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COMMUNICATION OF PUBLIC WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT BODIES IN CRIMINAL PREVENTION

The urgency of this topic is to study the interaction of the public with law enforcement agencies to reduce the number of crimes. One of the most acute problems of the present is the rapid deterioration of the crime situation in Ukraine, the rampant and impunity of criminality; as a result - the vulnerability of citizens from criminal encroachments.

According to the Constitution of Ukraine, people, their lives and health, honor and dignity, inviolability and security are recognized in our country as the highest social value, and the establishment and maintenance of human rights and freedoms is the main responsibility of the state. Constitutional rights and freedoms are guaranteed by the state and can not be abolished [1].

According to Article 7 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine, the most dangerous offense in all branches of law is a crime. It is defined as a socially dangerous offense (act or omission) committed by the subject of a crime [2].

In Ukraine, from January to June 2017, 317,633 crimes were committed. As a result of criminal acts 3,300 people died, among which 22.6 % were deliberately killed, 29.9 % were killed as a result of road accidents, related to crimes, 8.2 % – as a result of intentional grave bodily harm.

Law enforcement agencies are state bodies that, according to the law of the state, carry out law enforcement activities.

The activities of law enforcement bodies are aimed at ensuring the rule of law and law and order, protecting the rights and interests of citizens, social groups, society and the state, preventing, stopping offenses, applying state coercion or measures of public influence on persons who have violated the law and the rule of law.

The public is one or more natural or legal persons, their associations, organizations or groups acting in accordance with current legislation of Ukraine or practice.

The law enforcement bodies are entrusted with the functions of directly ensuring the protection of public order and public safety; they have a leading role in the organization of interaction with the public involved in the protection of law and order. The main contemporary provisions of the interaction of bodies of internal affairs with the population are enshrined in the legal documents regulating the activities of the bodies of internal affairs. For example, in the provision «On the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine» it is stated that «the Ministry of Internal Affairs, in the course of fulfilling its tasks, interacts, in the established manner, with ... local self-government bodies, citizens' unions, public unions, trade unions and employer organizations ...» [3].

Similar directions of the bodies of internal affairs activity are also reflected in item 8 of the law «On National Police».

From the above, one can conclude that the interaction of law enforcement agencies with public formations is based on the general principles of public administration. These principles and forms of interaction of the bodies of internal affairs with public formations on the protection of law and order are enshrined in the regulations governing the activities of the bodies of internal affairs and public formations, as well as other acts. Forms of interaction between law enforcement agencies and public groups participating in the protection of law and order were identified in our study.

1. There is the exchange of information about the state of public order and public safety. This information is needed to identify topical objectives for preventing and stopping offenses, planning work, improving its effectiveness, and evaluating end-points.

2. Planning and implementation of measures to ensure the protection of public order and public safety and the prevention and suppression of offenses is very important for the society.

3. Provision by the law enforcement agencies of assistance and support to public entities in the fulfillment of their tasks regarding law and order helps in their mutual work.

It should be noted that the strengthening of interaction between law enforcement bodies and the public is of great importance. For these purposes, preventive measures are organized and implemented with the involvement of citizens. The population is informed about the state of public order, about clearing up the crimes. The heads of internal affairs bodies, district inspectors and other police officers report the public and the population living on the territory served about the activities of the internal affairs bodies.

Police often appeal to the public to assist them in: tracing criminals, missing persons; finding witnesses, children, etc. These appeals may include: requests for assistance to police officers in the enforcement of law

and order in the territory of the microdistrict, district, city, etc.; proposals for formations from residents of one or another house for the protection of order in the entrances, yards, as well as for the prevention of apartment thefts, the theft of motor vehicles and other crimes; the notification of telephone numbers, according to which citizens can circulate the necessary information about illegal encroachments on their rights, freedoms, property and other legitimate interests.

Support for communication with the media is a prerequisite for fulfilling the tasks and functions entrusted to the bodies of internal affairs. Contacts with journalists and other media representatives can help: assist them in obtaining and verifying information (conducting interviews, reviewing materials, engaging press representatives to participate in beats, patrols and other events).

The most common forms of communication with representatives and leaders of these associations, as practice show, are:

- support of leaders of national communities, religious associations of permanent relations, coordination of efforts to prevent inter-ethnic conflicts among the population, in particular through participation in the mass media;
- participation of representatives of internal affairs bodies in congresses, conferences, demonstrations, exchange of information with deputies, leaders of social movements and religious denominations;
- interviews of leaders of parties, movements, communities on issues of ensuring public order and public security in a populated area serviced by one or another body of internal affairs, as well as with the purpose of elucidating public opinion about the work of the internal affairs bodies (police).

According to the Minister of Internal Affairs Arsen Avakov the number of crimes committed at the end of 2017 decreased by 19 %. It is the result of the actions of mutual work of law enforcement bodies and the public in preventing and investigating crimes [4].

Список використаних джерел

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