



## **Supreme Prosecutors Office**

### **News Release**

**Released on: September 14, 2011**

**Released by: Chief Registrar's Office**

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The Supreme Prosecutors Office “Anti-Vote Buying and Violence Investigation Division” was officially formed at 10:00AM on August 31, 2011, with Minister Tseng of Justice and Prosecutor General Huang jointly unveiling the plaque. This date also marked the simultaneous establishment of “Anti-Vote Buying and Violence Investigation Enforcement Units” by the various District Courts, which are now officially responsible for handling investigations and supervision of elections for the 13<sup>th</sup> term President and Vice-President and the 8<sup>th</sup> term Legislative Yuan members in 2012. In the speeches given by Minister Tseng and Prosecutor General Huang after the unveiling, they both emphasized that all prosecutorial, police, investigative and ethical authorities of Taiwan will devote themselves fully to investigation of vote buying allegations and preventing intervention by violence, so as to ensure clean elections.

On the morning of September 14, 2011, the Supreme Prosecutors Office also hosted the “Prosecutorial, Police, Investigative and Ethical Supervisors Conference on Investigations for the Elections of 13<sup>th</sup> Term President and Vice-President and 8<sup>th</sup> Term Legislative Yuan Members in 2012” at the Ceremonial Hall of the National Police Agency of the Ministry of the Interior, inviting the heads of prosecutorial, police, investigative and ethical authorities in Taiwan to jointly discuss strategies for investigation of vote-buying. The Conference was chaired by Prosecutor General Huang, with speeches from Minister Jiang of the Interior, Chief Commissioner Chang of the Central Election Commission, and Minister Tseng of Justice. Besides thanking all prosecutorial, police, investigative and ethical personnel for their hard work and contribution over the years in investigation of vote-buying and elimination of violence from elections, the speakers also particularly requested that all personnel put their best efforts into preventing monetary and violent interference in the elections next year, so as to ensure clean and fair elections.

During the meeting, the Director Song Guo-Yeh of the MOJ Department of Prosecutorial Affairs provided an explanation of the work being carried out by the Ministry of Justice in investigation of vote-buying in the instant elections. The various prosecutorial, police, investigative and ethical authorities have also arranged for representatives who had previously performed outstandingly in election-related investigations, to provide keynote reports on their work experience and practical techniques in election-related investigation work, so that participants in the Conference will be able to enforce the election-related investigations even more thoroughly.

At the conclusion of the Conference, Prosecutor General Huang instructed all participating

authorities to set the election-related investigations as their primary mission for the coming few months. They must enforce the Ministry of Justice's goal of "thoroughly tracing the vote-buying networks to their ultimate sources", and the three guiding principles of "fairness, quality and efficiency". The most important task at hand is to prevent money and violence from interfering with the elections; in addition, the election-related investigation work must also focus on strongly prosecuting criminal cases involving election gambling, "ghost" voters and false propaganda. The relevant authorities should collaborate with the Coast Guard Administration and Customs in dedicated investigation of illegal guns and mafia gangs, so as to effectively purify the legal environment prior to the elections. Each authority must remain strictly "impartial in their administration", and should issue press releases at appropriate times to the extent not violating the principle of secrecy of investigation, to ensure that the general public is aware of the Government's determination to root out vote-buying in elections. It is hoped that all personnel will continue to work in dedicated teams and to cooperate with each other, so as to achieve even greater results that meet the expectations of the people.