



## Press Releases

### **Ex-Estate Surveyor of HD and husband jailed for \$4.9m housing allowance fraud**

**2020-1-15**

A former Estate Surveyor of the Housing Department (HD) and her husband, charged by the ICAC, were today (January 15) sentenced to jail terms up to 25 months for fraud by making false declarations to deceive the Government into approving applications for Private Tenancy Allowance (PTA) totalling about \$4.9 million for over 17 years.

Wong Shuk-chun, 60, former Estate Surveyor of the HD, was sentenced to 22 months' imprisonment; and her husband Luk Tung-choi, 58, former department manager of Wing On Computer Systems Limited (Wing On Computer), was jailed for 25 months.

In sentencing, District Judge Mr Douglas Yau Tak-hong reprimanded the defendants for committing the offence out of greed, and remarked that they could have resolved the matter by giving up one of their allowances.

The defendants were earlier found guilty of a joint charge of fraud, contrary to Section 16A of the Theft Ordinance.

Pursuant to the Organized and Serious Crimes Ordinance, the prosecution had applied to the court for a confiscation order in relation to the PTA received by Wong. The case was adjourned to March 12 for the court to deal with the application for the confiscation order.

The case arose from a corruption complaint referred by the Treasury. Subsequent ICAC enquiries revealed the above offence.

The court heard that in June 1993, Wong was posted to the HD as Estate Surveyor. In 1994, Wong married Luk, who worked at Wing On Computer and was later promoted to department manager. In 1995, Wong became eligible to apply for PTA from the Government, subject to the rule against double housing benefit.

Between March 2000 and July 2017, Wong made nine applications for PTA by submitting nine application forms and nine "Statements on Housing and Housing Related Benefits Received by an Officer/His Spouse" (the statements).

Both Wong and Luk declared on the statements that Luk had not received and/or was not receiving any housing allowance from Wing On Computer, and that they had read and understood the rules on prevention of double housing benefits.

In 2000, the Director of Accounting Services demanded Wong to provide related proof. Wong replied in

writing that Wing On Computer was not cooperative and refused to issue the required proof.

Afterwards, Wong submitted Luk's tax return and reiterated that Luk had not received housing benefit from Wing On Computer. Wong's application for PTA was then approved.

Relying on the information on the statements, the Director of Accounting Services approved all nine applications for PTA submitted by Wong, and had granted her PTA totalling about \$4.9 million from March 2000 to July 2017.

The court heard that Luk in fact had been receiving housing benefit from Wing On Computer since 1989. In 2000, Wing On Computer had issued a letter to Luk confirming his receipt of housing allowance from the company.

The Treasury, the HD and Wing On Computer had rendered full assistance to the ICAC during its investigation into the case.

The prosecution was today represented by prosecuting counsel Sabrina See, assisted by ICAC officer Arnold Lee.

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## 新聞公佈

# 房屋署前產業測量師及丈夫詐騙房屋津貼四百九十萬元判囚

2020年1月15日

一名房屋署前產業測量師及其丈夫作出虛假聲明，欺詐政府批核自行租屋津貼申請逾十七年，涉款總值近四百九十萬元，早前被廉政公署起訴。兩名被告今日(一月十五日)被判入獄最高二十五個月。

黃淑珍，六十歲，房屋署前產業測量師，被判入獄二十二個月，其丈夫陸棟才，五十八歲，永安電腦系統有限公司(永安電腦)前部門經理，則被判入獄二十五個月。

區域法院法官游德康判刑時，斥責被告出於貪婪心態犯案，又稱他們只要放棄領取其中一項津貼就可解決問題。

兩名被告早前同被裁定一項欺詐罪名成立，違反《盜竊罪條例》第16A條。

就黃淑珍收取的自行租屋津貼，控方已根據《有組織及嚴重罪行條例》向法庭申請充公令。法庭將於三月十二日處理該項充公令的申請。

廉署早前接獲庫務署轉介的貪污投訴，調查後揭發上述罪行。

案情透露，黃淑珍於一九九三年六月調任房屋署為產業測量師。黃淑珍於一九九四年與陸棟才結婚，陸棟才當時於永安電腦工作，其後晉升為部門經理。黃淑珍於一九九五年開始符合資格向政府申領自行租屋津貼，惟須符合不得享用雙重房屋福利的規定。

黃淑珍於二〇〇〇年三月至二〇一七年七月期間，提交了九份申請書及九份「有關公務員/其配偶已享用的房屋福利及與房屋有關連福利的聲明書」(聲明書)，以先後九次申請自行租屋津貼。

黃淑珍及陸棟才均在聲明書上聲明，陸棟才不曾及/或沒有正在領取永安電腦提供的任何房屋津貼，以及他們已閱讀並明白有關防止享用雙重房屋福利的規定。

庫務署署長於二〇〇〇年要求黃淑珍提供相關證明文件。黃淑珍致函回覆稱永安電腦並不合作及拒絕發出所需證明文件。

黃淑珍後來提交了陸棟才的稅單，並強調陸棟才不曾從永安電腦領取房屋福利。黃淑珍的自行租屋津貼申請其後獲批核。

庫務署署長根據該等聲明書上的資料，批核黃淑珍提交的全部九項自行租屋津貼申請，並於二〇〇〇年三月至二〇一七年七月期間向她發放津貼總值近四百九十萬元。

案情透露，陸棟才事實上自一九八九年起從永安電腦領取房屋福利。永安電腦於二〇〇〇年曾向陸棟才發信，確認其從該公司領取房屋津貼。

庫務署、房屋署及永安電腦在廉署調查案件期間提供全面協助。

控方今日由控方大律師是香媛代表出庭，並由廉署人員李家豪協助。

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