

**MODUS OPERANDI: A COMPREHENSIVE STUDY OF OFFENDERS IN THE  
COMMISSION OF CYBERCRIME**

**Undergraduate Thesis  
Submitted to the Faculty of the  
College of Criminal Justice  
Cavite State University  
Indang, Cavite**

**In partial fulfillment  
of the requirements for the degree  
Bachelor of Science in Criminology**

**CEDRICK A. ATAS  
KARL ANGELO A. TESIL**

**June 2022**



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## ABSTRACT

**ATAS, CEDRICK A. and TESIL, KARL ANGELO A. MODUS OPERANDI: A COMPREHENSIVE STUDY OF OFFENDERS IN THE COMMISSION OF CYBERCRIME.** Undergraduate Thesis. Bachelor of Science in Criminology. Cavite State University, Indang, Cavite. May 2022. Adviser: Dr. Marissa C. Lontoc.

This study aimed to determine the different *modus operandi* of the offenders committing online scams. It also intended to understand why offenders have been involved and where they learned to commit such unlawful acts. As this study went on with the process, it uncovered the offenders' *modus operandi* in committing online scams. The researchers revealed that there are four phases in committing an online scam, first is creating a fake account, second is posting fake items, third is transacting with the target victim, and lastly blocking or deactivating the created fake account. It was also found that there are two factors where the offenders learned to commit an online scam. One factor is the environment where the person lived or its companions. On the other hand, another factor where the offenders learned to commit online scams is by accessing different sites and links that can gather the information that can trigger an individual to commit an unlawful act. The study also revealed that there are two reasons why offenders have been involved in committing online scams. The first is to fulfill their financial needs and the other one is to satisfy their wants just by taking the advantage of the recent situation which is the pandemic.

The researchers recommend conducting conferences and seminars regarding this type of unlawful act. The residents of Trece Martires City, Cavite, which was the scope of the study, need to be aware of this illicit act. These conferences and seminars should scope the *modus operandi* of the offenders to avoid becoming a victim. The said activity should also include the different types of cybercrime, since this is the modern or trend crime, the punishments for committing this unlawful act, and what to do if someone

becomes a victim of online scam. The researchers also suggest to the public servant of the municipality of Trece Martires City to have a place where people can post different job-posters, where individuals who are computer literate can find a job suitable to their skills, instead of committing unlawful acts online.

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Karl Angelo A. Tesil**

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An undergraduate thesis presented to the faculty of the College of Criminal Justice, Cavite State University, Indang, Cavite, in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree Bachelor of Science in Criminology with Contribution No. CCJ-2022-57. Prepared under the supervision of Marissa Lontoc, PhD.

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## **INTRODUCTION**

Our world continues to move towards modernization and at the same time the emergence of modern crimes. The perpetrators have become resourceful in committing crime through the use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT). The Philippine government knows it, so they took actions to solve these problems.

The Philippine National Police – Anti-Cybercrime Group, one of national support unit of PNP, created under the Republic Act No.10175 also known as Cybercrime Prevention Act of 2012. This group is mandated to investigate all cybercrimes and other crimes in which information and communication technology is used in the commission of criminal act or the object of attack provides technical investigative support to various law enforcement agency, both local and international, against cyber-enabled criminality.

In this time of pandemic, the main reason why perpetrators commit cybercrime is because it is the easiest and hustle-free crime that they can commit to gain easy money, because of the lockdown situation. Some contains that the enormous move towards home working and online shopping during the pandemic may also come up to a banishment of