

Refusing Bribes or Exposing Corruption Makes New Exemplary Officials of Ethics and Integrity.

“The Integrity Role Model Selections and Awarding” hosted by Taipei City Government each year, selects public officials who successfully refused taking bribes or conducted specific precautions over parts of their own remit which is particularly vulnerable to corruption and malfeasance. There are 38 candidates this year presented by all the departments within the Taipei City government for reviewing, with 21 chosen for the awards, which Ko, Wen-Je, mayor of Taipei, later handed out the prize during the municipal meeting at April 30th, 2019.

According to the Department of Ethics, the awarded conducts include specific personal good deeds such as refusing bribery or gifts, promoting measures of improving the administrative process such as preventing malfeasance or cutting government spending.

The extraordinary, for instance, Chen Tzu-Chiao, chief of Kuang-Ming Station in Taipei City Fire Department, who refused the gift of wine given by hotels for assisting in fire drills and skill training. Chen Shou-Chen, a sub-division chief of Department of Health, imposed more than 20,170,000 NTD fines on 790 cases for violating Tobacco Hazards Prevention Act, against the pressure of illegal lobbying.

Lin Chien-Yi , the assistant engineer in charge of designing pipeline construction online management module in Taipei Water Department, developed a reporting system that integrated information on the progress of all the related constructions of water supply with road excavation information system in Construction Office of Public Works Department, showcasing first-hand information with onsite photos attached of the construction sites via mobile devices instead of landlines, a grand contribution to improving administrative transparency and cut government spending up to 6,000,000 NTD.

Department of Government Ethics further stated, rewarding these 21 exceptional figures brings about a positive influence over all public servants, encouraging them to follow suit and serve the people with integrity and self-discipline. Not merely resisting illicit benefits, but also to change the culture of peddling, lobbying, bribery and corruption, hence strengthen public’s trust in government officials’ conduct of justice, impartiality, abiding the rules of law, thereof navigating Taipei City to a glorious future.