Ex-general manager of PCCW charged with fraud and bribery over logistic agreements

A former general manager (direct sales) of the listed PCCW Limited (PCCW) has been charged by the ICAC with fraud and bribery in relation to the award of logistic service and agency agreements involving payments totalling over \$60 million.

Hui Chuen-kit, 41, faces four charges of fraud; and two alternative charges of agent accepting an advantage, contrary to Section 9(1)(b) of the Prevention of Bribery Ordinance.

Hui and his wife Au Yeung Lai-ha, 40, face a joint charge of conspiracy to defraud.

The defendants will appear in Eastern Magistracy at 9:30 am on Friday (January 14) for mention, pending transfer to the District Court.

One of the fraud charges alleges that Hui, with intent to defraud, induced PCCW to award four logistic service agreements to Jetrise Logistic Company (Jetrise) by concealing from PCCW a conflict of interests arising from his relationship with Jetrise that he and his wife had financial interests in Jetrise.

Two other alternative charges allege Hui of having accepted \$39,930 and \$15,444 on separate occasions from a registered owner of Jetrise as rewards for having shown favour to Jetrise in relation to awarding logistic service contracts on behalf of PCCW.

Three other fraud charges allege that Hui, with intent to defraud, induced two senior executives of PCCW to approve and endorse the award of five agency agreements to Union Consultancy Company (Union) and Intelligence Provider Corporation Limited (Intelligence Provider) by falsely representing that PCCW had approved the award of the agreements to Union and Intelligence Provider.

The remaining charge alleges Hui and Au Yeung of having conspired together with other persons to defraud PCCW by failing to declare to PCCW that Hui and Au Yeung had financial interests in Intelligence Provider, and causing PCCW to award an agency agreement to Intelligence Provider.

As a result, PCCW was caused to make payments totalling over \$60 million to Jetrise, Union and Intelligence Provider in accordance with the said logistic service and agency agreements.

The above alleged offences took place between January 2005 and October 2008.

Meanwhile, a registered owner of Union has also been charged by the ICAC in another case for her alleged role in using a copy of a false instrument in order to reduce the tax payment of Union.

Miki Hui Yuen-yee, 37, faces one count of conspiracy to use a copy of false instrument.

The charge alleges that Miki Hui conspired with another person to use a photocopy of a false sales memo of PCCW between January and September 2008, with the intention of inducing an accountant to accept it as genuine.

Miki Hui will appear in Eastern Magistracy at 9:30 am on Friday (January 14) for plea.

The above two cases arose from a corruption complaint. Subsequent ICAC enquiries revealed the alleged offences.

PCCW had rendered full assistance to the ICAC during its investigation.

The three defendants in the two cases have been released on ICAC bail, pending their court appearance.