



## Press Release of Taitung District Prosecutors Office, Taiwan

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### **Citizen Participation in Trials:**

#### **Taitung District Prosecutors Office Made the First**

#### **Indictment Under the Citizen Judges Act**

Taitung District Prosecutors Office concluded the investigation and indicted seven suspects for a homicide case on August 14, 2023. The case has been forwarded to the Taiwan Taitung District Court for trial according to the relevant procedures specified in the Citizen Judges Act. ( Another three minors under the age of 18 have been prosecuted in the juvenile court for the same case.) This marks the official commencement of the trial proceedings under the Citizen Judges Act since it is the first indictment made by the Taitung Prosecutors Office under the act.

Prosecutors of our office investigated the allegations against the seven adult suspects and the three minor suspects. They were accused of binding the victim Li with tapes and assaulting him with bare hands, kicks, and objects from Dec.16 to Dec. 28, 2023. They caused severe injuries and eventual death of Li in the end. The seven adult suspects were deemed to have violated the article 277, paragraph 2 of the Criminal Code and charged with causing injuries leading to death. The statutory punishment is life imprisonment or imprisonment for more than seven years. Upon the conclusion of the prosecutor's investigation, the indictment has been made in accordance with article 43, paragraph 1 of the Citizen Judges Act.