



# Press Release

## Taipei District Prosecutors Office

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**Taipei District Prosecutor Office (TDPO) has established a “Military and National Security Investigation Contact Platform” which enforces the coordination and communication with military institutions, maintains military capability, and ensures national security.**

According to the conclusion of the national military judicial conference held by the Supreme Prosecutors Office on December 18, 2023, the Taipei District Prosecutors Office(TDPO) invited military institutions within its jurisdiction to participate in the “Military and National Security Investigation Contact Platform Conference” on the morning of December 23, 2023. The purpose of this conference was to discuss about the impact of the extension of the term of compulsory military service on case investigation and the governance of military forces. During the conference, hosted by the Chief Prosecutor, Ming-Chien Cheng, representatives including Zheng-Yi Wang, Director of the Department of Legal Affairs of Ministry of National Defense(MND); Shi-Hui Chen, Chief Inspector of the Air Force Command Headquarters, MND; Sheng-Tai Wu, Director of the All-Out Defense Mobilization Agency(AODMA); Guo-Xing Bao, Assistant Director of the ROC Air Force Combatant Command; Jian-Chang Yu, Section Chief of the Navy Command Headquarters, MND; Ming-Jun Wei, Assistant Director of the Military Police Command; Geng-Hua Zhang, Assistant Director of the Information, Communications and Electronic Force Command(ICEFCOM), as well as other representatives from each military institution participated in opinion exchanges. Through these

discussions, consensus was reached among the participants, resulting in consolidation of viewpoints, and the enforcement capacity of the team has increased as well.

During the conference, Chief Prosecutor Zheng mentioned that the military discipline is the lifeblood of military and also a crucial sign of the military capability. Since January 1, 2024, our country has adjusted the conscription system, extending the term of military service from 4 months to 1 year. Due to this adjustment, it can be anticipated that cases of violence against superiors, insubordination and affrays will increase. Such incidents may severely undermine the governance of military officers, thereby affecting the effectiveness of military training and even the national security. By establishing the platform mentioned above, serious military criminal cases will be handled by specialized prosecutor team in TDPO in order to achieve unified authority and consistent standards. The dedicated prosecutors will maintain continuous communication with military institutions and seek input from serving units. In regards to the case that significantly impact the military governance, these prosecutors will conduct prompt investigations and enforce strict measures. If necessary, they will request the court to impose a heavier sentences.

Chief Prosecutor Zheng further emphasized that after establishing the contact platform, we will hold regular meetings to discuss practical issues aimed at making the investigation procedures more appropriate. Additionally, we should enhance visiting and exchange activities to help prosecutors develop a deeper understanding and comprehension of the military operational mode and ecology, as well as to recognize the severity of harm to the military caused by military crimes. Furthermore, TDPO can arrange legal promotional lectures conducted by specialized prosecutors according to the needs of the military institutions to achieve the effect of preventing illegal acts and violations of discipline.

Director Zheng-Yi Wang especially expressed his gratitude to TDPO for valuing the governance problem caused by the extension of the term of

military service. By establishing the contact platform, a direct communication pipeline between military institutions and prosecutors was formed. Director Wang also expects other prosecutor offices can emulate the practice implemented by TDPO, whereby contact platform can be established with military institutions within their jurisdictions to jointly uphold military discipline.

In addition to concluding the establishment of the contact platform, the conference also discussed about case reporting, protection of victim privacy, on-site evidence collection, and other related issue. The Colonel of the legal team in the Military Police Command gave a presentation of a topic of "Enhancing investigative actions of gendarmerie in response to conscripted men entering the camp for service and communication with prosecutor offices within the jurisdiction" which provided quite valuable experience for reference. After the contact platform were established, TDPO will work more closely with every military institution to address the military and national security issues, and effectively uphold military discipline and capability to ensure national security.