

Methodology of investigating drug crimes with a focus on production of methamphetamine

Abstract

This thesis deals with methodology of investigating drug crimes with a focus on production of methamphetamine. Considering the complexity of the mentioned topic, it takes into account substantive and procedural criminal law, criminalistics, criminology and addictology.

In the first chapter, in addition to describing the forms, effects and methods of methamphetamine production, with an emphasis on the Czech way of methamphetamine production, the historical genesis of the problem is also presented.

The second chapter defines the terms small-scale production, medium-level production and large-scale production in order to increase legal certainty. The thesis draws inspiration from the current methodology of the National Drug Headquarters and the United Nations. This part of thesis also includes a statistical section dealing with the structure of drug crime in terms of prosecutions and seized clandestine laboratories.

The third chapter describes a typical drug offender. The offenders are divided according to their level of professionalism into three groups: amateur, semi-professional and professional. This paper also discusses individual roles in an organized group, which it classifies as mandatory and optional in terms of the functioning of the organised group.

The substance of the thesis lies in chapter four, describing typical investigative situations and the procedural actions of the law enforcement authorities. The investigation of drug offences is divided into six phases: obtaining knowledge of a fact reasonably suggesting that a crime is being committed, monitoring criminal activity and collecting evidence, preparatory work towards arrest, arrest, initiation of prosecution, collecting remaining evidence and conclusion of the investigation.

Last but not least, the work within *de lege ferenda* proposals deals with the possibility of introducing the institute of a simulated act into the Czech legal system, which would enable the law enforcement authorities to more effectively detect organised groups involved in trafficking illicit drugs.

Klíčová slova: methamphetamine, production, investigation