

Company director extradited from US to face bribery and money laundering trial

19 June 2014

A director of a property development company, who was wanted by the ICAC for allegedly offering bribes to a bank officer and laundering crime proceeds, has been extradited from the United States (US) to Hong Kong to face trial.

Zeng Wei, 51, a major shareholder-cum-director of United Win Holdings Limited, was arrested on January 27 this year by officers of the Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) of the US Immigration and Customs Enforcement pursuant to a request for provisional arrest issued by the Department of Justice (DoJ) in Hong Kong.

Zeng later waived his right for the extradition proceedings in the US and agreed to surrender himself to Hong Kong voluntarily.

With the assistance of the US authorities, two ICAC officers escorted Zeng on board a flight from the US to Hong Kong, arriving in Hong Kong this (Thursday) morning. Zeng will be brought to the District Court this afternoon.

On January 16 this year, the HSI informed the ICAC that a person in the name of Liu Zhiqian was arrested in Saipan for immigration related offences when he attempted to enter the US territory.

The US authorities later confirmed that the arrested person was in fact Zeng. Upon the ICAC's request, the DoJ in Hong Kong made an application to the US for surrender of Zeng under the Agreement between the Government of Hong Kong and the Government of the United States of America for the Surrender of Fugitive Offenders.

The ICAC thanked the US Department of Justice, the US Marshals Service, the Saipan and Hong Kong offices of the HSI and the US Customs and Border Protection for rendering valuable assistance in securing the arrest and extradition of Zeng.

Zeng was charged by the ICAC on October 7, 2010 with various offences, including offering an advantage to an agent, contrary to Section 9(2)(a) of the Prevention of Bribery Ordinance; and conspiracy to deal with property known or reasonably believed to represent proceeds of an indictable offence, contrary to Section 25(1) of the Organised and Serious Crimes Ordinance.

After Zeng failed to turn up in the District Court on July 4, 2011 for trial, the court issued a warrant for his arrest on the same day. On August 24, 2011, the court also ordered that Zeng's bail money of \$800,000 be estreated.

On October 21, 2011, Zeng was placed on the Interpol Red Notice for his apprehension.

One of the bribery charges alleged that on October 5, 2010, Zeng offered \$2.3 million to Derick Chan Po-fui, former Head of Corporate Banking Department of Industrial and Commercial Bank of China (Asia) Limited (ICBC (Asia)), as a reward for assisting in extending the repayment due dates of the loans owed by Zeng and/or his companies to ICBC (Asia).

Zeng was also accused of having conspired together with Derick Chan to deal with the \$2.3 million on the same day, knowing that it represented the proceeds of an indictable offence.

Another bribery charge alleged that on September 25, 2008, Zeng offered a mobile phone to Derick Chan for the same purpose.

廉署通緝涉嫌貪污清洗黑錢公司董事 事由美國引渡返港受審

2014年6月19日

一名地產發展公司董事，涉嫌行賄銀行職員及清洗犯罪收益，較早前被廉政公署通緝，已由美國引渡返港接受審訊。

曾偉，五十一歲，裕匯集團有限公司主要股東兼董事，於今年一月二十七日，因應香港律政司發出的臨時拘捕要求，被美國移民及海關執法局轄下的國土安全調查署人員拘捕。

曾偉其後在美國放棄就其引渡的申訴，並同意自願返回香港。

在美國當局的協助下，曾偉在兩名廉署人員陪同下，於今晨(星期四)由美國乘搭航機返抵香港。曾偉將在今日下午被帶往區域法院。

國土安全調查署於今年一月十六日通知廉署，一位名為Liu Zhiqian的人士於試圖進入美國國境時，在塞班島因入境相關罪行被捕。

美國當局其後證實被捕人士為曾偉。香港律政司應廉署要求，根據香港政府與美國政府簽訂的移交逃犯協定，向美國提出移交曾偉。

廉署感謝美國司法部、美國法警局、國土安全調查署塞班島辦事處及香港辦事處，以及美國海關邊境保護局在緝拿及引渡曾偉提供寶貴協助，將曾偉緝拿及引渡回港。

曾偉於二〇一〇年十月七日被廉署起訴多項罪名，包括向代理人提供利益，涉嫌違反《防止賄賂條例》第9(2)(a)條，及串謀處理已知道或有合理理由相信為代表從可公訴罪行的得益的財產，涉嫌違反《有組織及嚴重罪行條例》第25(1)條。

曾偉於二〇一一年七月四日未有到區域法院出席聆訊，法庭遂於同日發出手令通緝他歸案。法庭又於同年八月二十四日下令將曾偉的八十萬港元保釋金充公。

國際刑警於二〇一一年十月二十一日發出全球通緝告示，以逮捕曾偉。

其中一項貪污控罪指，曾偉涉嫌於二〇一〇年十月五日，向中國工商銀行(亞洲)有限公司(「工銀亞洲」)前公司業務部主管陳寶奎，提供一筆二百三十萬港元賄款，作為協助延遲曾偉及/或其公司尚欠「工銀亞洲」的貸款的還款到期日的報酬。

曾偉亦涉嫌與陳寶奎串謀於同日處理上述二百三十萬港元款項，而明知該筆款項代表從可公訴罪行的得益。

另一項貪污控罪指，曾偉涉嫌於二〇〇八年九月二十五日，以相同目的向陳寶奎提供一部手提電話。

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