning drug investigation.	4.36	VE	4.07	E	4.22	VE
<b>OWM &amp; OVD</b>	4.43	VE	4.11	E	4.26	VE

#### Legend

WM	-	Weighted Mean
VE	-	Very Effective
VD	-	Verbal Description
E	-	Effective
OWM	-	Overall Weighted Mean

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ME	-	Moderately Effective
OWM	-	Overall Weighted Mean
LE	-	Less Effective
OVD	-	Overall Verbal Description
NE	-	Not Effective

The two groups of respondents assessed the effectiveness of the enforcement of the comprehensive dangerous drug law in Carmona City, Province of Cavite as to informants utilization based on the following indicators: uncovering drug trafficking operation that are not been discovered through the services of informants, with a weighted mean of 4.31, very effective; increasing the scope of area coverage within the capability of the local police unit through informants, with a weighted mean of 4.27, very effective; creating an opportunity to develop informants through an intimate knowledge of the neighborhood, with a weighted mean of 4.24, very effective; cultivating potential informants and motivating them at opportune moment to share what they know, with a weighted mean of 4.25, very effective; and utilizing informants as continuous and covert sources of information concerning drug investigation, with a weighted mean of 4.22, very effective. The grand weighted mean is 4.26 and the overall verbal description is very effective.

As explicated in the table, the respondents assessed the effectiveness of the enforcement of the comprehensive dangerous drug law in Carmona City, Province of Cavite as to informants' utilization as very effective. This is comparable to the findings in the work of Fox & Forbing (2012), that the effectiveness of enforcing the comprehensive dangerous drug law heavily relies on the strategic and judicious utilization of informants. Informants play a pivotal role in gathering actionable intelligence, providing law enforcement agencies with valuable insights into the intricate networks involved in drug-related activities. The ability to cultivate and manage informants effectively enhances the capacity of authorities to identify key players, understand distribution channels, and gather evidence crucial for successful investigation of drug related cases. The

confidentiality and protection of informants are paramount, fostering an environment where individuals feel safe coming forward with information, ultimately contributing to the dismantling of illicit drug operations. However, the potential risks associated with informants' utilization, such as compromised safety and credibility concerns, underscore the importance of stringent oversight and accountability mechanisms.

The example of Carmona City shows that using informants effectively is not only possible but also crucial to stopping illicit drug activity. When handled well, it upholds moral and legal principles while fostering community-based intelligence, expanding operational reach, and offering a strategic edge. This strategy ought to guide more extensive legislative efforts to improve intelligence-led police nationwide.

Carmona's effective use of informant networks offers a model for other areas to develop systems for recruiting, managing, and rewarding informants. Ensuring informant safety and credibility is vital, and law enforcement should strengthen guidelines and provide access to witness protection. Building trust between law enforcement and communities is crucial for improving information flow. Specialized training and clear accountability protocols are necessary to handle informants ethically and legally. National agencies like PDEA and DDB should standardize informant utilization to align local practices with national security and human rights standards.

#### **4. Cooperative Investigation**

Table 10 below presents the assessments of respondents of the effectiveness of the enforcement of the comprehensive dangerous drug law in Carmona City, Province of Cavite as to cooperative investigation.

**Table 11. Effectiveness of the Enforcement of the Comprehensive Dangerous Drug Law in Carmona City, Province of Cavite as to Cooperative Investigation**

Indicators	PP		BC		OWM	VD
	WM	VD	WM	VD		
1.Organizing of task forces from several law enforcement agencies for anti-drug investigation.	4.33	VE	4.33	VE	4.28	VE
2.Instituting a joint training program to resolve problems encountered by the multi-agency teams.	4.50	VE	4.50	VE	4.38	VE
3.Conceiving of guidelines involving such things as who is to be notified when drug case is investigated.	4.64	VE	4.64	VE	4.40	VE
4.Establishing clear lines of responsibility, authority and accountability during cooperative investigation.	4.45	VE	4.45	VE	4.23	VE
5.Applying inter-agency coordination to pool talents and information sharing to attack the drug problem.	4.40	VE	4.40	VE	4.30	VE
<b>OWM &amp; OVD</b>	<b>4.46</b>	<b>VE</b>	<b>4.17</b>	<b>VE</b>	<b>4.32</b>	<b>VE</b>

**Legend**

WM	-	Weighted Mean
VE	-	Very Effective
VD	-	Verbal Description
E	-	Effective
OWM	-	Overall Weighted Mean
ME	-	Moderately Effective
OWM	-	Grand Weighted Mean
LE	-	Less Effective
OVD	-	Overall Verbal Description
NE	-	Not Effective

The two groups of respondents assessed the effectiveness of the enforcement of the comprehensive dangerous drug law in Carmona City, Province of Cavite as to cooperative investigation based on the following indicators: conceiving of guidelines involving such things as who is to be notified when drug case is investigated, with a weighted mean of 4.40, very effective; instituting a joint training program to resolve problems encountered by the multi-agency teams, with a weighted mean of 4.38, very effective; applying inter-agency coordination to pool talents and information sharing to attack the drug problem, with a weighted mean of 4.30, very effective; organizing of task forces from several law enforcement agencies for anti-drug investigation, with a weighted mean of 4.28, very effective; and establishing clear lines of responsibility, authority and accountability during cooperative investigation, with a weighted mean of 4.23, very effective. The grand weighted mean is 4.32 and the overall verbal description is very effective.

As exhibited in table, the respondents assessed the effectiveness of the enforcement of

the comprehensive dangerous drug law in Carmona City, Province of Cavite as to cooperative investigation as very effective. This is identical to the findings in the work of Lyman (2009), that the effectiveness of enforcing the comprehensive dangerous drug law is greatly influenced by cooperative investigation efforts. Collaboration among various law enforcement agencies, and relevant government bodies, is crucial for conducting thorough and comprehensive investigations into drug-related activities. A cooperative approach allows for the pooling of resources, expertise, and intelligence, creating a more holistic and efficient response to the challenges posed by the illicit drug trade in the locality. By breaking down silos and fostering inter-agency cooperation, the concerned local police unit thru cooperative investigation can effectively address drug-related issues more effectively and create a united front against illicit drug activities.

The findings highlight the importance of formalized cooperation among local police, customs, intelligence, and other agencies to address drug-related issues effectively. Policies

should promote communication, joint operations, and shared resources to enhance coordination. Joint training programs and addressing multi-agency challenges will improve operational efficiency, while clear lines of responsibility and accountability are essential for successful investigations. Policymakers should develop standardized guidelines for inter-agency collaboration to ensure transparency. Ultimately, fostering strategic collaboration and clear operational guidelines will lead to

more effective and efficient drug enforcement outcomes.

**Sub-problem No. 3. Constraints Met in the Enforcement of the Comprehensive Dangerous Drug Law in Carmona City, Province of Cavite**  
**1. Organizational Capabilities**

Table 12 below presents the assessments of respondents on the constraints met in the enforcement of the comprehensive dangerous drug law in Carmona City, Province of Cavite as to organizational capabilities.

**Table 12. Constraints Met in the Enforcement of the Comprehensive Dangerous Drug Law in Carmona City, Province of Cavite as to Organizational Resources**

Indicators	PP		BC		OWM	VD
	WM	VD	WM	VD		
1. Lack of trained human resources to be employed and deployed in the field of anti- drug operations.	4.29	VS	3.92	S	4.10	S
2. Limitations in the use of surveillance to enhance the collection of intelligence on drug personalities.	4.21	VS	3.92	S	4.07	S
3. Unavailability of a secured intelligence collection office as hub of numerous anti-drug operations.	3.93	S	3.80	S	3.87	S
4. Non-use facilities to improve the monitoring of the activities of personalities involved in drug trafficking.	3.93	S	3.78	S	3.85	S
5. Non provisions of the state-of-the-art computer hardware to be used during anti- drugs operations.	3.71	S	3.59	S	3.65	S
<b>OWM &amp; OVD</b>	<b>4.01</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>3.80</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>3.91</b>	<b>S</b>

**Legend**

WM	-Weighted Mean
VS	-Very Serious
VD	-Verbal Description
S	-Serious
OWM	-Overall Weighted Mean
MS	-Moderately Serious
LS	-Less Serious
OVD	-Overall
NS	-Not Serious

The two groups of respondents assessed the constraints met in the enforcement of the comprehensive dangerous drug law in Carmona City, Province of Cavite as to organizational capabilities, based on the following indicators: lack of trained human resources to be employed and deployed in the field of anti-drug operations, with a weighted mean of 4.10, serious; limitations in the use of surveillance to enhance the collection of intelligence on drug personalities, with a weighted mean of 4.07, serious; unavailability of a secured intelligence collection office as hub of numerous anti-drug

operations, with a weighted mean of 3.87, serious; non-use facilities to improve the monitoring of the activities of personalities involved in drug trafficking, with a weighted mean of 3.85, serious; and non-provisions of the state-of-the-art computer hardware to be used during anti-drugs operations, with a weighted mean of 3.65, serious. The grand weighted mean is 3.91 and the overall verbal description is serious.

As extracted in the table, the respondents assessed the constraints met in the enforcement of the comprehensive dangerous drug

law in Carmona City, Province of Cavite as to organizational capabilities as serious. This is resembling to the findings in the work of Gabrido (2012), that enforcing the comprehensive dangerous drug law is not without its challenges, particularly in terms of organizational capabilities. One significant problem lies in the capacity of the concerned local police unit to handle the complex and evolving nature of drug-related crimes. Limited resources, both in terms of manpower and technology, can impede the effectiveness of enforcement efforts. Inadequate training and outdated equipment may hinder the ability of the police personnel to keep pace with the sophisticated tactics employed by drug traffickers. This organizational capability gap may result in slower response times, difficulties in gathering and analyzing intelligence, and challenges in conducting successful operations against well-equipped criminal networks. Therefore, strengthening the organizational capabilities involves the breaking down of these barriers and fostering a more collaborative environment, and investing in technologies that facilitate information sharing.

The findings highlight the necessity of enhancing organizational capabilities within law enforcement to effectively address the challenges associated with enforcing the comprehensive dangerous drug law. The identified

constraints indicate areas necessitating prompt attention and policy interventions.

The lack of adequately trained personnel and limited surveillance capabilities are significant barriers to effective drug law enforcement. Policymakers should prioritize continuous training for police officers in modern investigative techniques and drug trafficking trends. Investment in advanced surveillance technologies, secure data systems, and centralized intelligence hubs is essential to enhance operational efficiency. Collaboration between local police, national agencies, and inter-agency task forces should be fostered through shared resources, joint training, and coordinated operations. Additionally, ensuring law enforcement agencies are equipped with state-of-the-art technologies and secure communication systems is crucial. Strengthening the institutional framework, including resources, operational guidelines, and accountability, is vital for improving the effectiveness of drug law enforcement in Carmona City and beyond.

## 2. Intelligence Requirements

Table 13 below presents the assessments of respondents on the constraints met in the enforcement of the comprehensive dangerous drug law in Carmona City, Province of Cavite as to intelligence requirements.

*Table 13. Constraints Met in the Enforcement of the Comprehensive Dangerous Drug Law in Carmona City, Province of Cavite as to Intelligence Requirements*

Indicators	PP		BC		OWM	VD
	WM	VD	WM	VD		
1. Insufficient intelligence and confidential funds to be used in the anti-drug operations campaign.	3.79	S	3.66	S	3.72	S
2. Unavailability of scientific and technical equipment to be used in the varied anti-illegal drug operations.	3.64	S	3.78	S	3.71	S
3. Non-provisions of the different types of vehicles to be used by the operatives in anti-drug operations	3.36	S	3.63	S	3.49	S
4. Inadequacy of clothing and individual equipment to be used by personnel during anti-drug operations.	3.50	S	3.54	S	3.52	S
5. Lack of required intelligence training from among personnel involved in the anti-drug law enforcement.	3.86	S	3.68	S	3.77	S
<b>OWM &amp; OVD</b>	<b>3.63</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>3.66</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>3.64</b>	<b>S</b>

### Legend

WM	-Weighted Mean
VS	-Very Serious
VD	-Verbal Description
S	-Serious

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OWM	-Overall Weighted Mean
MS	-Moderately Serious
LS	-Less Serious
OVD	-Overall
NS	-Not Serious

The two groups of respondents assessed the constraints met in the enforcement of the comprehensive dangerous drug law in Carmona City, Province of Cavite as to intelligence requirements, based on the following indicators: lack of required intelligence training from among personnel involved in the anti-drug law enforcement, with a weighted mean of 3.77, serious insufficient intelligence and confidential funds to be used in the anti-drug operations campaign, with a weighted mean of 3.72, serious; unavailability of scientific and technical equipment to be used in the varied anti-illegal drug operations, with a weighted mean of 3.71, serious; inadequacy of clothing and individual equipment to be used by personnel during anti-drug operations, with a weighted mean of 3.52, serious; and non-provisions of the different types of vehicles to be used by the operatives in anti-drug operations, with a weighted mean of 4.49, serious. The grand weighted mean is 3.64 and the overall verbal description is serious.

As intuited in the table, the respondents assessed the constraints met in the enforcement of the comprehensive dangerous drug law in Carmona City, Province of Cavite as to intelligence requirements as serious. This is reciprocal to the findings in the work of Laya (2017), that in the enforcement of the comprehensive dangerous drug law, challenges can arise concerning intelligence requirements. One significant constraint lies in the difficulty of obtaining accurate and timely intelligence on illicit drug activities. The clandestine nature of the drug trade makes it challenging for law enforcement agencies to infiltrate criminal networks and gather actionable information. Insufficient human intelligence sources, coupled with the ever-evolving tactics employed by drug traffickers to evade detection, pose obstacles to meeting the intelligence requirements necessary for effective law enforcement. Additionally, the lack of advanced technology and

surveillance capabilities may impede the ability to conduct sophisticated intelligence operations, hindering the identification of key players and disrupting drug supply chains in a timely manner. Another constraint is the need for enhanced cooperation and information-sharing mechanisms among different intelligence agencies.

The findings highlight serious constraints in intelligence requirements that hinder the effective enforcement of the comprehensive dangerous drug law in Carmona City. To address these challenges, several policy interventions are necessary:

Policymakers should focus on specialized training for law enforcement personnel to improve skills in intelligence gathering, analysis, and counterintelligence. Continuous development will help personnel manage complex operations effectively. There is also a need for dedicated budgets for intelligence and confidential operations to ensure law enforcement agencies can conduct thorough investigations. Investment in advanced technologies like drones and surveillance cameras is crucial to enhance intelligence-gathering capabilities. Additionally, providing specialized gear, clothing, and vehicles for operatives is necessary to ensure effective and safe operations. Promoting inter-agency collaboration will improve coordination and information-sharing, creating a more integrated approach to tackling the drug trade. By addressing these constraints through targeted policy actions, law enforcement agencies will be better equipped to handle the evolving nature of drug trafficking.

### **3. Sources of Information**

Table 14 below presents the assessments of respondents on the constraints met in the enforcement of the comprehensive dangerous drug law in Carmona City, Province of Cavite as to sources of information.

**Table 14. Constraints Met in the Enforcement of the Comprehensive Dangerous Drug Law in Carmona City, Province of Cavite as to Sources of Information**

Indicators	PP		BC		OWM	VD
	WM	VD	WM	VD		
1.Lack of personnel tasked to perform direct observation of personalities involved in drug trade.	4.07	S	3.87	S	3.97	S
2.Unavailability of useful information derived in the conduct of tactical interrogation of the drug suspect.	3.93	S	3.89	S	3.91	S
3.Non-use of agents serving as hindrance in the collection of information on drug personalities.	3.93	S	3.63	S	3.78	S
4.Existence of the members of the populace who are not cooperative in the giving of timely information.	4.00	S	3.74	S	3.87	S
5.Ill-maintained documents to be used in the analysis of activities and area of operations of drug suspect.	4.00	S	3.50	S	3.75	S
<b>OWM &amp; OVD</b>	<b>3.99</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>3.73</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>3.86</b>	<b>S</b>

**Legend**

WM	-Weighted Mean
VS	-Very Serious
VD	-Verbal Description
S	-Serious
OWM	-Overall Weighted Mean
MS	-Moderately Serious
LS	-Less Serious
OVD	-Overall
NS	-Not Serious

The two groups of respondents assessed the constraints met in the enforcement of the comprehensive dangerous drug law in Carmona City, Province of Cavite as to sources of information, based on the following indicators: lack of personnel tasked to perform direct observation of personalities involved in drug trade, with a weighted mean of 3.97, serious; unavailability of useful information derived in the conduct of tactical interrogation of the drug suspect, with a weighted mean of 3.91, serious; existence of the members of the populace who are not cooperative in the giving of timely information, with a weighted mean of 3.87, serious; non-use of agents serving as hindrance in the collection of information on drug personalities, with a weighted mean of 3.78, serious; and ill-maintained documents to be used in the analysis of activities and area of operations of drug suspect, with a weighted mean of 3.75, serious. The grand weighted mean is 3.86 and the overall verbal description is serious.

As expressed in the table, the respondents assessed the constraints met in the enforcement of the comprehensive dangerous drug law in Carmona City, Province of Cavite as to

sources of information as serious. This is homogenous to the findings in the work of Laya (2017), that the enforcement of the comprehensive dangerous drug law faces constraints related to the availability and reliability of sources of information. One significant challenge is the reluctance of individuals within communities to come forward with information due to fear of reprisals or concerns about personal safety. Overcoming this hurdle requires building trust between law enforcement agencies and the public through community engagement programs, outreach initiatives, and assurances of confidentiality and protection for those providing information. Encouraging a culture of cooperation and emphasizing the role of citizens in maintaining a safe and drug-free environment are crucial steps toward addressing this constraint within the locality. Another constraint in sourcing information for drug law enforcement is the often covert and sophisticated nature of illicit drug activities. Drug trafficking operates discreetly, making it challenging for the concerned local police unit to infiltrate and gather information.

Policymakers must focus on fostering trust between law enforcement agencies and the communities they serve to tackle these challenges effectively. This can be accomplished by implementing community engagement initiatives, conducting outreach programs, and safeguarding the protection and confidentiality of individuals who provide information. Additionally, enhancing the deployment of undercover agents and refining information documentation and analysis systems are essential for effective drug law enforcement. Addressing these obstacles necessitates a blend of fostering community collaboration, refining

intelligence operations, and ensuring improved coordination among law enforcement agencies. These initiatives will enhance Carmona City's capacity to address drug-related challenges and foster a more knowledgeable, collaborative atmosphere for fighting the drug trade.

#### 4. Inter-Agency Cooperation

Table 15 below presents the assessments of respondents on the constraints met in the enforcement of the comprehensive dangerous drug law in Carmona City, Province of Cavite as to Inter-Agency Cooperation.

*Table 15. Constraints Met in the Enforcement of the Comprehensive Dangerous Drug Law in Carmona City, Province of Cavite as to Inter-Agency Cooperation*

Indicators	PP		BC		OWM	VD
	WM	VD	WM	V D		
1.Differences in responsibilities and priorities between agencies involved in anti-drug operations.	3.53	S	3.87	S	3.70	S
2.Dissimilarities in professional backgrounds, knowledge, abilities, skills and values, and training.	3.50	S	3.99	S	3.74	S
3.Other formal pillars of the criminal justice system not helping each other at the level of policy-making.	3.51	S	3.59	S	3.55	S
4.Variations in ideas about what problem in anti-drug operations that needs to be addressed collectively.	3.55	S	3.86	S	3.70	S
5.Complexities in inter-agency coordination towards clarity of objectives with regard anti- drug campaigns.	3.57	S	3.79	S	3.68	S
<b>OWM &amp; OVD</b>	<b>3.99</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>3.73</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>3.86</b>	<b>S</b>

#### Legend

WM	-Weighted Mean
VS	-Very Serious
VD	-Verbal Description
S	-Serious
OWM	-Overall Weighted Mean
MS	-Moderately Serious
LS	-Less Serious
OVD	-Overall
NS	-Not Serious

The two groups of respondents assessed the constraints met in the enforcement of the comprehensive dangerous drug law in Carmona City, Province of Cavite as to inter-agency cooperation, based on the following indicators: dissimilarities in professional backgrounds, knowledge, abilities, skills and values, and training, with a weighted mean of 3.74, serious; differences in responsibilities and priorities be-

tween agencies involved in anti-drug operations, with a weighted mean of 3.70, serious; variations in ideas about what problem in anti-drug operations that needs to be addressed collectively, with a weighted mean of 3.70, serious; complexities in inter-agency coordination towards clarity of objectives with regard anti-drug campaigns, with a weighted mean of 3.68, serious; and other formal pillars of the criminal justice system not helping each other at the

level of policy-making, with a weighted mean of 3.55, serious. The grand weighted mean is 3.68 and the overall verbal description is serious.

As excerpted in the table, the respondents assessed the constraints met in the enforcement of the comprehensive dangerous drug law in Carmona City, Province of Cavite as to inter-agency cooperation as serious. This is congruent to the findings in the work of Martin (2014), that one notable constraint in the enforcement of the comprehensive dangerous drug law is the challenge of fostering effective inter-agency cooperation. The success of combating drug-related crimes relies on seamless collaboration between various law enforcement agencies, including local police, national agencies, and other relevant entities. However, bureaucratic hurdles, differing priorities, and jurisdictional complexities often impede the smooth exchange of information and joint operations. Establishing standardized communication protocols, enhancing interoperability among different agencies, and streamlining coordination mechanisms are crucial steps to overcome these constraints. Improved interagency cooperation not only facilitates the sharing of intelligence but also ensures a more comprehensive and coordinated approach to addressing drug-related challenges in the locality. Another constraint is the need for clear delineation of roles and responsibilities among different agencies involved in drug law enforcement. Without a well-defined framework for collaboration, duplication of efforts and inefficiencies may arise, diminishing the overall effectiveness of enforcement operations. Creating task forces and joint initiatives that outline specific roles for each agency.

According to respondents, there are major obstacles to inter-agency collaboration in Carmona City's implementation of the comprehensive hazardous drug legislation. Key concerns

include disparities in agency goals, professional backgrounds, and training, as well as variances in viewpoints on whether challenges need group efforts. Effective drug law enforcement is further hampered by the difficulty of interagency coordination and the absence of cooperation at the policy-making level. These limitations are consistent with the results of Martin (2014), which highlight how crucial it is for local police, federal agencies, and other pertinent parties to work together seamlessly.

Establishing standardized communication protocols, improving agency interoperability, and streamlining coordinating processes should be top priorities for policymakers in order to solve these issues. To prevent duplication and inefficiency, it is essential that each agency participating in anti-drug operations have well defined duties and responsibilities. These partnerships may be formalized with the aid of task groups and cooperative projects, guaranteeing that every agency makes a valuable contribution to the group endeavor.

A more coordinated approach to addressing drug-related concerns and improved information sharing will be made possible by increased interagency collaboration. Agencies may collaborate more successfully and conduct more effective narcotics law enforcement operations in Carmona City and beyond by removing bureaucratic obstacles and defining goals.

***Sub-problem No. 4. Significant Relationship Between the Effectiveness and Constraints Met in the Enforcement of the Comprehensive Dangerous Drug Law in Carmona City, Province of Cavite.***

Table 16 presents the summary of significant relationship matrix between the effectiveness and constraints met in the enforcement of the comprehensive dangerous drug law in Carmona City, Province of Cavite.

**Table 16. Summary of Significant Relationship Matrix Between the Effectiveness and Constraints Met in the Enforcement of the Comprehensive Dangerous Drug Law in Carmona City, Province of Cavite**

Problem	X2-V	T-V	P-V	Interpretation	Decision
Effectiveness of the Enforcement of the Comprehensive Dangerous Drug Law in Carmona City, Province of Cavite	2.625	5.991	.10516	Not significant at 0.05 level.	Accept the hypothesis

Problem	X2-V	T-V	P-V	Interpretation	Decision
Constraint Met on the Enforcement of the Comprehensive Dangerous Drug Law in Carmona City, Province of Cavite					
<b>Legend:</b>					
X2-V	-Chi-Square Value				
T-V	-Table Value				
P-V	-Probability Value				

Table 16 shows the result of the computer chi-square test between the effectiveness and constraints met in the enforcement of the comprehensive dangerous drug law in Carmona City, Province of Cavite. The table reveals that the chi-square value is 2.625, which is lower than the chi-square table-value of 5.991, and the p-values is .10561, not significant at 0.05 level; hence, the hypothesis of no significant relationship is accepted.

The results of the chi-square test between the effectiveness and constraints met in the enforcement of the comprehensive dangerous drug law in Carmona City, Province of Cavite, are indicative of a non-significant relationship between these variables. The chi-square value of 2.625 is lower than the critical chi-square table-value of 5.991, suggesting that there is not enough evidence to reject the null hypothesis. The null hypothesis typically posits that there is no association between the variables being studied. In this context, it implies that there is no significant relationship between the effectiveness of the drug law enforcement and the constraints faced in Carmona City.

The p-value of .10561 further supports the interpretation of non-significance. In statistical hypothesis testing, the p-value represents the probability of obtaining results as extreme as the observed ones, assuming the null hypothesis is true. In this case, the p-value of .10561 is greater than the conventional significance level of 0.05. Since it is not below this threshold, there is insufficient evidence to reject the null hypothesis. This implies that the observed differences in the effectiveness and constraints met are likely due to random variability rather than a meaningful relationship between the variables.

These findings suggest that, based on the collected data, there is no statistically significant association between the effectiveness of enforcing the comprehensive dangerous drug

law and the constraints faced in Carmona City. Policymakers and law enforcement agencies may need to consider other factors or conduct further investigations to better understand the dynamics at play and make informed decisions about improving the enforcement of drug laws in the locality.

#### ***Sub-problem No. 5. Implications to Supply Reduction and Demand Reduction Drive***

The rigorous implementation of the comprehensive drug legislation has substantial real-world consequences for both supply and demand reduction initiatives in the fight against illicit narcotics. On the supply side, rigorous law enforcement efforts are essential in dismantling drug manufacturing, trafficking, and distribution networks. By focusing on principal actors and demolishing illegal enterprises, authorities diminish the availability of drugs in the market, resulting in a reduction in supply.

The beneficial impacts of drug law enforcement on community safety and well-being indirectly facilitate demand decrease. As law enforcement authorities effectively combat drug trafficking groups, associated criminal activity, violence, and societal disturbance diminish. This fosters a more secure environment for communities, improving their quality of life. Consequently, these safer communities provide a more favorable climate for the implementation of demand reduction measures, as citizens are more inclined to participate in preventative programs, pursue treatment alternatives, and endorse community activities focused on drug usage prevention.

Furthermore, the extensive ramifications of effective drug law enforcement surpass quick results, fostering enduring enhancements in community safety and social welfare. The diminishment of drug-related criminal activity and violence cultivates a feeling of security,

facilitating the efficient execution of demand reduction initiatives. These activities eventually result in a more stable and healthier society, where people are empowered to make better choices, participate in preventative measures, and get the necessary help to overcome substance dependency.

Policymakers must persist in highlighting the interrelatedness of supply and demand reduction methods, ensuring that law enforcement actions are congruent with community engagement and support activities. An integrated strategy combining enforcement and demand reduction is crucial for tackling the intricate challenges associated with drug-related crime and its effects on communities.

## Conclusions

Based on the study's findings, the following conclusions were drawn, highlighting their relevance to broader public policy, inter-agency collaboration, and community engagement strategies in the enforcement of R.A. No. 9165:

1. **Police Personnel Profile and Capacity Building.** The educational attainment and NAPOL-COM eligibility of the police officers in Carmona City indicate a well-qualified and professionalized police force. The varied years of service further imply a balance of experience and new perspectives, which enhance institutional capability when supported by relevant training. These findings affirm the importance of continuous professional development, aligning with the capacity-building mandates of the Philippine National Police Reform and Reorganization Act (R.A. 8551). Policymakers should invest in modular and specialized training on drug enforcement strategies, ethics, and inter-agency protocols to strengthen front-line personnel competence.

2. **Effectiveness of Enforcement Strategies.** The enforcement strategies—standard investigation, surveillance operations, informant utilization, and cooperative investigation—were rated “very effective.” This suggests that local enforcement officers can execute key components of drug control operations. However, to sustain and scale this effectiveness, there must be institutional support for intelligence sharing, inter-agency

coordination, and technological modernization. Embedding these enforcement practices within community-based policing frameworks could foster trust, reduce fear, and enhance the legitimacy of law enforcement efforts.

3. **Constraints in Law Enforcement Operations.** Despite operational effectiveness, severe constraints were identified, particularly in organizational capabilities, intelligence requirements, access to information, and inter-agency cooperation. These barriers reflect systemic gaps in institutional coordination, resource allocation, and centralized command structures. To address these issues, the Dangerous Drugs Board (DDB) and PDEA should lead the development of a unified operational protocol and shared database systems for local agencies. Moreover, policy must shift toward multi-stakeholder governance, involving LGUs, civil society, and barangay officials in localized drug control efforts.
4. **Hypothesis Testing.** The null hypothesis was statistically accepted—that there is no significant relationship between enforcement effectiveness and the constraints encountered. This suggests that effectiveness may depend more on individual or tactical-level competencies than systemic enablers. However, this disconnection emphasizes the risk of burnout and inefficiency, reinforcing the need for policy reforms that address structural issues such as logistics, coordination, and sustainable funding. Future studies may probe whether institutional support systems moderate this relationship.
5. **Broader Implications for Drug Policy and Community Safety.** The overall effectiveness of enforcing the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act in Carmona City contributes meaningfully to national supply and demand reduction efforts. When executed effectively, drug enforcement deters illegal trade, raises public awareness, and reinforces the rule of law. However, enforcement alone is insufficient.

An effective drug policy must integrate preventive education, rehabilitation programs, and community resilience-building strategies.

This aligns with Fox and Forbing's (2021) theory of drug-free schools and communities, which advocates for a multi-dimensional approach to drug abuse prevention. Policymakers should consider incorporating localized, community-based interventions into the national strategy, ensuring enforcement efforts are matched with supportive social services and preventive education.

## Recommendations

From the above conclusions, the following are the recommendations:

- 1. Invest in Continuous Specialized Training.** Strengthen police capability by institutionalizing continuous training programs, particularly specialized courses focusing on emerging trends in drug trafficking, advanced investigative techniques, and the integration of cutting-edge technologies such as artificial intelligence and digital forensics. These initiatives will enhance operational adaptability and future-proof the enforcement capabilities of police personnel.
- 2. Sustain and Update Enforcement Strategies.** Maintain the current "very effective" status of drug enforcement operations by implementing regular reviews and evaluations of existing strategies. This should include periodic updates on new methodologies, global best practices, and technological advancements, ensuring that enforcement efforts remain responsive to the evolving dynamics of illegal drug activities.
- 3. Address Operational Constraints Through Structural Reforms.** Develop and implement targeted strategies to mitigate constraints in enforcement operations. These include improving inter-agency communication protocols, strengthening intelligence-gathering systems, enhancing access to reliable information sources, and building strong community partnerships to support information flow. Emphasis should be placed on institutionalizing collaborative mechanisms between law enforcement agencies, local government units, and other stakeholders.
- 4. Pursue Further Research on Enforcement Dynamics.** Continue to explore the relationship between operational

effectiveness and encountered constraints through qualitative research such as case studies, interviews, or ethnographic approaches. These in-depth explorations can uncover operational subtleties and provide nuanced insights that quantitative data may not fully capture, ultimately leading to more tailored and effective policy responses.

- 5. Enhance Public Awareness and Community Engagement.** Strengthen public education campaigns to raise awareness about the dangers of drug abuse, the critical role of law enforcement, and the value of community involvement. A well-informed public not only reinforces deterrence but also fosters trust and cooperation, both of which are essential for the effective and sustainable enforcement of the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act.

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