

TAIWAN TAICHUNG DISTRICT PROSECUTORS OFFICE

Press Release



Date of release: June 12, 2026

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No. 1150612-69

Taiwan Taichung District Prosecutors Office Investigates Cross-Border Gambling and Underground Exchange Money Laundering Syndicate 8 Suspects Including Primary Suspect Tsay Indicted; Application Filed to Confiscate Over NT\$250 Million in Criminal Proceeds

The Taiwan Taichung District Prosecutors Office (hereinafter referred to as "this Office"), in an effort to thoroughly sever the financial lifelines of gambling and underground exchange operations, The illicit financial flows of a money laundering criminal syndicate were reported by the Criminal Investigation Bureau of the National Police Agency, Ministry of the Interior, in 2025. Upon receiving the case for direction, Prosecutor Lin Zong-yi was immediately assigned to lead the Criminal Investigation Bureau of the National Police Agency, Ministry of the Interior, the Sixth Criminal Investigation Division (Central District Training Center), and the Criminal Investigation Corps of the Taichung City Police Department in forming a task force to investigate a cross-border gambling and underground remittance money laundering syndicate led by the defendant Tsai ○-lin and others. Through the prosecutor's investigation, The investigation has concluded, and it is determined that the eight defendants, including Tsai ○-Lin, are suspected of violating Article 3, Paragraph 1, Part 1 of the Organized Crime Prevention Act Initiating, directing, or manipulating a criminal organization under the first part of the same paragraph; participating in a criminal organization under the latter part of the same paragraph; and Article 268 of the Criminal Code Article regarding the intent to profit by providing a gambling venue and assembling a crowd for gambling, and the illegal activities under the latter part of Article 125,

Paragraph 1 of the Banking Act Suspected of operating domestic and foreign exchange businesses and committing major money laundering offenses as stipulated in the first part of Article 19, Paragraph 1 of the Money Laundering Control Act ,was indicted and transferred for trial today (12th), with a request to the court for the forfeiture of seized criminal tools and illegal proceeds the total criminal proceeds amount to NT\$254,996,824, which shall be seized to prevent the defendants from continuing their criminal activities and to thoroughly deprive them of their illicit gains.

After receiving the aforementioned case, the prosecutors of this office discovered that the criminal method involved a transnational gambling syndicate laundering foreign currency into New Taiwan Dollars through underground exchange channels. Consequently, the task force was instructed to adopt an enforcement strategy of "tracking underground exchange couriers via surveillance cameras and tracing the criminal syndicate through the couriers" to investigate the source of the cash flow and the organizational division of labor. Upon investigation, it was found that the defendant, Tsai ○-Lin, was a member of the Jin ○ Jing in the Xitun District of Taichung City. The person in charge of Xin ○ Boutique Pawnshop, in order to facilitate money laundering for the "Winner Entertainment City" he operated, used the pawnshop as a cover. By offering exchange rates more favorable than those of general banks, he enticed Vietnamese migrant workers in Taiwan to use underground remittances. Underground remittance couriers would collect the funds and deliver them back to Xin ○ Boutique Pawnshop, simultaneously laundering the illegal profits from his "Winner Entertainment City" operations in Vietnam back into Taiwan. The syndicate used this model to collect gambling and underground remittance funds, rapidly transferring, concealing, and disguising the destination of large amounts of criminal proceeds, with the total laundered amount exceeding 200 million TWD. Prosecutors from this office directed a task force to execute search warrants issued by the court on March 19, 2025, and April 14, 2026, searching a total of

nine locations, including Xin ○ Boutique Pawnshop and Rui ○ Jewelry Store. They seized a total of 24,464,900 TWD in illegal cash proceeds and related criminal evidence on-site. Following interrogation by the prosecutor, it was determined that the defendant Tsai ○-lin and others were involved in serious organized crime. A request was made to the court for the detention and social communication ban of six individuals, which was granted, while two others were released on bail pending further investigation.

The criminal syndicate in this case utilized organized illegal underground banking to launder illicit proceeds from offshore gambling into the country for personal gain, severely undermining Taiwan's financial order and normal capital flow management mechanisms. Fortunately, the task force remained persistent, tracing the leads back to the source and successfully apprehending the members of the criminal group. This Office will continue to cooperate closely with relevant law enforcement agencies to combat illegal crimes such as gambling, underground banking, and money laundering. We will trace these activities to their origins, conduct thorough investigations, and strictly punish speculative criminals. Furthermore, we will proactively seize and confiscate criminal proceeds to maintain the stability of both domestic and international financial orders.