



臺灣彰化地方檢察署 新聞稿

Taiwan Changhua District Prosecutors Office Press Release

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With the fraudulent group gangsterism, the Changhua District Prosecutor cracked it harshly. Two main suspects are brought to trial, taken into custody, and requested by the prosecutor a heavier sentence.

In December 2022, the Changhua District Prosecutors Office receives intelligence about a suspected criminal syndicate in central Taiwan. With a performance of a new crime pattern targeting vulnerable migrant workers with currency exchange needs.

An investigation is accordingly implemented by a task force led by Prosecutor CHEN, Yi-An; the prosecutor directs officers from the Changhua and Lukang Precincts of the Changhua County Police Department and Daya Precinct of Taichung City Police Department. The task force discovers that suspects Wang ○○ and Gao ○○ have upgraded and evolved from a fraudulent ancestral group to a more advanced robbery ring by setting up an "Online Marketing Unit", a "Communication Unit", a "Sales Unit", and an "Operations Unit".

The criminal ring operates as follows: members of the "Online Market Unit" advertised on the internet with preferential foreign currency exchange services for Vietnamese đồng (VND) to attract disadvantaged Vietnamese migrant workers working in Taiwan under the pseudonym "Annoying Man" and "Wang Hong-nan". After the victim are hooked up, Wang ○○, who is in the "Sales Unit", will approach the victim. Later, the head of the "Transportation Unit" is

responsible for dispatching people to rent a car from a vehicle rental company as a means of transportation for the crime. After making an appointment with the victim, the "Sales Unit" members professes to discuss the foreign currency exchange details to confirm whether the victim carried a large amount of cash.

The "Operations Unit" stalks the victim and waits for the right time to steal the cash the victim intends to use for remittance. In the robbery, the criminal group takes full advantage of the illegal nature of underground remittance to increase the success rate. The "Transportation Unit" members pose as the police and claim to investigate illicit remittances or pretend to be informants to report to law enforcement officers. Therefore, the victim dare not resist, and the criminals take advantage of the opportunity to use violent means to rob; the syndicate commits three robberies in five days because of the sophisticated layout:

1. On the night of November 29, 2022, at the corner of Minxing Street and Jiande Street, Daya District, Taichung City, the victim is robbed of NT\$800,000 in cash.
2. On the night of November 30, 2022, the criminal ring mugs the victim NT\$567,000 in cash and a bracelet at Lane 66, Haiming Street, Lukang Township, Changhua County.
3. On the night of December 3, 2022, the victim obtained NT\$600,000 in cash by burglary at Lane 180, Changmao Road, Changhua City, Changhua County.

On December 3, 2022, the task force receives a report from the victim and brings Wang ○○ back for investigation. Wang ○○ tries to mislead the task force with false statements, as if he has followed the original script, claiming that he is trapped by a "blackmailer". Nevertheless, the eagle-eyed prosecutor still uncovers the truth and

puts Wang ○○ into custody. The task force arrests the remaining syndicate members with warrants on December 15 and 22, 2022. The illegal approaches of the entire case are also scrutinized by comparing the statements of the accomplice and the victim. What's more, on January 19, 2023, Changhua District Prosecutors Office requests the court to confiscate one BMW vehicle owned by Gao ○○.

The prosecutor summarizes all the evidence and indicts eight defendants on charges of violating the Organized Crime Prevention Act, conducting aggravated robbery, posing as a public official, exercising functions and power, and exercising falsified special instruments. Also, the prosecutor requests the court to consider the following: "The criminal group, under the instruction and planning of Wang ○○ and Gao ○○, targets disadvantaged migrant workers who must earn a living abroad and use preferential exchange benefits to conduct comprehensive victim fishing. To prevent the defendants from fleeing and committing further crimes, the court is requested to continue to detain the ringleaders, including Wang ○○, Gao ○○, and other key cadres. In addition, The prosecutor calls for the property seized to be declared forfeited under the law.

The Chief Prosecutor of the Changhua District Prosecutors Office, HONG, Jia-Yuan, took the opportunity of this case to urge migrant workers working in Taiwan to appeal to legal and safe financial institutions if they have any need for currency exchange.



Photo: Message of Vietnamese đồng(VND) discount rate of currency exchange