

Defeated candidate arrested and charged for allegedly bribing electors

21.07.09

The ICAC has today (Tuesday) arrested and charged a defeated candidate of the 2007 District Council (DC) Election (Healthy Village Constituency) for allegedly offering free body check services to electors in return for their votes, and failing to include election expenses in his election return.

Chan Tak-wai, 49, faces two counts of offering advantages to other persons as inducements to vote at the election, contrary to Section 11(1)(a) of the Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Conduct) Ordinance (ECICO).

He also faces one count of failing to include election expenses in election return, contrary to Section 23(3) of ECICO.

The defendant will appear in Eastern Magistracy at 9:30 am on Thursday (July 23) for plea.

The two bribery charges allege the defendant of having engaged in corrupt conduct at the 2007 DC Election without reasonable excuse on October 20 and November 10, 2007.

The defendant is alleged to have offered advantages of free body check services to other persons in Healthy Village Estate, North Point as inducements to vote at the said election for him.

The remaining charge alleges that on December 21, 2007, the defendant engaged in illegal conduct at the 2007 DC Election by not including in his election return the election expenses of the wages of the student nurses employed by him to assist in the body check services and the costs of ball pens distributed during the provision of the said services.

The defendant has been released on ICAC bail, pending his court appearance on Thursday.