

In the joint investigation by the Special Investigation Division of the Taipei District Prosecutors Office of the Taishin Financial Holding Co., Ltd. (hereinafter referred to as “Taishin Holdings”) – Chang Hwa Commercial Bank Ltd. (hereinafter referred to as “Chang Hwa Bank”) merger case, the Northern Mobile Work Group of the Investigation Bureau, the Taipei District Prosecutors Office and prosecutor investigators of this Office were instructed to conduct searches at 11 locations including the premises of Taishin Holdings at around 13:30 today (February 5). During the evening of the same day five persons, including Wu Dong-liang (Thomas Wu), the president of Taishin Holdings, were summoned for interrogations.

This case involved investment by Taishin Holdings in 1.4 billion preference shares issued by Chang Hwa Bank in July 2005, during the second financial reform effort undertaken by former president Chen Shui-bian and others in 2004 to 2005. Taishin Holdings had successfully become the largest shareholder of Chang Hwa Bank and subsequently continued to push forward the merger of the two enterprises, but this Office suspected that illegalities were involved in the process. Having reviewed the relevant files and evidence as well as interviewed relevant parties, the Special Investigation Division and the Taipei District Prosecutors Office believe that it would be difficult to obtain further relevant facts and evidence without a search. This search operation was therefore conducted after obtaining a search warrant from the Taiwan Taipei District Court.

The Supreme Prosecutors Office