



Press Release

Taiwan Yunlin District Prosecutors Office

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Yunlin Prosecutors and Police Crack Down on Foreign National's Decentralized Election Betting Platform

Unwavering Efforts to Sever Election Gambling and Illicit Financial Flows to Safeguard
Fair Elections and Democratic Constitutionalism

I. Investigating Agencies

This case was jointly investigated by a task force directed by Prosecutor Pan Yu-rou of this Office, comprising the 6th Criminal Investigation Brigade of the Criminal Investigation Bureau (NPA, MOI), the Criminal Investigation Corps (Cybercrime Investigation Division) of the Yunlin County Police Department, the Yunlin County Station of the Investigation Bureau (MOJ), and the Yunlin County Specialized Operation Brigade of the Southern Sector Administration (National Immigration Agency, MOI).

II. Investigation Outcome

The defendant, Mr. W (born in 1990, foreign national), was investigated for violating Paragraph 4, Article 103-1 of the Civil Servants Election and Recall Act, and Article 268 of the Criminal Code for intent to profit by providing gambling venues and assembling crowds to gamble on the outcomes of public elections. Upon completion of the investigation, the prosecutor of this Office deemed a deferred prosecution appropriate and issued a **deferred prosecution disposition**.

III. Summary of Facts

Starting in December 2025 (Year 114 of the R.O.C. calendar), the defendant, Mr. W, continuously operated dozens of online election betting pools on a decentralized prediction

platform website targeting Taiwan' s **"2026 Nine-in-One Local Elections (Mayors and County Magistrates)."**

Using election outcomes as the subject of the wagers and the platform's designated cryptocurrency as betting chips, he allowed the general public to bet against each other on election results, compromising the fairness of Taiwan' s local public election.

Furthermore, the defendant utilized decentralized finance (DeFi) platforms to transfer gambling funds, employing cryptocurrency as a tool for betting and settlement to evade financial monitoring by traditional banking institutions.

IV. Grounds for Deferred Prosecution

The prosecutor of this Office considered that the defendant, Mr. W, fully confessed to his offenses during the investigation, demonstrated a repentant attitude, and had no prior criminal record, indicating his offenses stemmed from a momentary lapse of judgment.

Taking into account the circumstances of the crime, the degree of harm to Taiwan' s electoral order, and the likelihood that undergoing judicial proceedings served as a sufficient warning, the prosecutor deemed a deferred prosecution appropriate. To encourage his rehabilitation, the defendant was ordered to pay **NT\$120,000** to the public treasury.

V. Conclusion and Public Appeal

Election betting not only constitutes a gambling offense, but it also carries the potential to manipulate odds to influence election trends and public opinion, severely undermining democratic institutions and electoral fairness.

This Office emphasizes that criminal groups have increasingly integrated blockchain technology, cryptocurrency, and overseas platforms into their illegal operations. We will continue to strengthen our digital forensics and technical investigation capabilities to thoroughly eradicate underground betting operations and maintain a fair electoral environment.

The public is urged not to participate in any form of election gambling. Anyone who discovers illegal activities is encouraged to report them to law enforcement authorities to jointly defend our democracy.