



## Press Release

# Taipei District Prosecutors Office

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**With respect to the bail ruling concerning the defendants surnamed Ko and Ying in Taiwan Taipei District Court Ruling No. 2025-Sheng-Geng-Yi-13 (hereinafter, “the Court”), the Taipei District Prosecutor’s Office (hereinafter, “the Office”) will not file an appeal. The reasons are explained as follows:**

- I. With respect to the cases currently under trial before the Court involving the defendant surnamed Ko and others for alleged violations of the Anti-Corruption Act 2016, and related offenses, the Office has consistently adhered to an objective and neutral stance—“basing conclusions on evidence, ascertaining the facts, and neither wrongfully accusing nor improperly exonerating” — to determine the facts and apply the law. And during the course of trial, guided by the principles of “expediting proceedings and discovering the truth” and grounded in legal rationality, the Office has filed interlocutory appeals against the Court’s bail rulings on three occasions, after reviewing the grounds for and necessity of detention. All of these appeals were upheld by the Taiwan High Court and remanded for reconsideration, thereby sufficiently demonstrating that the appeals were well-founded and legally justified. Whether a defendant should be detained is a matter for the court to decide independently in accordance with the law, as this reflects a fundamental principle of criminal procedure in a modern rule-of-law state. However, a certain political party and some individuals have repeatedly alleged through the media that this case involves “detention to extract confessions” or an intent to “detain Ko to death.” Such statements are malicious distortions, aimed at steering the narrative and fomenting confrontation, with the evident intent of influencing judicial adjudication.
- II. During the trial, the Court issued four detention and four bail rulings (including the current remand ruling), all of which found that the defendants surnamed Ko and Ying were suspected of committing serious corruption offenses carrying a minimum statutory sentence of five years, with substantial evidence indicating criminal suspicion. Furthermore, there were factual and reasonable grounds to believe that the two defendants might destroy evidence or collude with co-

defendants or witnesses. Accordingly, all the rulings provided sufficient legal grounds for detention. However, the current ruling has addressed, point by point, the matters raised by the Taiwan High Court in its remand instructions. It has further clarified the conditions of bail requirements prohibiting any contact, harassment, intimidation, or inquiry into the case with co-defendants or witnesses, in order to prevent the defendants from colluding with witnesses yet to be cross-examined (a total of 21 individuals) or with witnesses listed in the indictment's list of evidence (including the defendants, totaling 155 individuals, of whom 33 are related to members of the Party). In addition, the Court has set high bail amounts of NTD 70 million and NTD 30 million, respectively, and has supplemented these measures with electronic ankle monitors and case-specific mobile phone monitoring technology, in order to prevent the defendants from fleeing. Although there remain some concerns regarding the practical enforceability of these alternative measures, guided by the consistent principle of "expediting proceedings" and focusing on the legal arguments and debates at the core of the trial, the prosecutors respect the Court's ruling and will not file an interlocutory appeal in this instance.

- III. In the forthcoming proceedings, the prosecutors will continue to monitor whether the defendants violate any of the Court's compliance orders. Should concrete evidence of such violations arise, the prosecutors will request the Court to reconsider the necessity of detention, in order to uphold judicial fairness, maintain public confidence, and ensure the proper exercise of the State's criminal enforcement powers.