



## **Press Release from the Institute of Forensic Medicine, Ministry of Justice**

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### **Professor Yoshihiro Hiraoka from Japan visited Institute of Forensic Medicine to exchange experience in the practice of forensic science in Taiwan and Japan**

Professor Yoshihiro Hiraoka from Japan visited Institute of Forensic Medicine in the morning of December 15, 2023. He was accompanied by Mr. Lin Yu-shun, the chairman of the Taiwan-Japan Criminal Law Association, and Mr. Lin Jin-hong, a prosecutor of Supreme Prosecutors Office. They had an in-depth discussion on the establishment of forensic science organizations in Taiwan and Japan, the configuration of professional identification units, the qualification of personnel, and the establishment of the National Academy of Forensic Science in Taiwan. The visit was hosted by the general of the institute, and director of the Forensic Biology Division gave a introduction of the DNA laboratory.

Professor Hiraoka has a strong interest in the field of forensic science. He has visited forensic organization in South Korea and Texas, USA, and has his own insights into the establishment, jurisdiction, and operation of forensic organization. His insights are very valuable for our institute. During the visit to the DNA laboratory, he highly praised the operation of the institute's DNA laboratory. Mr. Lin Yu-shun is very concerned about the progress of the reform of forensic science in Taiwan. He offered insightful

suggestions on the transformation of the institute into the National Academy of Forensic Science.

During Symposium, Professor Hiraoka was very interested in the plan for establishing of the National Academy of Forensic Science, especially the use of forensic evidence in court. He believes that it plays a vital role. He hopes to learn more about the development and challenges in this area in Taiwan, and share Japan's experience in related fields. He believes that forensic analysis should be independent from criminal investigation to avoid bias. Mr. Lin Yu-shun affirmed the current planning establishment of the National Academy of Forensic Science, hoping that the establishment of the National Academy of Forensic Science in the future will improve the professional quality of forensic science in Taiwan.

Finally, Professor Yoshihiro Hiraoka expressed gratitude for the warm reception and expressed expectations for future closer cooperation. Through exchanges in their respective professional fields, both sides aim to mutually promote further development in academic study within the field of forensic science between Taiwan and Japan.

