

Legal Counseling on Corruption Prevention in Village Fund Budget Management

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Abstract

Introduction: Corruption of village funds is still an astonishing phenomenon in the midst of the implementation of village government. It is even recorded that villages are one of the largest contributors to corruption cases in Indonesia today.

Purposes of The Devotion: This service aims to provide education to the community, how important it is to prevent potential corruption of village funds and how to involve community participation in prevention.

Method of The Devotion: This activity was carried out in the form of legal counseling in Waipirit Village, Kairatu District, West Seram through a panel discussion where the presenters delivered material in turn and then continued with questions and answers between the presenters and the community.

Results Main Findings of the Devotion: Based on the legal counseling activities carried out, one of which is a discussion, it shows that many participants, especially from the community, initially consider corruption in the management of village funds as a trivial problem. However, after participating in the discussion, they became more aware of the negative impact of corruption and the serious legal consequences for the perpetrators.

Keywords: Legal Counseling; Corruption Prevention; Village Fund.


Submitted: 2024-10-22

Revised: 2025-01-22

Accepted: 2025-03-10

Published: 2025-03-31

How To Cite: Judy Marria Saimima, Juanrico Alfaromona Sumaresz Titahelu, Patrick Corputty, and Muammar. "Legal Counseling on Corruption Prevention in Village Fund Budget Management." AIWADTHU: Jurnal Pengabdian Hukum 5 no. 1 (2025): 1 - 6. <https://doi.org/10.47268/aiwadthu.v5i1.2385>

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INTRODUCTION

Community service is one of the main activities in the tri dharma of higher education that must be fulfilled by the academic community.¹ This activity has an important role because through this service, universities can apply the knowledge, knowledge, and technology that they have developed,² Then the public can directly benefit from the results of research and innovation produced by universities. This service not only has a positive impact on society, but also strengthens the relationship between universities and society, as well as encouraging the growth of knowledge and skills in society. Through service activities, universities can contribute to the development and improvement of the quality of life of the community in a sustainable manner. Considering the importance of the Community Service activities mentioned above and in order to provide education and legal understanding for the community, the Community Service team held legal counseling activities for the

¹ Novika Regita, "Pengertian Tri Dharma Perguruan Tinggi Dan Cara Penerapannya," Suteki Tech, 12 Desember 2023, <https://suteki.co.id/pengertian-tri-dharma-perguruan-tinggi-dan-cara-penerapannya/>.

² Eka Herdit Juningsih, "Apa itu Tri Dharma Perguruan Tinggi? Simak 3 Poin Pentingnya Di sini," <https://news.bsi.ac.id/>, 21 September 2021, <https://news.bsi.ac.id/2021/09/21/apa-itu-tri-dharma-perguruan-tinggi/>.

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community in Waipirit Village, Kairatu District, West Seram to strengthen public understanding related to the prevention of corruption in the management of village funds/village funds.

This is because corruption is a phenomenon that still needs more attention because it is an extraordinary crime whose impact is detrimental to society.³ According to Law Number 20 of 2001 concerning Amendments to Law Number 31 of 1999 concerning the Eradication of Corruption Crimes (hereinafter referred to as the Corruption Crime Law), corruption crimes not only harm state finances but also violations of the social and economic rights of the community at large.⁴

This corrupt behavior has spread to all levels of society, one of the perpetrators of corruption is the Village Head,⁵ in the implementation of village government as stipulated in Article 26 paragraph (4) letter i of Law Number 6 of 2014 concerning Villages (hereinafter referred to as the Village Law), that "The village is led by a Village Head whose one of his obligations includes managing Village Finance and Assets." Corruption in village financial management is any action that can harm the finances and economy of the country and village. So that all actions taken can harm the village community, the village government and all levels.⁶

The amount of the village fund budget received and managed by the Village Government must be the concern of various parties in the village to jointly supervise and manage it in accordance with the applicable laws and regulations.⁷ This was done because of the increasing cases of corruption of village funds that occurred in Indonesia.⁸ Specifically, the cause of village fund corruption is caused by the absence of regulations that clearly regulate community participation in supervising development in the village, especially for the Village Head.⁹

Based on what has been described, the community service team is interested in providing legal counseling on Legal Counseling on Corruption Prevention in the Management of Village Funds/Village Fund Budgets, with the formulation of problems that will be solved through this Community Service program is how to build community legal awareness in order to prevent the occurrence of corruption crimes in the management of village funds/village fund budgets.

The problems studied in Community Service are closely related to the problems that are happening in society today. Community Service activities are expected to provide answers about the development of the phenomenon of corruption crimes that occur. The amount of the village fund budget received and managed by the Village Government must be the

³ Budi Suhariyanto, "Putusan Pemidanaan Melebihi Tuntutan Dalam Perkara Korupsi Politik," *Jurnal Yudisial* 12, no. 1 (31 Mei 2019): 39–59, <https://doi.org/10.29123/jy.v12i1.303>.

⁴ *Ibid.*, 47.

⁵ Ahmad Sufaidi, Galang Geraldy, dan Rizca Yunike Putri, "Tata Kelola Pemerintahan Desa Dan Anti Korupsi Di Desa Watesari Sidoarjo," *E-Dimas: Jurnal Pengabdian Kepada Masyarakat* 14, no. 1 (2023): 175, <https://doi.org/10.26877/e-dimas.v14i1.11515>.

⁶ Muhammad Maulana, "Risiko Korupsi Pengelolaan Anggaran Desa," *ARMADA: Jurnal Penelitian Multidisiplin* 1, no. 3 (2023): 215, <https://doi.org/10.55681/armada.v1i3.435>.

⁷ Dyah Lituhayu, "Rawan Korupsi Isu Dalam Implementasi Dana Desa," *Gema Publica* 4, no. 1 (2019): 22, <https://doi.org/10.14710/gp.v4i1.2019.17-25>.

⁸ Harianto, Mudji Rahardjo, dan Bambang Martin Baru, *Pengelolaan Dana Desa dan Tindak Pidana Korupsi (Konsep, Aplikasi dan Implementasinya)* (Surabaya: UD Dalle Nurul Utama, 2022), 130; lihat Tri Novitasari Manihuruk, "Penegakan Hukum Tindak Pidana Korupsi Dana Desa Di Kabupaten Kampar," *Jurnal Gagasan Hukum* 1, no. 01 (2019): 87, <https://doi.org/10.31849/jgh.v1i01.2895>.

⁹ Karmani, Erny Herlin Setyorini, dan Otto Yudianto, "Pembentukan Klinik Desa Merupakan Cegah Dini Tindak Pidana Korupsi Dana Desa," *Jurnal Hukum Bisnis Bonum Commune* 2, no. 2 (2019): 87, <https://doi.org/10.30996/jhbbs.v2i2.1963>.

concern of various parties in the village to jointly supervise and manage it in accordance with the applicable laws and regulations.

METHOD OF THE DEVOTION

As previously described in the introduction, the importance of community service activities that have an impact on improving the quality of higher education, as well as the results or outputs of Community Service can be applied in people's lives. Therefore, community service activities through legal counseling are considered important to be carried out in order to provide Legal Counseling on Corruption Prevention in the Management of Village Funds/Village Fund Budgets. The stages of activities carried out in this legal counseling activity are: 1) Coordinating with the relevant Village Government in Waipirit Village, Kairatu District, West Seram to be able to prepare various things needed in Community Service activities; 2) Preparing materials in the form of powerpoint materials related to the problems to be studied in Community Service activities Ini; 3) This legal counseling also involves two (2) students of the Faculty of Law, Pattimura University to assist in Community Service activities; 4) Prepare a location that will be used for activities in Waipirit Village, Kairatu District, West Seram with the assistance of the community. Carrying out legal counseling activities in Waipirit Village, Kairatu District, West Seram through panel discussions where the presenter delivered the material in turn followed by a question and answer session between the speaker and the community.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Corruption is the misappropriation or embezzlement of state or company money as a place where a person works for personal or other benefits.¹⁰ According to Lubis and Scott, corruption is behavior that benefits one's own interests at the expense of others, by government officials who directly violate the legal limits of such behavior. Corruption is literally something rotten, evil and destructive. If we talk about corruption, we will indeed find such a reality because corruption concerns moral aspects, bad nature and circumstances, positions in government agencies or apparatus, abuse of power in positions due to gifts, economic and political factors, and the placement of families or groups into the official service under the power of their positions.¹¹

Village financial management is regulated in Government Regulation Number 43 of 2014 concerning Implementation Regulations of Law Number 6 of 2014 concerning Villages, where it is stated that management is a series of activities ranging from planning, procurement, use, administration, assessment, coaching, supervision and control. Management is not only carrying out an activity, but is a series of activities that include management functions, such as planning, implementation, and supervision to achieve goals effectively and efficiently. Sahdan defines management as including planning, implementation, supervision and evaluation. Based on the definition above, it is concluded that management is defined as a process carried out by an organization (Village

¹⁰ Lolita Fitriyana, "Pertanggungjawaban Partai Politik Dalam Tindak Pidana Pencucian Uang," *Jurist-Diction* 2, no. 4 (Juli 2019): 1328, <https://doi.org/10.20473/jd.v2i4.14495>.

¹¹ Fransiska Adelina, "Bentuk-Bentuk Korupsi Politik," *Jurnal Legislasi Indonesia* 16, no. 1 (22 April 2019): 61, <https://doi.org/10.54629/jli.v16i1.256>; lihat Muammar dan Iqbal Taufik, "Ambiguitas Norma Pendidikan Antikorupsi di Perguruan Tinggi, Antara Kewajiban dan Kebutuhan," *Peradaban Journal of Law and Society* 2, no. 1 (16 Juni 2023): 65, <https://doi.org/10.59001/pjls.v2i1.80>.

Government or the community) in carrying out its duties to achieve certain goals that have been set previously.

Seeing the rampant legal cases that ensnare the village government in carrying out its duties, especially regarding village financial management and the serious impact of this type of crime¹², Therefore, it is important to provide education in the form of legal counseling to the community which is an integral part of the tridharma of higher education as a form of prevention of this crime. This activity uses an interactive legal counseling method through panel discussions. The presenter delivered the material in depth, then opened a space for participants to interact directly. Participants consisting of representatives of the village government, also involving the Chairman of the Maluku Waipirit Protestant Church Congregation, the Waipirit community, and the Maluku Waipirit Protestant Church Congregation, West Seram, were given the opportunity to ask questions and discuss. The stages of this activity include: a) Pre test: The pre-test activity was carried out to measure the extent of the knowledge of counseling participants related to corruption crimes in the management of village funds. The pre-test questions include a basic understanding of corruption, forms of corruption, and the legal consequences of acts of corruption in the management of village funds. The results of this pre test will be the initial benchmark of participants' understanding before receiving counseling materials; b) Presentation of Materials: The presentation of the material was carried out by the Community Service team, using a presentation in the form of a power point for approximately one hour. The material presented includes, the definition of corruption, forms of corruption in the management of village funds, the legal consequences of acts of corruption in the management of village funds, corruption prevention mechanisms, and legal protection for whistleblowers of corruption crimes.



Figure 1. Presentation of material by Resource Persons



Figure 2. Counseling Participants Who Participate in Counseling Activities

¹² Ahmad Bagus Sasongko dan Iqrak Sulhin, "Defisit Modal Sosial Dan Korupsi Dana Desa: Meritokrasi Calon Kepala Desa," *Journal of Mandalika Literature* 3, no. 4 (2022): 217, <https://doi.org/10.36312/jml.v3i4.1559>.

This material is designed to provide participants with a comprehensive understanding of the importance of corruption prevention and their active role in the supervision of village funds; c) Discussion: Discussions are conducted directly between the extension team and the extension participants. This panel discussion serves as an effective educational and interaction medium between the extension team and participants, in this discussion, participants are given the opportunity to ask questions, share experiences, and discuss various issues related to village fund management. The results of the discussion showed that many participants, especially from the community, initially considered corruption in the management of village funds as a trivial problem. However, after participating in the discussion, they became more aware of the negative impact of corruption and the serious legal consequences for the perpetrators; d) Post Test: After the counseling is over, a post test is carried out to measure the knowledge of the participants after receiving the material. The post test questions are the same as the pre tests that have been done before. The results of the post test showed that most of the participants had a good understanding of the substance of the material that had been presented, including the definition of corruption, forms of corruption, legal consequences, and corruption prevention mechanisms.

CONCLUSION

Legal counseling on corruption in the management of village funds, it can be concluded that many participants initially considered corruption as a trivial problem. However, after receiving the material and discussing, they realized the serious impact of corruption as well as its legal consequences. The results of the post test showed a significant increase in understanding of the definition, form, impact, and prevention of corruption in the management of village funds, to ensure that this understanding and awareness continues to increase and be applied in practice, it is recommended that legal counseling programs be carried out on an ongoing basis. In addition, there is a need for support and active involvement from various parties, including the village government and the community, in monitoring and reporting every indication of corruption to prevent irregularities in the management of village funds.

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