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Three more charged for alleged roles in smart phones scam

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Three staff members of an electrical appliances retailer have been charged by the ICAC with using false sales receipts to deceive their company in relation to the sale of smart phones following the prosecution of two others late last year.

The defendants, who were charged yesterday (February 16), are Tang Wai-hon, 36, Poon Ching-man, 28, and Ng Wah-chun, 27, all sales supervisors of Fortress.

Tang and Poon face two joint charges of agents using documents with intent to deceive their principal, contrary to Section 9(3) of the Prevention of Bribery Ordinance (POBO); while Tang and Ng are charged with one count of conspiracy for agents to use documents with intent to deceive their principal, contrary to Section 9(3) of the POBO and Section 159A of the Crimes Ordinance.

The defendants will appear in Eastern Magistracy at 9:30 am on Monday (February 20) for plea.

At the material times, the defendants were posted to one of the branches of Fortress, which implemented a "one-person-one-phone" policy in relation to the sale of a model of smart phone.

Fortress required each salesperson to record customers' information on sales memos or sales receipts. He was also required to enter such information into the computer system to make sure that he did not sell more than one smart phone to the same customer on the same day.

Two of the charges allege that between August and November 2010, Tang and Poon, together with Chan Hiu-lung, used a total of 70 sales receipts, which contained false names and signatures of the purchasers, with intent to deceive Fortress.

The remaining charge alleges that in August 2010, Tang and Ng conspired together and with Chan and Sze Kam-wai for them to use 100 sales receipts, which contained false names and phone numbers of the purchasers, with intent to deceive Fortress.

Chan, 35, and Sze, 45, respectively senior sales advisor and cashier/clerk of Fortress, were charged by the ICAC with three similar offences in November last year. They earlier pleaded guilty to the charges at Eastern Magistracy, and had their case adjourned until February 27 for mention.

Fortress had rendered full assistance to the ICAC during the investigation.

The defendants have been released on bail, pending their court appearance on Monday.

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