



## Press Release

Taipei District Prosecutors Office

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### **Romanians prosecuted for fraud, forgery, and violating Money Laundering Control Act**

Our Office prosecuted Mr. B○RBU G○EORGHE and 8 other defendants in violation of §201-1 I , II , §339-2 I , §339-2, III , I of the Criminal Code; meanwhile, decided not to prosecute Defendant Wu and 13 other persons with the charges of violating §315-1 of the Criminal code.

Mr. B○RBU G○EORGHE and 8 other Romanians, plus 1 Englishman, and several other adult foreigners formed an international crime syndicate. They used pinhole camcorders and skimming equipment to steal credit card information and passwords in Europe and America. Then they emailed stolen credit cards information to crime members waited in Asia (Including those who in Taiwan); and the latter forged imitation credit cards and withdrew money from automated teller machines (ATMs). The latter kept 20% of the illegal profit for themselves and wired 80% of it abroad to co-conspirators through Western Union or left town with cash and transported back to Romania to hand in to other co-conspirators. Until Feb.12, 2016, they had withdrawn at least NT\$2401200 and wired US\$157,174.89 abroad. The Police was informed for the entry of members of this crime syndicate. They contacted banks, searched for VCR of ATMs, and thus targeted several suspects. They then shared information with Thailand Police to arrest co-conspirators. Our Police then arrested 9 defendants and searched and seized crime manuals describing how to forge cards, credit card machines, pinhole camcorders and other skimming equipment.

According to illegal profits, the magnitude of the hazard to financial order, and the denial attitude of those defendants after arrest, our Office recommends the following sentences for the defendants to scare off those crime syndicate: Barbu 18 years; Cosmin 21 years

and 2 months; Petre 9 years and 7 months; Kiss 9 years; Todirica 10 years and 3 months; Matthew 4 years and 7 months; Cubelac 14 years and 6 months; Ciot 21 years and 11 months; Codoban 20 years.