

## **Banciao District Prosecutors Office Breaks Down**

### **Pre-election Gambling and Bribery Once Again** 2012.01.12

In order to prevent the result of the Presidential and Legislative elections from being contaminated by the underground pre-election gambling, Banciao District Prosecutors Office (BDPO) prosecutor, with the search warrants issued by Banciao District Court judge, directs the Criminal Investigation Bureau, Zhonghe First Precinct of New Taipei City Police Department, and Tahsi Precinct of Taoyuan County Police Department to search four locations within jurisdiction in the morning of January 12<sup>th</sup> again. The search resulted in the arrest of fourteen suspects headed by Mr. Su, who is the main suspect, and the seizure of six computers, seven telephone machines, two fax machines, modem, betting paper, deposit book, and the relevant bank accounts. The search also reveals that there is indeed illegal gambling going on about lottery and the upcoming presidential election. The suspects are all under the interrogation of the police now.

BDPO also received information alleging a borough chief in Sanchong district in New Taipei City to have conducted vote-buying in cash to certain heads of neighborhood in other boroughs in order to ensure the victory of election for certain legislative candidate in the same district. BDPO prosecutor directs the New Taipei City Investigation Division of Investigation Bureau, Ministry of Justice to interrogate the sixteen suspects who gave or took the bribes. Eleven heads of neighborhood admitted taking the bribes and each returned the illegal gain of NTD 2,000. The vote-buying borough chief was detained with the visiting rights limited due to the highly involvement with the crime and the concern of colluding with co-defendants and witnesses. On the other hand, there are four other suspects being released after interrogation due to the insufficiency of evidence.

BDPO will keep on cracking down pre-election gambling and fighting against

election bribery with eagerness and determination showing there is no room for manipulation and contamination of the election through either gambling or bribery. BDPO urges every candidate to campaign legally, and calls for all voters to say no to bribery without any fear to report it to the authorities.