DETERMINANTS OF EFFECTIVE EVIDENCE GATHERING IN CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS IN KIAMBU DISTRICT

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REG NO.: C159/CTY/PT/25363/2011

A RESEARCH PROJECT PROPOSAL SUBMITTED TO THE INSTITUTE OF PEACE AND SECURITY STUDIES IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT FOR THE REQUIREMENT IN AWARD OF MASTERS OF ARTS DEGREE IN SECURITY MANAGEMENT AND POLICE STUDIES IN THE SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES OF KENYATTA UNIVERSITY

MAY, 2014
DECLARATION

Declaration by Student

"This proposal is my original work and has not been presented for a degree in any other university"

Signature........................................Date. 14/5/2014

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Admission/No.: C159/CTY/PT/25363/2011.

Approval by Supervisors

This proposal has been submitted for the review with our approval as University Supervisors.

Signature........................................Date. 14/6/2014

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ABSTRACT

In Kenya criminal investigation is experiencing emerging challenges which need to be established in order to address these worrying trends. Failures to effectively gather evidence in the criminal investigation process can have serious consequences like unsolved crimes, unsuccessful prosecution, unpunished offenders and wrongful convictions. This study seeks to assess the determinants of effective evidence gathering in criminal investigation in Kiambu District of Kiambu County. The study objectives will be to find out the capacity of the police officer to gather evidence in criminal investigation, identify types of evidence gathered in criminal investigation, assess crime scene management by the police officers in criminal investigation and identify challenges facing police officers in gathering evidence in criminal investigation in Kiambu District. The study will be guided by the General Systems theory and a conceptual framework. The study will adopt ex post facto research design. From the target population of 258 the study will sample 30% (90) respondents. The senior police officers dealing with crime, judicial officials and crime investigators experts will be selected purposively while police officers attached to criminal department and police officers who are on general duty will be selected randomly. The study will use questionnaires and interview schedules as primary data collection instruments. The senior police officers, judicial officials and medical officer selected will be interviewed while the junior police officers and criminal investigation officer experts will fill the questionnaires. Data collected will be analyzed both descriptively and statistically. Qualitative data will be analyzed using the thematic method, while quantitative data will be analyzed using descriptive statistics such as frequencies, modes, means, variances or standard deviations. Chi-square, t-test and cross-tabulation will be used to test the relationship between the study variables. This study will be an important contribution to the formulation and adoption of a comprehensive policy on effective evidence gathering in criminal investigation and reduction of crime rates in Kenya. It will also fill the existing gap of literature and create reference points for scholars, government and the stakeholders in Kenya.