

## **Press Release** Taipei **District** Prosecutors Office

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## <u>A Big Leap in Judicial Protection Judicial Protection Big</u> <u>Progress: "Victims Platform of Access to Criminal Proceeding</u> <u>Information" activated on the first day of January, 2021</u>

For purpose of To strengthening criminal victims' protection and their rights to access criminal procedure information, and to carry out the in line with resolutions of the National Judicial Reform Committee, Ministry of Justice and the Judicial Yuen have jointly established the Victims Platform of Access to Criminal Proceeding Information (hereinafter "the Platform"). Throughout stages--from the early criminal investigation, or follow-ed up trial proceedings to the final court judgment enforcement--the Platform enables victims to accessobtain criminal proceeding information in a timely, accurate and complete manner. Accessible information includes prosecutorial search, seizure and detention, the indictment or non-indictment decision, criminal trial decisionoutcome, arrestment of those wanted defendants, and their imprisonment or probation status. Informed victims will be capable of knowing the progress of their cases, which offer them opportunities towill be able to timely participate timely and voice their concerns to relevant authorities to make sure the appropriate measures will be taken, as well as to adopt measures to enhance the protection of enhancing the victims' personal safety and security.

On January 1st, 2021 the Platform will be implemented on a trial basis by the Taipei District Prosecutors Office ("the Office"). The Office , which was designated by Ministry of Justice to conduct the experimental proceeding. Through today's announcement ceremony at the Office, jointly instructed by Justice Minister Tsai, Taipei District Chief Judge Huang, Deputy Ministers Chen, Tsai and Chang, Prosecutor General Chiang, Taiwan High Prosecutors Office Chief Prosecutor Xing, the Information Technology Office of the Ministry of Justice together with the Office's section chief prosecutor Wang

introduced the Platform and its functions, declaring its official activation date willto be the first day of the year of 2021.

"To eliminate victims' fear and uncertainty regardingof victims on criminal proceedings, Ministry of Justice since 2019 was planning to establish the system since 2019 and completed it he system by October 2020. The first experimental procedure will be carried out by jurisdictions including First trying jurisdictions at the Taipei City, New Taipei City and Pin Tung County. All these entities districts will constantly amend and improve the platform system, aiming to apply this system to jurisdictions at nation-wide level as soon as possible to createshow a warm and compassionate judiciary environment toward our citizens." Minister Tsai said. "According to the instruction of Ministry of JusticeUnder the Ministry's command, the Office and the Taipei Branch of the Crime Victims Protection Association collaborate to jointly provide more comprehensive facilities to intact victims-services, including the programs of "Cosy Warmer Packet Bag,," the "All-The-Way Accompany," and the "One-onto-One Table Service." The systemprograms is set are to protect victimss' rights to information to make sure they are well protected by and consolidate the judicial systemprotection." The Office Chief Prosecutor Chou elaborated.

The Office has held several training sessionscalled on plentiful meetings withto ensure staff colleagues to to be get familiar with the platform system. The "Warmer Packet" programBag is designed to puts togethergather all available measures into one packet to facilitatemeasures of victim protection to better inform victims to understand the of relevant procedures regarding the protective measures. The Office will also aAssigning appropriate persons to correspondingon sorted cases, for example, the Office will designate assigning the judicial clerk who is in charge of handled the sexual assault casesrime to provide assistance to assist the victims. The purpose is to let the victims put their trusts on, will help the Office gain trust. The "One-ton-One Table Service" program provides assistance to the victim on anan one-ton-one basis. Each victimsratio where every victim will be assigned is designated to one person to help them fill out the required a variety of paperwork and instruct them to go through the required judicial process, which prevents victims from getting lost. The Office believes that Tby way of hrough the preceding above victim-assisting programs measures, the Office is making good progress on the victims protection and turning such our judicial protection programscheme into a new page.



