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Superintendent of Police arrested and charged with misconduct over liquor licence application

15 June 2012

The ICAC has arrested and charged a Superintendent of Police for alleged misconduct in public office in relation to an application for a liquor licence from a restaurant in Causeway Bay.

Titus Wong Koon-ho, 50, who was arrested and charged today (Friday), faces one count of misconduct in public office, contrary to the Common Law.

The defendant will appear at 9:30 am in Eastern Magistracy on Monday (June 18) for plea.

The case arose from a corruption complaint. Subsequent ICAC enquiries revealed the above alleged misconduct offence.

At all material times, the defendant, as a Superintendent of Police, was vested with the power to make recommendations on liquor licence applications processed by the Wan Chai Division.

The charge alleges that between June and August 2011, the defendant, in the course of or in relation to his public office, wilfully and intentionally culpably misconducted himself.

The defendant is alleged to have accepted from two directors of a restaurant in Causeway Bay discounts on food and drinks consumed and expected to be paid for at the restaurant, and failed to declare to his supervisors the conflict of interest that had arisen as a result of him accepting the discounts.

The defendant is alleged to have failed to take action to stop or prevent the unlawful selling of liquor at the restaurant when he knew that liquor was sold at the restaurant without a licence.

The defendant is also alleged to have failed to raise objections to the liquor licence application submitted by one of the directors of the restaurant when he knew that alcohol had been supplied at the restaurant without any valid liquor licence issued by the Liquor Licensing Board.

The Police had rendered full assistance to the ICAC during the investigation.

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

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