

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

### **Election Bribery in Cash**

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Banciao District Prosecutors Office (BDPO) investigates a certain legislative candidate suspected of bribery in the 7th election district in New Taipei City. After directing the first search in the afternoon on January 1st and successfully acquiring the detaining order for two key members of the candidate's campaigning crew, BDPO prosecutor directed the New Taipei City Investigation Division of Investigation Bureau and New Taipei City Police Department, with totally more than 160 investigators mobilized, for the search of 32 places, including the candidate's campaigning headquarter and brokers' residences. The search resulted in the seizure of plenty of evidence. Thirteen people, including the candidate himself, were summoned to BDPO as criminal suspects. After the prosecutor's interrogation, ten of them were released, another one was turned into witness, and one of the key members of the campaigning crew was released on bail for NTD 100,000. As for the candidate, due to his highly involvement with the bribery and the concern of colluding with co-defendants and witnesses, the prosecutor arrested him and petitioned to the court for pretrial detention with limited visiting rights. The petition for detention was granted on one o'clock next early morning. Besides, one of the other defendants who were detained days earlier has also confessed the crime and surrendered NTD 600,000 in cash which was prepared for the use of vote-buying.

BDPO prosecutors will keep the investigation moving under the principle of fairness, quality, efficiency as well as justice. As the voting day is approaching, election bribery may take place anytime and anywhere. BDPO urges every citizen to report election bribery to the authorities through the reporting hotline so that the illegal election bribery could be eventually eliminated.