

TAIWAN TAICHUNG DISTRICT PROSECUTORS OFFICE



Press Release

Date of release: November 12, 2024

Contact officer: Hung-Chang Lin, Deputy Chief Prosecutor

Contact phone : 04-22232311

No. 1131112-77

Taichung District Prosecutors Office Investigates SCP and OAT Communities Spreading Sexual Images of Children and Youths.

There are 863 Victims, and 6 Defendants are Prosecuted.

In order to deter criminal groups from distributing and selling sexual images of the minors to gain profits nefariously, and to protect people's rights to sexual privacy, Taichung District Prosecutors Office (“the Office”) assigned Prosecutor Xiang-Wei Chen to investigate the "SCP" and "OAT" social criminal groups, consequently identifying that defendants Huang, Liao, Zhang, Li and Jiang committed the crimes of “participation in a criminal organization” as specified in Article 3 paragraph 1 of Organized Crime Prevention Act; “manufacturing and distributing images of the victims’ private body parts recorded without consent” in Art. 315-2 par. 1 & par. 3, “recording sexual images of the victims without consent” in Art. 319-1 par. 1, and “distributing sexual images with intent to gain profit” in Art. 319-3 par. 1, par. 2 & par. 4 of Criminal Code; “manufacturing sexual images of a child or youth with intent to gain profit” in Art. 36 par. 1 & par. 4, and “distributing sexual images of a child or youth with intent to gain profit” in Art. 38 par. 1 & par. 3 of Child and Youth Sexual Exploitation Prevention Act, as well as “money laundering” in Art. 19 par. 1 of Money Laundering Control Act (referred to as “Case A”). Furthermore, another “Case B” is about defendant Chen, a former cram school teacher, who was subject to investigation because of the crimes of “committing an obscene act against a female who is under the age of fourteen” as specified in Art. 227 par. 2, “committing an obscene act by taking advantage of the authority over the victims” in Art. 228 par. 2, “distributing obscene images” in Art. 235. par. 1, “recording the victims’ private body parts without consent” in Art. 315-1 subparagraph 2, “manufacturing and distributing images of the victims’

private body parts recorded without consent” in Art. 315-2 par. 3, “recording sexual images of the victims without consent” in Art. 319-1 par. 1, and “manufacturing and distributing the victims’ synthetic sexual images” in Art. 319-4 par. 1 & par. 2 of the Criminal Code; “manufacturing images of an obscene act of a child or youth” in Art. 27 par. 1, “manufacturing sexual images of a child or youth” in Art. 36 par. 1, and “distributing sexual images of a child or youth” in Art. 38 par. 1 of the Act on the Prevention and Control of Child and Juvenile Sex Trade (before amendment). Investigations of the two cases were completed on November 7 and November 11, 2024 respectively. The Office initiated the public prosecutions to the court against the aforementioned defendants and petitioned for confiscation of their criminal proceeds amounting to NTD736,591. There were 863 victims in total in the two cases.

Prosecutor Xiang-Wei Chen investigated Case A, directing the prosecutor investigators of the Serious Case Support Center (“SCSC”) of the Office, the Criminal Investigation Bureau (“CIB”) of National Police Agency, Ministry of the Interior, Taichung City Government Police Department, and Tainan City Government Police Department to form a **task force** that seized the SCP and OAT communities putting up sexual images for sale on Telegram and further launched a search to seize secret recorders and other criminal tools in July 2024. The prosecutor lodged a petition for a court order to detain the two defendants, Huang and Liao, and the order was granted accordingly. In investigating Case B, Prosecutor Xiang-Wei Chen directed SCSC, CIB and Keelung City Police Bureau to launch a search and seizure of criminal tools such as secret recorders disguised in the shape of PET bottles and perfume. A petition for a court order to detain defendant Chen was also approved by the court. The Office continued to expand the investigation.

The investigation found that defendant Huang and the others in Case A had secretly set up micro cameras in diners and board game shops in Nantou County and Taichung City to take pictures secretly since 2023. The victims were all over Taiwan, estimated to be 833 persons (including 20 minors and the remaining 813 adults). Case B is an investigation into defendant Chen who is a community buyer of "creative private houses" and has used the opportunity of being a cram

school teacher to molest girls under the age of 14 since 2015. He installed a secret recorder in the toilet of the cram school to secretly film sexual images of underage students and colleagues, reproduced the sexual images and then distributed computer-generated false sexual images for free. Number of victims was traced to 30 (including 25 minors and the remaining 5 adults). What the defendant did seriously violated the victims' right to sexual privacy, causing their images to circulate continuously on the Internet and resulting in indelible trauma to the victims.

In order to optimize the protection of victims of sexual violence crimes, the Executive Yuan has promoted inter-ministerial cooperation on the four sexual violence prevention laws—Criminal Code of the Republic of China, Crime Victim Rights Protection Act, Child and Youth Sexual Exploitation Prevention Act, and Sexual Assault Crime Prevention Act. The Office will continue to stringently enforce the laws and crack down on the criminal groups in the industry chain of child and youth sexual exploitation crimes so as to secure the rights and interests of victims and protect the public from the fear of being secretly photographed.