



Press Release

Taiwan Yunlin District Prosecutors Office

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The Yunlin District Prosecutors Office Invited to Explain the “Anti-Black Clause”

Reaffirming Determination to Strictly Investigate Vote-Buying and Reminding Candidates Not to Break the Law

Chief Prosecutor Chu Chi-Jen of the Yunlin District Prosecutors Office visited the Yunlin County Election Commission on January 21 and January 28, Year 115 (ROC calendar), to conduct a special seminar on Article 26 of the Public Officials Election and Recall Act (commonly known as the “Anti-Black Clause”) for election affairs officers from various townships and cities in Yunlin County. During the course, Head Prosecutor Chu provided a detailed explanation of the legislative purpose of the provision, its key regulatory points, and its practical application. By incorporating real cases to analyze common types of violations, the seminar enabled election officers to clearly understand the legal boundaries and ensured that election affairs could be carried out lawfully and smoothly. Several prospective candidates also attended the session, allowing them to directly understand the relevant legal regulations and avoid potential disputes arising from insufficient legal knowledge in advance.

During the seminar, Head Prosecutor Chu specifically reminded participants that, according to Article 26 of the Public Officials Election and Recall Act, any prospective candidate who has been convicted by a final court judgment for serious crimes—such as violations of the Anti-Corruption Act, Narcotics Hazard Prevention Act, Controlling Guns, Ammunition and Knives Act, Organized Crime Prevention Act, Money Laundering Control Act, or aggravated fraud—may not register as a candidate for public office in accordance with the law. Even if the sentence has already been served or many years have passed, such individuals may still be subject to restrictions on their eligibility to run for office. Head Prosecutor Chu also reminded those intending to run for office to carefully review their qualifications in advance in order to avoid affecting their personal rights and the order of the election.

Head Prosecutor Chu also conducted anti-vote-buying advocacy during the seminar. Practices such as cash vote-buying, bribery with gifts, banquet entertainment, and sponsored travel all constitute vote-buying. He called on candidates, campaign teams, and election-related personnel not to take chances and not to break the law. He further emphasized that once vote-buying is discovered, those involved will face not only criminal liability but may also have their election results declared invalid. The Prosecutors Office has consistently upheld the principle of “investigating any report received and prosecuting any case supported by evidence.” It will continue to integrate the efforts of the prosecution, police, investigation, anti-corruption, and immigration authorities to fully engage in election monitoring and investigation. Any illegal act that undermines the democratic election system will be strictly handled in accordance with the law without leniency.

