

**HO CHI MINH NATIONAL POLITICAL ACADEMY**

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**APPLYING THE LAW IN THE INVESTIGATION  
OF CASES WITH SUSPECTS UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE  
BY DISTRICT-LEVEL POLICE INVESTIGATION AGENCIES  
IN THE NORTHWEST REGION, VIETNAM**

**SUMMARY OF DOCTORAL THESIS**

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## INTRODUCTION

### 1. Research Rationale

The Communist Party of Vietnam's viewpoint and policy on improving the legal system to meet the requirements of building and perfecting the Socialist Rule of Law State has been consistent. The State has promulgated and implemented numerous legal documents to meet the requirements of social management through law, maintain political security and social order, and effectively serve the comprehensive national renovation. However, the implementation process still reveals many limitations: *"violations of law, law avoidance, and abuse of law are quite prevalent both in society and state agencies, even within law enforcement agencies themselves. The lack of strict law enforcement has severely diminished public trust in the rule of law and the state apparatus, particularly administrative management and judicial agencies"*. The 13th National Congress of the Communist Party of Vietnam clearly identified the main causes of limitations and weaknesses in implementing socio-economic development tasks as *"leadership and management in some aspects remain hesitant and lack decisiveness."* This includes the field of law enforcement in criminal investigation.

Law enforcement in criminal investigation by Police Investigation Agencies is inherently linked to the tasks of preventing, detecting, and investigating criminal cases. This is a widespread activity with significant importance in collecting evidence, protecting victims, ensuring suspects' rights, and preventing crime. The application of law in investigating cases with suspects under 18 years of age by Police Investigation Agencies has

specific requirements. Specifically, it must ensure humanity, unity, integrity, and respect for the rights of persons under 18, without interfering with their normal development. Therefore, studying the theory and current state of law enforcement in investigating cases with suspects under 18 is essential.

In recent years, law enforcement activities of Police Investigation Agencies in general and district-level Police Investigation Agencies in the Northwest region in particular have achieved notable results, making important contributions to crime prevention and control. However, alongside these achievements, there remain limitations and inadequacies. To address these issues, comprehensive research is necessary, examining both theoretical and practical aspects of law enforcement in investigating cases with suspects under 18 by district-level Police Investigation Agencies nationwide and specifically in the Northwest region of Vietnam. This research will help propose new solutions to fundamentally resolve limitations and obstacles arising from the practical application of law in investigating cases with suspects under 18 by district-level Police Investigation Agencies in the Northwest region of Vietnam.

For these reasons, the researcher has chosen the topic “*Applying the Law in the Investigation of Cases with Suspects under 18 years old by District-level Police Investigation Agencies*” as a doctoral dissertation in Theory and History of State and Law.

## **2. Research Object and Scope**

### ***2.1. Research Object***

The research object of this dissertation is the theory and practice of law enforcement in investigating cases with suspects under 18 years of

age by district-level Police Investigation Agencies in the Northwest region of Vietnam.

## ***2.2. Research Scope***

*The scope of space:* The dissertation conducts research across all district-level Police Investigation Agencies in the Northwest region of Vietnam.

*The scope of time:* The dissertation examines the application of law in investigating cases with suspects under 18 years of age by district-level Police Investigation Agencies in the Northwest region of Vietnam over a 10-year period (from 2014 to 2023).

## **3. Research Objectives and Tasks**

### ***3.1. Research Objectives***

Based on theoretical analysis and evaluation of the current state of law enforcement in investigating cases with suspects under 18 years of age by district-level Police Investigation Agencies in the Northwest region of Vietnam, the dissertation argues viewpoints and proposes solutions to ensure effective law enforcement in these cases for the upcoming period.

### ***3.2. Research Tasks***

First, review the research situation related to law enforcement in investigating cases with suspects under 18 years of age by district-level Police Investigation Agencies.

Second, analyze the theoretical basis for law enforcement in investigating cases with suspects under 18 years of age by district-level Police Investigation Agencies.

Third, evaluate the current state of law enforcement in investigating cases with suspects under 18 years of age by district-level Police

Investigation Agencies in the Northwest region of Vietnam, identifying achievements, limitations, and their causes.

Fourth, argue viewpoints and propose scientific solutions to improve the quality of law enforcement in investigating cases with suspects under 18 years of age by district-level Police Investigation Agencies in the Northwest region of Vietnam.

## **4. Research Approaches and Methods**

### ***4.1. Approaches***

The topic "*Applying the Law in the Investigation of Cases with Suspects under 18 Years of Age by District-level Police Investigation Agencies*" employs the following approaches:

The systematic approach is used to study, analyze, and evaluate law enforcement activities in investigating cases with suspects under 18 years of age within the context of interrelated factors that create a unified theoretical and practical whole.

The theoretical and historical state and law approach combines interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary perspectives to clarify issues raised during the research. This particularly helps clarify specialized aspects such as concepts, characteristics, roles, content, stages, and conditions ensuring law enforcement in investigating cases with suspects under 18.

The multidisciplinary approach requires research based not only on a specific social science but in combination with many other social sciences. This helps provide a more comprehensive and profound view of the research subject. The historical approach requires placing research within a specific historical context, helping understand the nature, causes, and progression of the research subject.

## ***4.2. Research Methods***

Based on the methodology of dialectical materialism and historical materialism, the dissertation combines various methods including survey, systematic analysis, induction, deduction, analysis, synthesis, statistics, historical analysis, legal comparison, legal logic, sociological investigation, practical summation, expert consultation, case studies, and pure normative analysis. These methods are used to research and reference domestic and international studies, exploit information resources, and prove the dissertation's arguments.

## **5. New Scientific Contributions**

First, the dissertation identifies and theoretically clarifies concepts, characteristics, roles, content, stages, and conditions ensuring law enforcement in investigating cases with suspects under 18 years of age by district-level Police Investigation Agencies.

Second, the dissertation systematically studies, analyzes, and evaluates law enforcement in investigating cases with suspects under 18 years of age by district-level Police Investigation Agencies in the Northwest region of Vietnam over 10 years (2014-2023), identifying positive and negative influencing factors, achievements, causes of achievements, limitations, and causes of limitations.

Third, the dissertation establishes guiding viewpoints for continuing law enforcement in investigating cases with suspects under 18 years of age by district-level Police Investigation Agencies in the Northwest region of Vietnam. Through this, it proposes general and specific solution groups to ensure effective law enforcement.

## **6. Theoretical and Practical Significance**

### ***6.1. Theoretical Significance***

The dissertation systematizes theoretical issues, contributing to the theory of law enforcement in investigating cases with suspects under 18 years of age by district-level Police Investigation Agencies in Vietnam today.

### ***6.2. Practical Significance***

The dissertation analyzes and evaluates the practical process of law enforcement, identifies limitations and deficiencies, and proposes solutions to improve law enforcement quality. The research results serve as reference material providing scientific arguments for relevant agencies to develop policies, solutions, legal improvements, and professional guidance.

## **7. Dissertation Structure**

Besides the introduction, conclusion, references, and appendices, the dissertation consists of 4 chapters and 10 sections.



## **Chapter 1**

# **OVERVIEW OF RESEARCH RELATED TO THE DISSERTATION TOPIC**

### **1.1. OVERVIEW OF DOMESTIC RESEARCH**

The dissertation has reviewed domestic research groups related to the investigation of cases with suspects under 18 years of age and law enforcement in criminal investigation of cases with suspects under 18 years of age. These research works include scientific research projects, monographs, reference books, doctoral dissertations, and scientific articles that have made significant scientific contributions related to the dissertation topic.

### **1.2. OVERVIEW OF INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH**

The dissertation has reviewed international research groups related to the investigation of cases with suspects under 18 years of age and law enforcement in criminal investigation of cases with suspects under 18 years of age. These research works include scientific research projects, monographs, reference books, doctoral dissertations, and scientific articles that have made significant scientific contributions related to the dissertation topic.

### **1.3. OBSERVATIONS, EVALUATION OF RESEARCH RELATED TO THE TOPIC AND ISSUES FOR FURTHER RESEARCH, RESEARCH HYPOTHESES AND RESEARCH QUESTIONS**

#### **1.3.1. Observations and Evaluation of Research Related to the Topic**

From the overview of scientific works studied, the researcher identifies the following research gaps related to the topic:

First, regarding theoretical issues: most works have not systematically addressed the theoretical basis of law enforcement in investigating cases with suspects under 18 years of age by district-level Police Investigation Agencies. If addressed, it has been merely introductory rather than comprehensive. The theoretical foundations have either not been discussed or only partially addressed without thorough clarification. These theoretical issues have not been deeply analyzed in comparison with practice and have not addressed new legal provisions.

Second, regarding practical issues: both domestic and international research works have not thoroughly analyzed the practice of law enforcement in investigating cases with suspects under 18 years of age by district-level Police Investigation Agencies in the Northwest region of Vietnam. They have not identified difficulties, obstacles, and inadequacies in criminal law provisions, criminal procedure law, and the Law on Criminal Investigation Organization.

Third, regarding solutions: some domestic and international works have proposed solution systems but have only focused on investigation solutions or legal improvement solutions, or remain general rather than specific to the Northwest region of Vietnam.

### **1.3.2. Issues Requiring Further Research in the Dissertation**

The dissertation continues to clarify theoretical issues such as concepts, characteristics, and roles of law enforcement in investigating cases with suspects under 18 years of age by district-level Police Investigation Agencies. This includes the content, stages, and conditions ensuring law enforcement, as well as examining law

enforcement practices in several countries worldwide and their reference value for Vietnam.

The dissertation needs to study influencing factors and the current state of law enforcement in investigating cases with suspects under 18 years of age by Police Investigation Agencies in the Northwest region of Vietnam. This involves evaluating achievements, their causes, and identifying limitations and their causes. The research results serve as a practical foundation for proposing viewpoints and solutions.

The dissertation needs to establish viewpoints and propose specific, feasible solutions to ensure effective law enforcement in investigating cases with suspects under 18 years of age by district-level Police Investigation Agencies in the Northwest region of Vietnam.

### **1.3.3. Research Hypotheses and Research Questions**

Based on the research, the following hypotheses are clarified:

*Hypothesis 1:* The theoretical foundation of law enforcement in investigating cases with suspects under 18 years of age is fundamental for district-level Police Investigation Agencies' application of law in criminal investigation generally and specifically for cases with underage suspects.

Expected research outcome: The dissertation will clarify concepts, characteristics, roles, content, stages, and conditions of law enforcement in investigating cases with suspects under 18 years of age.

*Hypothesis 2:* Despite fundamental advantages, the evaluation of influencing factors and current state of law enforcement reveals certain limitations and inadequacies.

Expected research outcome: The dissertation will analyze positive and negative influences and identify strengths, limitations, and inadequacies in law enforcement activities, along with their causes.

*Hypothesis 3:* In the current context, understanding viewpoints and implementing synchronized solutions is crucial for ensuring effective law enforcement.

Expected research outcome: The dissertation will analyze Party viewpoints on ensuring law enforcement in investigating cases with underage suspects and propose systematic solutions based on current conditions.

#### Research Questions:

1. What is law enforcement in investigating cases with suspects under 18 years of age, and what are its characteristics and roles? What is the content of law enforcement in these cases? What stages must the process go through? What conditions ensure effective law enforcement?
2. What are the influencing factors and practical results of law enforcement in the Northwest region, and what are their causes?
3. What viewpoints need to be followed and what solutions should be implemented to ensure effective law enforcement nationwide and specifically in the Northwest region?

## **Chapter 2**

# **THEORETICAL BASIS OF LAW ENFORCEMENT IN INVESTIGATING CASES WITH SUSPECTS UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE BY DISTRICT-LEVEL POLICE INVESTIGATION AGENCIES**

## **2.1. CONCEPTS, CHARACTERISTICS AND ROLES OF LAW ENFORCEMENT IN INVESTIGATING CASES WITH SUSPECTS UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE BY DISTRICT-LEVEL POLICE INVESTIGATION AGENCIES**

### **2.1.1. Definitions of Cases with Suspects Under 18 Years of Age and Law Enforcement in Their Investigation by District-Level Police Investigation Agencies**

#### ***2.1.1.1. Definition of Cases with Suspects Under 18 Years of Age***

Cases with a suspect under 18 years of age refer to cases where competent procedural authorities receive, verify, and examine crime reports regarding socially dangerous acts committed by persons under 18 years of age as defined in the Criminal Code. Based on this examination, the competent procedural authorities issue decisions to initiate criminal proceedings and prosecute suspects, establishing the legal basis for subsequent procedural activities.

#### ***2.1.1.2. Definition of Investigation of Cases with Suspects Under 18 Years of Age by District-Level Police Investigation Agencies***

Investigation of such cases by district-level Police Investigation Agencies involves conducting activities according to criminal procedure regulations, with cooperation from relevant agencies, using means and measures to collect information, documents, and evidence. This process

aims to comprehensively clarify case facts, serving the proper legal handling of offenders and case resolution.

### ***2.1.1.3. Definition of Law Enforcement in Their Investigation by District-Level Police Investigation Agencies***

Law enforcement in these investigations refers to a form of legal implementation wherein district-level Police Investigation Agencies issue specific decisions based on legal provisions. These decisions generate, modify, or terminate criminal procedural legal relationships during the investigation phase, ensuring strict legal compliance while protecting human rights and legitimate interests of suspects under 18 years of age.

### **2.1.2. Characteristics of Law Enforcement in These Investigations**

#### ***2.1.2.1. General Characteristics of Law Enforcement in Criminal Investigation by District-Level Police Investigation Agencies***

First, law enforcement in investigating cases with suspects under 18 years of age by district-level Police Investigation Agencies is an activity carrying state authority.

Second, law enforcement in investigating cases with suspects under 18 years of age by district-level Police Investigation Agencies is conducted according to strict procedures and processes specified in legal normative documents.

Third, law enforcement in investigating cases with suspects under 18 years of age by district-level Police Investigation Agencies is case-specific in nature.

Fourth, law enforcement in investigating cases with suspects under 18 years of age by district-level Police Investigation Agencies requires creativity.

### ***2.1.2.2. Specific Characteristics of Law Enforcement in Investigating Cases with Suspects under 18 Years of Age by District-Level Police Investigation Agencies***

First, law enforcement in investigating cases with suspects under 18 years of age by district-level Police Investigation Agencies must correctly apply Party and State policies regarding humanitarian treatment of suspects under 18 years of age.

Second, law enforcement in investigating cases with suspects under 18 years of age by district-level Police Investigation Agencies must correctly identify the causes, conditions, and circumstances of the crime committed by suspects under 18 years of age.

Third, law enforcement in investigating cases with suspects under 18 years of age by district-level Police Investigation Agencies requires that law enforcement subjects (Chiefs, Deputy Chiefs of Investigation Agencies, Investigators, and Investigation Officers) must be trained or have experience and necessary understanding of psychology and educational science regarding persons under 18 years of age.

Fourth, law enforcement in investigating cases with suspects under 18 years of age by district-level Police Investigation Agencies must comply not only with the Criminal Code but also with the provisions in Chapter XXVIII of the 2015 Criminal Procedure Code.

Fifth, law enforcement in investigating cases with suspects under 18 years of age by district-level Police Investigation Agencies is subject to supervision by the district-level People's Procuracy and coordination with other relevant agencies as prescribed by law.

### **2.1.3. Roles of Law Enforcement in Investigating Cases with Suspects under 18 Years of Age by District-Level Police Investigation Agencies**

Law enforcement plays a crucial role in implementing Party and State policies and laws regarding criminal investigation activities. It serves to determine the presence or absence of criminal acts, identify perpetrators, and collect evidence to resolve cases involving suspects under 18 years of age.

The process fulfills a humanitarian role regarding suspects under 18 years of age. It ensures the maintenance of political security, social order, and national discipline while protecting the interests of the State, organizations, and the legal rights and interests of citizens in general and suspects under 18 years of age in particular.

Additionally, it contributes to researching, developing, and improving laws related to investigating cases with suspects under 18 years of age by district-level Police Investigation Agencies. Finally, it promotes international cooperation and integration in the new context.

## **2.2. STAGES, CONTENT, AND CONDITIONS FOR ENSURING LAW ENFORCEMENT IN INVESTIGATING CASES WITH SUSPECTS UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE BY DISTRICT-LEVEL POLICE INVESTIGATION AGENCIES**

### **2.2.1. Stages of Law Enforcement in Investigating Cases with Suspects under 18 Years of Age by District-Level Police Investigation Agencies**

The process involves analyzing objective circumstances and legal events in investigating cases with suspects under 18 years of age. Following this, investigators must select and analyze relevant legal



provisions concerning the investigation of cases with suspects under 18 years of age. The next stage requires comparing case circumstances with legal provisions to make appropriate enforcement decisions in investigating cases with suspects under 18 years of age.

Subsequently, procedural documents must be issued regarding the investigation of cases with suspects under 18 years of age by district-level Police Investigation Agencies. Finally, the implementation of these law enforcement documents must be organized and executed effectively.

### **2.2.2. Content of Law Enforcement in Investigating Cases with Suspects under 18 Years of Age by District-Level Police Investigation Agencies**

Law enforcement includes ensuring the right to defense for suspects under 18 years of age. It encompasses the application of law in receiving and resolving crime reports and denunciations regarding offenses committed by persons under 18 years of age. The process involves applying legal procedures for initiating criminal proceedings and implementing preventive measures in cases with suspects under 18 years of age.

Furthermore, it includes the application of investigative measures in cases with suspects under 18 years of age, as well as the legal application in suspending or concluding investigations in such cases.

### **2.2.3. Conditions for Ensuring Law Enforcement in Investigating Cases with Suspects under 18 Years of Age by District-Level Police Investigation Agencies**

The effective implementation requires several key conditions: political conditions, legal conditions, and conditions ensuring the competence of Investigation Agency Chiefs, Deputy Chiefs, Investigators,

and Investigation Officers. Additionally, there must be adequate material facilities and equipment for district-level Police Investigation Agencies, along with assured conditions for coordination in investigating cases with suspects under 18 years of age.

### **2.3. LAW ENFORCEMENT IN INVESTIGATING CASES WITH SUSPECTS UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE IN SELECTED COUNTRIES AND REFERENCE VALUE FOR VIETNAM**

#### **2.3.1. Law enforcement in investigating cases with suspects under 18 years of age in selected countries**

The research examines law enforcement practices in investigating cases with suspects under 18 years of age in the United States, the Russian Federation, and England and Wales.

#### **2.3.2. Reference Value for Vietnam**

The international experience provides valuable reference points for Vietnam in several key areas. In terms of legal development, it offers insights for constructing and improving legal documents related to investigating cases with suspects under 18 years of age. The training aspect is particularly significant, offering guidance for developing investigators and investigation officers in understanding juvenile criminal psychology.

The international models also demonstrate effective approaches to building strong, objective, and responsible investigative organizations capable of properly enforcing laws in cases with suspects under 18 years of age. Furthermore, they provide valuable examples of ensuring modern facilities, equipment, and appropriate compensation policies for Investigation Agency Chiefs, Deputy

Chiefs, Investigators, and Investigation Officers working on cases with suspects under 18 years of age.

Additionally, these international practices offer valuable insights for strengthening supervision and inspection of law enforcement activities in cases with suspects under 18 years of age by district-level Police Investigation Agencies.

### **Chapter 3**

## **INFLUENCING FACTORS AND CURRENT STATE OF LAW ENFORCEMENT IN INVESTIGATING CASES WITH SUSPECTS UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE BY DISTRICT- LEVEL POLICE INVESTIGATION AGENCIES IN THE NORTHWEST REGION, VIETNAM**

### **3.1. INFLUENCING FACTORS ON LAW ENFORCEMENT IN INVESTIGATING CASES WITH SUSPECTS UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE BY DISTRICT-LEVEL POLICE INVESTIGATION AGENCIES IN THE NORTHWEST REGION, VIETNAM**

Law enforcement in investigating cases with suspects under 18 years of age by district-level Police Investigation Agencies has distinct characteristics and features that reflect the unique attributes of each region. This process is influenced by multiple factors, both internal and external. These factors have both positive and negative impacts on law enforcement activities in investigating cases with suspects under 18 years of age by district-level Police Investigation Agencies in the Northwest region of Vietnam. The specific influencing factors include:

- Natural, economic, and social characteristics of the region
- The quality of the Criminal Code, Criminal Procedure Code, and Law on Criminal Investigation Organization
- The organizational structure and competence of Investigation Agency Chiefs, Deputy Chiefs, Investigators, and Investigation Officers
- The coordination relationship between district-level Police Investigation Agencies and district-level People's Procuracies
- Other influencing factors related to funding, scientific equipment, technology, and technical resources

### **3.2. CURRENT STATE OF LAW ENFORCEMENT IN INVESTIGATING CASES WITH SUSPECTS UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE BY DISTRICT-LEVEL POLICE INVESTIGATION AGENCIES IN THE NORTHWEST REGION, VIETNAM**

#### **3.2.1. Results of Law Enforcement in Investigating Cases with Suspects under 18 Years of Age and Their Causes**

##### ***3.2.1.1. Results***

- Ensure defense rights during the investigation of cases with suspects under 18 years of age by district-level Police Investigation Agencies.
- Receive and resolve crime reports and denunciations concerning offenses committed by persons under 18 years of age.
- Initiate criminal proceedings and implementing preventive measures in cases with suspects under 18 years of age.
- Apply criminal procedural investigation measures to prove crimes and identify perpetrators under 18 years of age.
- Conclude investigations of cases with suspects under 18 years of age.

### ***3.2.1.2. Causes of Results***

First, objective causes.

Second, subjective causes.

## **3.2.2. Limitations in Law Enforcement in Investigating Cases with Suspects under 18 Years of Age by District-Level Police Investigation Agencies in The Northwest Region, Vietnam and Their Causes**

### ***3.2.2.1. Limitations***

The agencies face certain constraints when applying law in receiving and resolving crime reports and denunciations concerning offenses committed by persons under 18 years of age.

There are limitations and shortcomings in applying legal procedures for initiating criminal proceedings against suspects under 18 years of age and implementing preventive measures.

Furthermore, deficiencies exist in applying criminal procedural investigation measures to prove crimes and identify perpetrators under 18 years of age.

Additional limitations appear in the legal application during the conclusion of investigations involving suspects under 18 years of age.

### ***3.2.2.2. Causes of Limitations and Deficiencies***

***First***, the legal framework governing investigations of cases with suspects under 18 years of age contains certain limitations, inadequacies, or implementation challenges. Specifically:

The standards and qualifications required for procedural personnel handling cases involving persons under 18 years of age lack clarity and consistency. There are incompatibilities between provisions

of the 2015 Criminal Procedure Code and the 2015 Criminal Code (as amended in 2017).

Current regulations create difficulties in collecting information, documents, and evidence to identify "co-perpetrators, victims, or witnesses present at the crime scene who directly observed and confirmed the identity of the perpetrator."

Additionally, there remain limitations and obstacles in determining "traces of crime on the person, at their residence, workplace, or on vehicles of suspected perpetrators" as specified in Point c, Clause 1, Article 110 of the 2015 Criminal Procedure Code.

*Second*, the leadership and management by Chiefs and Deputy Chiefs of some district-level Police Investigation Agencies in the Northwest region regarding law enforcement in cases with suspects under 18 years of age lacks decisiveness and effectiveness, falling short of assigned responsibilities.

*Third*, the leadership capabilities and operational effectiveness of a small segment of Chiefs and Deputy Chiefs of district-level Police Investigation Agencies in the Northwest region demonstrate certain limitations. These include incomplete understanding and improper implementation of their legally defined functions and duties. Their ability to apply and implement Party directives, policies, and laws does not fully meet task requirements.

*Fourth*, both crime reporters' awareness and the competency of officers directly receiving crime reports and denunciations remain insufficient. Officers receiving such reports lack adequate expertise in selecting appropriate legal provisions and comparing information provided

by reporters against chosen legal provisions to make proper decisions regarding crime reports.

*Fifth*, material facilities and equipment supporting the reception of crime reports, such as audio and video recording devices, remain inadequately supplied to district-level Police Investigation Agencies in the Northwest region. The reception of crime reports by non-investigative agencies in the Northwest region is limited, and the quality of collected information serving the resolution process remains suboptimal due to lack of specialized training. Furthermore, funding for law enforcement activities in cases with suspects under 18 years of age remains constrained.

*Sixth*, the coordination mechanism between district-level Police Investigation Agencies in the Northwest region and relevant organizations remains limited.

## **Chapter 4**

### **VIEWPOINTS AND SOLUTIONS FOR ENSURING LAW ENFORCEMENT IN INVESTIGATING CASES WITH SUSPECTS UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE BY DISTRICT- LEVEL POLICE INVESTIGATION AGENCIES IN THE NORTHWEST REGION, VIETNAM**

#### **4.1. VIEWPOINTS ON ENSURING LAW ENFORCEMENT IN INVESTIGATING CASES WITH SUSPECTS UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE BY DISTRICT-LEVEL POLICE INVESTIGATION AGENCIES IN THE NORTHWEST REGION, VIETNAM**

Law enforcement must thoroughly implement the viewpoints and policies of the Party and Central Public Security Party Committee

regarding criminal investigation in general and the investigation of cases with suspects under 18 years of age in particular.

The process must ensure unified focus on serving political missions and maintaining security and order both nationally and specifically in the Northwest region.

The approach must maximize protection of human rights for persons under 18 years of age during law enforcement in investigating cases involving underage suspects by district-level Police Investigation Agencies.

It must ensure accuracy in identifying perpetrators and crimes while adhering to legal requirements, preventing both criminal impunity and wrongful convictions, thereby contributing to crime prevention education.

Furthermore, the implementation must meet Vietnam's integration requirements with regional and global partners.

## **4.2. SOLUTIONS FOR ENSURING LAW ENFORCEMENT IN INVESTIGATING CASES WITH SUSPECTS UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE BY DISTRICT-LEVEL POLICE INVESTIGATION AGENCIES IN THE NORTHWEST REGION, VIETNAM**

### **4.2.1. General Solutions**

The legal framework related to investigating cases with suspects under 18 years of age by district-level Police Investigation Agencies requires continued refinement. Additionally, leadership and management practices of Investigation Agency Chiefs and Deputy Chiefs need ongoing innovation, ensuring that leadership accountability aligns with the effectiveness of law enforcement in cases involving suspects under 18 years of age.



### **4.2.2. Specific Solutions**

The organizational structure of district-level Police Investigation Agencies in the Northwest region of Vietnam requires continued enhancement and optimization. There must be increased focus on improving awareness, professional competence, and staffing levels for procedural personnel within district-level Police Investigation Agencies in the Northwest region of Vietnam.

Financial resources and equipment supporting the investigation of cases with suspects under 18 years of age by district-level Police Investigation Agencies in the Northwest region of Vietnam need continued reinforcement. The coordination between district-level Police Investigation Agencies and relevant organizations in investigating cases with suspects under 18 years of age in the Northwest region of Vietnam must be strengthened.

## **CONCLUSION**

This dissertation has conducted a comprehensive and in-depth study of law enforcement in investigating cases with suspects under 18 years of age by district-level Police Investigation Agencies in the Northwest region of Vietnam. The research results have made significant theoretical and practical contributions, specifically:

Regarding theoretical aspects: The dissertation has clarified the theoretical foundation of law enforcement in investigating cases with suspects under 18 years of age, including concepts, characteristics, roles, content, stages, and enabling conditions.

Regarding practical aspects: The dissertation has surveyed and evaluated influencing factors while analyzing and clarifying the current

state of law enforcement in investigating cases with suspects under 18 years of age by district-level Police Investigation Agencies in the Northwest region of Vietnam over a 10-year period, from 2014 to 2023. Through this analysis, the dissertation has identified achievements, their causes, and existing limitations along with their causes requiring resolution.

Regarding solutions: Based on theoretical and practical research, the dissertation has presented viewpoints for ensuring law enforcement in investigating cases with suspects under 18 years of age by district-level Police Investigation Agencies and proposed both general and specific solution groups. These solutions aim to ensure effective law enforcement in investigating cases with suspects under 18 years of age by district-level Police Investigation Agencies, applicable both nationally and specifically in the Northwest region of Vietnam.

The research findings have contributed to enhancing awareness about the role and importance of law enforcement in investigating cases with suspects under 18 years of age. The dissertation has also provided scientific arguments, viewpoints, and solutions for improving the legal system governing law enforcement in investigating cases with suspects under 18 years of age by district-level Police Investigation Agencies in the Northwest region of Vietnam.

Based on these research findings, the author aims to contribute to improving the quality of law enforcement activities in criminal investigation generally, and particularly in cases involving suspects under 18 years of age by district-level Police Investigation Agencies.

**LIST OF PUBLISHED WORKS BY THE AUTHOR  
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