臺灣彰化地方檢察署新聞稿

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Successful Nationwide Anti-Fraud Strategy: Changhua District Prosecutors Office Indict Eight Members of Money Laundering Syndicate

Mastermind Faces Eight-Year Sentence; NT$1.8 Million of Crime Petitioned for Confiscation

Prosecutor Zheng Wen-Zheng of the Changhua District Prosecutors Office directed an investigation in coordination with the Beidou Precinct of the Changhua County Police Department and the Third and Fifth Precincts of the Taichung City Police Department, which led to the uncovering and prosecution of a money-laundering and fraud syndicate led by a suspect named Tsai OO.

As the investigation concluded, Tsai OO and seven accomplices were indicted for violations of the Organized Crime Prevention Act, Aggravated Fraud under the Criminal Code, and the Money Laundering Control Act.

Given Tsai's role within the crime syndicate, involvement in at least six fraud cases as well as the severe harm caused to victims, the prosecution petitioned for an eight-year sentence. Meanwhile, other defendants were recommended for sentences ranging from one year and nine months to five years, according to their culpability.

In recent years, the Taiwan High Prosecutors Office has implemented a nationwide anti-fraud early warning system, integrating financial institutions to tighten regulatory supervision of dummy accounts. Consequently, fraud syndicates shifted their tactics by recruiting in-person money mules to manage illicit proceeds.

Recognizing the escalating activity of the money mules syndicates, the Changhua District Prosecutors Office, in collaboration with the Changhua County Police Department, implemented a community cooperation mechanism, facilitating the local police station and the residents in its jurisdiction with a rapid and trusted reporting system of suspicious activity.

On April 28, the Beidou Police Station acted upon intelligence indicating suspected money mules. Officers swiftly launched a surveillance operation and arrested a female suspect surnamed Tsai at the Air Force One Bus Station in Yuanlin while collecting a parcel.

Follow-up operations resulted in the arrest of two additional upstream handlers—a male suspect surnamed Tsai and a female suspect surnamed Fang—and the seizure of over NT$2.24 million in fraudulent proceeds.

Following court approval for pretrial detention, the prosecutor ordered the continuation of the investigation, leading to the arrest of five additional accomplices within three months (two already detained by other cases, one serving a sentence).

To ensure swift restitution, approximately NT$400,000 of traceable funds were returned to five victims before indictment. The remaining NT$1.8 million in "unclaimed criminal proceeds" were petitioned for confiscation under Article 7(2) of the Organized Crime Prevention Act, Article 25(2) of the Money Laundering Control Act, and Article 48(2) of the Fraud Crime Prevention Act, thereby fully depriving the offenders of illicit gains.