

To Halt Leakage of Trade Secret out of Border, Taoyuan District Prosecutors Office leading MJIB Taoyuan Division Investigated and Prosecuted Former High-Ranking Employees in “T High-Tech Company” Committing Trade Secret Theft

The Taoyuan District Prosecutors Office (TDPO) received reports from the MJIB Taoyuan Division, which indicated former high-ranking employees in the “T high-tech company”(T company) were suspected of trade secret theft. TDPO had immediately formed a special task force working along with MJIB agents to investigate the alleged criminal actions.

Following preliminary collection of evidence, a search raid was launched in March 2020 targeting the trade secret stolen and possessed by the former Vice General Manager of T company and the Director of the Longtan Plant, Huang (Huang), as well as the former Manager of Production Department, Liu (Liu). Huge quantity of files were seized in Liu’s places and were identified by T company as those containing trade secrets with high economic values. It was also found that, after resigning from T company, Huang was assisting a PRC-based “H group” in building new plants. He also used his network to poach his old colleagues in the Longtan Plant, Officer Cheng, Wang and Wang to leave T company and to copy and possess the e-files containing T company’s trade secrets without authorization. Huang altered part of the e-files and was preparing to provide them to the H group, which is planning to form the “Shaoxing H company” in China and will become T company’s business rival in the semiconductor industry.

After a thorough and careful investigation, defendant Huang and other 4 were prosecuted for copying and possessing trade secrets without authorization, intending to use in the Mainland China (Paragraph 2, Article 13-2 of the Trade Secret Act). The maximum sentence is 10 years imprisonment.

TDPO urges that the protection of trade secrets is essential to the stability and competitiveness of the Taiwanese industries, which is also closely tied to the security of our Nation. Professionals should act in accordance with their conscience and strictly follow the occupation ethics and laws. TDPO will be firmly committed in combating the trade secret crimes to maintain a safe environment for the industries in Taiwan.

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