

Integrity, and Incorruptibility



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I. History Organization and Current Situation

A. Organization History

The Office was officially established in accordance with "Rule of establishment of ethical organization personnel" on January 19th, 1993 by Department of Personnel (b).

B. Current Situation

The Office has established 1st, 2nd, 3rd section and secretary room, and is mainly responsible for maintenance of confidential civil information and authority security, inspection and prevention of illegal and bribery acts, etc. There are a total of 58 employees including Chief Director, vice-Chief Director, Officer secretary, specialized agent, secretary, section director, officer, inspection agent, section head, designer, officer, assistant administrator, assistant, clerk and operators.

The office is home to 73 ethical organizations. Amongst which, Level 1 institution of the City Government with ethical organization includes 25 organizations such as Secretary Office, Civil Affairs Bureau, Department of Social Welfare, Department of Labor, Department of Land Administration, Military Service Bureau, Department of Finance, Directorate-General of Budget, Accounting and Statistics, Department of Economic Development, Water Development, Feitsui Reservoir Administration,



Department of Education, Department of Information and Tourism, Department of Cultural Affairs, Department of Transportation, Department of Rapid Transit Systems, Department of Public Health, Department of Environmental Protection, Fire Department, Police Department, Public Works Department, Department of Urban Development, Department of Information Technology, Department of Sports, Department of Legal Affairs, etc. Also, 12 District Offices of the City are equipped with ethical organizations. 35 Level 2 authority units of the Government are also equipped with ethical organizations, making a total of 347 ethical personnel (including this Office).

II. Anti-bribery Inspection work

A. Total Number of Inspected Cases

1. Charged cases transferred from Taipei City Government Ethical Office to legal units

In response to expectations for ethical work of the Taipei City Government, in order to combat bribery and enhance the trust of citizens towards the City Government, Taipei City Government Ethical Office would actively transfer suspecting illegal activities or bribery crimes of civil servants to legal authorities. If such activities involve administrative mis-conductions, violations of civic servant ethical regulations, the Office would also hold relevant personnel administrative, and suggest authority units to adjust the roles of the personnel involved appropriately, in order to enhance knowledge and abidance to law of Taipei City Government civil servants, and to avoid occurrence of bribery activities while protecting an honest image to the public.

As a result of calculation, the number of charged cases and persons transferred by the Office to legal authority units are as shown below, "Charged cases overview transferred by units of Taipei City Government to legal authority units":

Charged cases overview transferred by units of Taipei City Government to legal authority units

	Year	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Bribery Cases	Number of cases	9	8	6	7	19	8	4	8
	Number of people	18	19	23	12	50	10	4	20
General Illegal Activities	Number of cases	—	—	—	—	23	9	5	3
	Number of people	—	—	—	—	61	21	7	3

2. Analysis of type of charged cases

Analysis of the above "Charged cases overview transferred by units of Taipei City Government to legal authority units" is as follows:

a. Government procurement bidding project

Most of the general illegal cases transferred to criminal units from different units of the City Government involve violations regarding government procurement. Illegal procurement cases of vendors mainly involve bid rigging, in other words, many competing vendors would choose not to participate in bidding competitions for government bids, thereby allowing a prearranged vendor to win the bidding; or accompanying bidding, in

other words, vendors would participate in bidding activities with a higher bidding price than prearranged vendors in cases of bids below the lowest price, thereby allowing prearranged vendors to win bidding activities. However, bribery cases (such as illegal tied bidding using construction specification or vendor qualifications by civil servants, or exclude certain bidding vendors in early planning stages of construction through bidding announcements, acquisition of construction diagrams, or leaking a list of bidding vendors, in order to conduct bid rigging.

b. Police and fire-fighting operation

Personnel of police and fire-fighting units are civil servants closest to the general public. Police officers, in particular,



are responsible for banning illegal activities. In order to avoid such regulations, unlawful parties would try to be on good terms with police officers. If due to unjust mindsets, police officers are easily prone to temptations, or even request unlawful gains from opportunities posed at work, they thereby protect unlawful parties. If a police officer is extravagant, paired with a weak and unjust mindset, he or she may easily be tempted to conduct unlawful actions through misconduct and lack of alertness.

c. Major construction projects

Regarding analysis of possible reasons behind crimes, some construction projects are classified as highly professional, and must be accessed relying on contracting work stations and supervisory vendors. Workers that are not stationed on-site long-term are unable to learn about actual conditions of constructions. As a result, contracting vendors, work stations and supervisory vendors may easily team up for unlawful activities. Also, without the implementation of rotation mechanisms, workers staying in the same post for a long time may become familiar with frequent

vendors. As a result, workers may ignore or lower acceptance and inspection standard due to friendship, unlawful temptations or wrongful mindsets and behaviors, leading on to a series of other problems.

d. Operation with penalty authority

Operations with penalty authority, such as: environmental inspection, traffic penalty or hygiene and food inspections, etc., as such operations are closely related to the general public and in possession of relevant administrative penalty spaces, so problems may easily occur. Contracting civil servants of an environmental inspection office once penalized an industry worker with strong administrative penalties, or take advantage of vendors that are unfamiliar with relevant inspective workflow for bribes from fearful vendors by lying that he or she can help avoid penalties.

e. Others

Problems may easily occur in operations such as that of the private funeral industry, due to traditional cultural mindsets, differences in funeral information or insufficient hardware facilities.

Construction vendors may interfere with standard operations or matters of taxation with friendship or money in hopes to quickly acquire or use corresponding licenses, out of fear that start dates or end dates of construction projects may be delayed as supervising operations may take longer to process applications for construction licenses, and it takes time to provide any additional information.

B. Major Cases of Recent Years

Following analysis of the above "Charged cases overview transferred by units of Taipei City Government to legal authority units", cases with large number of involved persons, large amount of money value and of social attention are stated below:

1. Road construction fraud

In order to obtain a higher profit, a construction vendor contracting for maintenance of roads cut construction corners through methods such as inadequate ratio of renewable asphalt or oil content, inadequate thickness of milling, reduction of thickness of laid asphalt, etc. The Company had continued to bribe work station teams of the time with unlawful banquets, travels abroad and money since 2003. These civil servants then ensured acceptance of inspections. Upon investigation by the Office, 34 persons were charged with crimes against bribery acts by prosecutors of the Taipei Prosecutors Office.

2. Collective bribery of funeral staff

In 2012, collective bribery of staff of Second Funeral Parlor of Taipei City Mortuary Services Office was found. The Office first tracked work conditions of involved staff members at the beginning of the case, inspections were then conducted after reporting to Agency Against Corruption, Ministry of Justice. It was then discovered that a total



of 15 staff members from Second Funeral Parlor of Mortuary Services Office were well aware of "Taipei City public mortuary facilities and services fee standard chart" regulations, that services for bathing, make-up and burial of each body have set legal fees, and no additional fees shall be collected for any other reasons, and accepted varied bribes for individual bodies. Upon completion of investigation by prosecutors of Taipei Prosecutors Office, involved staff members and mortuary operators were charged with bribery crimes.

3. Report of inflated overtime pay for environmental protection cleaning team members

A member of a cleaning team of Department of Environmental Protection, Taipei City Government is responsible for businesses such as reporting overtime pay of team members of the district and writing off petty-cash. The member was well aware of loopholes in the application, review, write-off and transmission of overtime pay. Between 2007 and 2013, the member took

advantage of the post of contractor for overtime pay application, and produced fake accounts to inflate overtime hours of team members for overtime pay fraud, resulting in unlawful gain of NTD 19,467,518. Upon discovery, the Office conducted investigation with relevant personnel at the district team. Officer Chang surrendered upon administrative investigation, and is charged with bribery and other relevant legal provisions by the Taipei Prosecutors Office.

4. Hospital clinic procurement fraud

When conducting anti-corruption investigation, the Office discovered that a contracting medical equipment company bribed several head doctors and technicians with high-value 3C products, in order to win tenders for medical equipment at several districts of United Hospital of the City from 2003 to 2013. Upon receipt of bribes, unlawful medical staff members then helped to tailor design specifications for the Company for bid rigging or winning of tenders by disclosing the lowest price for bidding cases. The

Company then successfully won tenders for high-value equipment such as computer tomography scanners, X-ray touring vehicles, and ultrasonic scanners for several hospitals, with a total procurement value of around NTD 1billion. Medical staff members received a total of several millions of dollars as bribes. The case was transferred to prosecutors for investigation, and the involved personnel were charged by prosecutors of Taipei Prosecutors Office upon completion of investigation.

5. Joint development valuation frauds of Xindian station

Since October 2006, investing vendors of "Joint development plan of Taipei metropolitan mass rapid transit system Xindian line Xindian depot" were frequently suspected of unlawful acts by outside parties. Upon investigation by the Office, joint development officers of Department of Rapid Transit Systems were found to be involved in frauds of valuation report, lowering valuation of land cost and raising valuation of building cost, so that

the Government received NTD 386,935,958 less allocated right value, while having to pay an additional NTD 114,310,344of contracting construction fee. The case was transferred to the Taipei Prosecutors Office with relevant evidence for investigation. Persons involved were charged by the Office on April 24th, 2014 for violations of Anti-Corruption Act.

6. Harboring sex workers case of grassroot police officers

From July 2004 to June 2016, several police officers of a hotel police area of the City were found to receive monthly bribes from hotel operators as compensation for avoiding inspection and charges; also, inspection records of the hotel area were found to be faulty. Hotel operators have repeatedly spy upon content of inspections for harboring of police officers. Investigation of the case was directed by prosecutors of Taipei Prosecutors Office for collection of relevant information evidence. 10 police officers were later charged with violations of Anti-Corruption Act.



C. Joint Risk Warning – "External Supervision for Cross-Domain Cooperation for the Benefit of Citizens"

Since 2007, anti-corruption supporting platforms have been established to support processing of risk-related topics for procurement cases of the City Government above NTD 10 billion. Such cross-domain platforms involve units such as Taipei District Prosecutors Office, Anti-Corruption Office of Ministry of Justice, etc. for the establishment of an external communication mechanism for prevention of corruption and consulting services for construction bidding projects. The goal is to prevent interference and the pressure of external unlawful influences, enhance cross-domain communication and support timely and quality completion of construction projects; establish safe environment for work, protect legal rights of maintenance vendors; construct fair and just procurement, public and open administrative operation; promote performance of anti-corruption platform and core value of anti-corruption actions. For now, "Development case for specific area C1/D1 anti-corruption platform in Taipei Station" has been executed, and "Anti-corruption platform for reconstruction of Wanda First Fruit, Vegetables and Fish Wholesale Market" has been processed, both of which are major construction and development cases related to wellness and economic development of the citizens of Taipei City.



III. Conclusion

Trustworthiness of the Government is basis of Government units for authorization by citizens for the construction of a transparent and accountable civil service environment, thereby lowering the possibility of corruptions. Such is also the most important mission of the Office. As the capital of the country, Taipei City values integrity as one of the core values of a governing administration. With the strong public supervision of legislative council and the media, etc., the City Government can maintain a high level of integrity. Based on the operation principle of integrity governance, the Office also actively promotes "Implementation of anti-corruption, corruption prevention and

penalty" ; with a strong mindset against frauds, the Office adopts an "Active discovery, fast processing, investigation cooperation, explanation to external parties" principle; in terms of promotion of administrative management, the Office implements strategic goals of "Enhancing administration by law", "Build high-quality civil service environment", "Enhance integrity participation of citizens" so that civil servants of the Government are "Unwilling to corrupt, do not need to corrupt, and do not dare to corrupt", thereby sculpturing the ideal vision of "Clean anti-corruption government with a society of sincerity and trust".



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