

Company director in court for alleged bribe-for-US\$4m loan

17 January 2014

A director of an investment company was today (Friday) brought to Eastern Magistracy after being charged by the ICAC with offering a bribe to a senior executive of a bank in return for a US\$4 million loan.

Zhong Yuan-wei, 39, director of C&S (Hong Kong) International Holdings Limited (C&S), faced one count of offering an advantage to an agent, contrary to Section 9(2)(a) of the Prevention of Bribery Ordinance.

No plea was taken today. Principal Magistrate Ms Bina Chainrai adjourned the case to March 14 this year, pending further ICAC enquiries. The defendant was remanded in the custody of the Correctional Services Department.

ICAC enquiries revealed that C&S was engaged in various investment projects, including rosewood timber business in the Solomon Islands.

On Wednesday (January 15), Zhong approached a vice president of the Commercial Banking at the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited (HSBC) in relation to an application for a loan and made an offer of the bribe. The vice president did not accede to the offer made by Zhong.

Subsequently, Zhong was arrested by ICAC officers for suspected corruption. He was laid with a bribery charge yesterday.

The charge alleged that on January 15 this year, Zhong offered an unspecified amount of money to the vice president of HSBC as a reward for assisting him in securing a loan of US\$4 million from HSBC for his investment project in the Solomon Islands.

HSBC has rendered full assistance to the ICAC during its investigation.

The prosecution was today represented by ICAC officer Winnie Wong.

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廉署起訴公司董事涉嫌行賄以取得 四百萬美元貸款今提堂

2014年1月17日

廉政公署落案起訴一名投資公司董事，控告他涉嫌行賄一名銀行高級人員，以取得一筆四百萬美元貸款。被告今日(星期五)被帶往東區裁判法院應訊。

鍾遠偉，三十九歲，鍾氏(香港)國際控股有限公司(「鍾氏」)董事，被控一項向代理人提供利益罪名，涉嫌違反《防止賄賂條例》第9(2)(a)條。

被告今日毋須答辯，主任裁判官錢禮將案件押後至今年三月十四日，以候廉署進一步調查。被告暫時還押懲教署看管。

廉署調查顯示，「鍾氏」投資於多個項目，包括在所羅門群島的採伐紅木生意。

鍾於本星期三(一月十五日)就申請一筆銀行貸款，聯絡香港上海滙豐銀行有限公司(「滙豐銀行」)工商業務部一名副總裁，並提供一筆賄款。該名副總裁拒絕鍾提出的有關建議。

鍾其後因涉嫌貪污而被廉署人員拘捕，並於昨日被控以一項行賄罪名。

控罪指鍾於今年一月十五日，涉嫌向該名「滙豐銀行」副總裁提供一筆沒有指明款額的金錢，作為協助他向「滙豐銀行」取得一筆四百萬美元的貸款，用於其在所羅門群島的投資項目的報酬。

「滙豐銀行」在廉署調查案件期間提供全面協助。

控方今日由廉署人員黃紅維代表出庭。

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