



Press Release

Taipei District Prosecutors Office

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Media Contact: Deputy Chief Prosecutor Chou

Contact number: (02)23146881

Taipei District Prosecutors Office Unveils the New Sign and inaugurates the Third Office and the Digital Forensic Lab

Prosecutors offices across the country unveil their new signs simultaneously on February 8th, in light of the resolution made by National Conference on Judicial Reform. The resolution required prosecutors' offices at all levels remove "court" in their official names because their former official names often cause a misunderstanding that prosecutors' offices are affiliated to the Courts and may violate the principle of separation of courts and prosecutors' offices.

The new sign of Taipei District Prosecutors Office was unveiled in a ceremony held at 11 a.m. The brief yet solemn ceremony was hosted by Minister Chiu, Tai-san of the Ministry of Justice, with full participation of Secretary-General Lu, Tai-lang of the Judicial Yuan, Deputy Ministers Chen, Ming-tang, Tsai, Pi-chung, and Chang, Tou-hui of Ministry of Justice, Director Lin, Bang-liang of Department of Prosecutorial Affairs, Director Lin, Li-ying of Department of Planning, Prosecutor General Yen, Da-ho, Chief Prosecutor Wang, Tien-sheng of Taiwan High Prosecutors office, President Tsai, Pi-yu of Academy for the Judiciary, and Chief Judge Huang, Kuo-chung of Taipei District Court.

Another inauguration ceremony was held at 11:20 a.m. momentarily. During the ceremony, Ms. Liu, Hsin-yi performed a song "Blessing" in both Chinese and English version, and Mr. Lin, Hsin-tzu, a substitute military serviceman of our office played the violin to celebrate the grand opening of the Third Office and the Digital Forensic Lab, and to wish a solid foundation for the future development.

Ms. Liu, the young singer endowed with talent and appearance, is the daughter of Senior Prosecutor Liu, Cheng-wu whose father was also the former Chief Secretary of our Office. The three outstanding generations are all deeply connected with our office and can be valued as our office's pride. The excellent performance presented by Ms. Liu at this special ceremony would indeed be another good demonstration.

The ceremony began with the congratulatory remarks given by Minister Chiu, Prosecutor-General Yen, and Chief Prosecutor Wang respectively, which encourage the staff to follow the Office's honorable tradition of hard working and dedication to justice, thereto meet people's expectations.

Minister Chiu presented an art craft created by Mr. Wu Tsung-lin, who had made two art crafts "Benefiting All Creatures" and "the Scale of Justice," to the Chairman Lin, Bing-yao of Taipei Branch of Taiwan After-Care Association as a token. The art craft was named "heavenly made craft demonstrating justice."

Chairman Lin and his team dedicate themselves to the aftercare programs, which have made huge contributions to elevate society's harmony. "The Scale of Justice" was also gifted to our office from Mr. Lin and his team as a celebration for the completion of Third Office. Our Office hereby expresses sincere appreciation to the team.

The master of bronze, Mr. Wu, Tsung-lin, who has devoted himself to public benefit, gave lessons to correctional institutes and expecting those ex-convicts to use the bronze as a reflection, to

discover new values in their lives, and to turn over a new page.

Mr. Wu made “the Scale of Justice” under the following ideas: “compassion”, the handmade scale symbolizing the spirit of justice; “reason”, the circular shape of gongs representing the legal reasoning, and the word of “gong” in Chinese *luo* shares the same pronunciation of the word of “net,” which indicates the meaning of reliability of our system; and “equality,” the scale represent the equality before the law. The scale was given by Taipei Branch of TACA to our office as a spiritual symbol.

The Taipei District Prosecutors Office was established on November 1, 1945. Due to the economic prosperity in its jurisdiction, the case load has been increasing over time as the scale of personnel expanded correspondingly. Scattered buildings have brought inconveniences to the staff and citizens. To solve the problem from a long-term perspective, the Ministry of Justice began a negotiating process with the Ministry of National Defense, and the two ministries have come to an agreement on transferring the then headquarter building of Armed Force Resaved Command from MND to our office.

It has been more than a half-century since the building built in 1964. Therefore, the building was mottled, water-leaking, and did not meet current regulations regarding architecture and fire safety, which had threatened the structural safety of the building. With the efforts and arrangements made by the officials in the Ministry of Justice, the Executive Yuan approved a total budget of 81,931,652 NT dollars as the renovation fund of the building. Organized by Prosecutor Investigator Lien, Yang, designed and supervised by Hsieh, Chien-hua Architecture Firm, and constructed by Tai-yi Construction Company, the renovation journey began. The journey ended in 2017, and the building was renamed as “the Third Office of Taipei District Prosecutors Office.”

While at the ceremony of its grand opening, we sincerely extend our gratitude to those who dedicate to this accomplishment.

To fight against crimes more effectively, our office developed a database for drug abuse funding through a project approved by Ministry of Science and Technology in 2013. During the process of development, the Office realized that traditional communications through telephones were being replaced by mobile apps for instant communication (such as LINE or WeChat), and those apps have become more and more popular nowadays. In view of this, the Office purchased a digital forensic device under the very project and initiated training programs to train the techniques to find and restore information such as images or records in those apps, as well as to decode a mobile phone without password. This measure has set a precedent for the other prosecution offices across the nation to follow.

Till now, our office had recruited 13 prosecutor investigators who can master the said techniques and to assist the investigation. Meanwhile, prosecutors had confiscated over 150 mobile devices in various cases and had finished digital forensic process.

On May 11th, 2017, the Executive Yuan had passed the Strategy against Drugs in New Generation, which addresses drug-related issues and crimes with more effectively integrated resources. Given the current trend that instant messaging apps are being used as a tool for drug-related crimes, Taiwan High Prosecutors Office drafted the Project on Establishing Digital Forensic Work Groups in THPO and Subordinate Prosecutors Offices, which requires district prosecutors offices procure devices and equipment for digital forensic investigation and established a digital forensic lab.

Our office has then established the Digital Forensic Center, integrating the experiences on digital forensic investigation and professionally trained and skilled prosecutor investigators, under the supervision of prosecutors. The Center comprise as follows: (1) a Conference Room; (2) a Forensic Lab (also for preserving evidences); (3) Drug Database. The Center has started a new phase of process of investigation since February 1st, 2018. Since Minister Chiu hosted the unveiling ceremony today, the Lab would operate progressively under full resources of hardware, software,

and manpower. It is anticipated that the Lab will accelerate the investigation process, enrich the database on digital forensic investigation, and fight against all kinds of crimes more effectively.