## **Press Release**



## **Taipei District Prosecutors Office**

Release Date: 21 Sep, 2023 Media Contact: Deputy Chief Prosecutor Yi-Wei Tsai Contact number: (02) 23146881

Enforce prosecuting election bribery and violence, maintain election fairness. The Chief Prosecutor of TDPO Mr. Cheng, Ming-Chian leads the prosecuting team visit every precinct of Taipei City Police Department in TDPO's jurisdiction, exchange opinions with front-line police officers.

After Aug 15 and 22, 2023 visiting Wulai and Shenkeng police station of Xindian Precinct, New Taipei City Police Department to convene an election inspection forum. In order to reach fair election, gather team consensus regarding prosecuting bribery and election violence, also raise up the morale of front-line police officers, and put emphasis on gathering intelligence, as showing the determination of law enforcement, the Chief Prosecutor of TDPO Mr. Cheng, Ming-Chian continuing his progress to Zhongshen, Wenshan Second, and Songshan Precinct of Taipei City Police Department, leading Head Prosecutor, the election inspection executive secretary of TDPO, Mr. Guo, Jin-chang, along with the responsible Head Prosecutors and Prosecutors of each police precinct to convene the election inspection forums.

The forums start with overviewing election intelligence and law enforcement work of each constituency, then come after with responsible Prosecutors to lecture the regulation of penalty for encumbering election, also sharing their investigation experience and practice techniques, exchanging opinions with front-line police officers to unify consensus as for law enforcement standard in each responsible area.

During the forums, The Chief Prosecutor of TDPO Mr. Cheng, Ming-Chian specifically reminded that this election faces three challenges: (1) foreign forces interference; (2) election-related (online) gambling interference; (3) false information interference.

It is necessary to strengthen the awareness of Anti-infiltration Act enforcement, and also strengthen the investigation towards underground banking and election-related (online) gambling, to block foreign forces interference and cut off the negative effect derived from election-related (online) gambling. When encountering cases of false information about the election, we must adhere to the principles of "handling immediately, effectively clarifying, quickly eliminating, and strengthen investigating actions" to avoid any negative effect during election period. In particular, cases of using deepfake videos to spread false information about candidates are most likely to occur in this election. All units must respond early and take advantage of removal mechanism to reduce negative effects.

The Chief Prosecutor of TDPO Mr. Cheng, Ming-Chian further emphasized that, in order to achieve the goal of "fair elections and the elimination of illegality, the core purpose of this election inspection is to "strictly investigate illegal activities and eliminate the root causes." Bribery in election is a hidden crime, so arrange multiple intelligence sources in each constituency would be necessary, also measures to keep the whistle-blowers' identity confidential would be the key to encourage citizen to report illegal actions during elections. In addition, prosecutors should maintain close contact and cooperation with police and other related units. Team spirits, investigate with rigorous, establish the core team regards of prosecuting bribery and election violence would be essential, so that there will be no candidates take any chances to break the law.

Finally, the Chief Prosecutor of TDPO Mr. Cheng, Ming-Chian expressed his gratitude to the front-line police officers' hard works, also expect that every law enforcer would act according to law, and maintain fair standard, no regards of people's status, or whether their political tendency. We will base on the attitude of "investigate everything we hear" and "prosecute every case with accordance", strive to accomplish the task of investigating and prosecuting bribery and election violence, to ensure the election would progress and finish peacefully.



( Sep,5 2023 Zhongshen Precinct of Taipei City Police Department )



(Sep, 12 2023 Wenshan Second Precinct of Taipei City Police

Department )



( Sep,14 2023 Songshan Precinct of Taipei City Police Department )



(Sep,21 2023 Wanhua Precinct of Taipei City Police Department)