

## **Ex-chairman of charitable association in court for alleged fraud over purchase of \$39m property**

5 August 2014

A former chairman of a charitable organisation appeared in the Kowloon City Magistracy today (Tuesday) after being charged by the ICAC with fraud in relation to the purchase of a property worth over \$39 million.

Chiu Sai-chiu, 68, former chairman of Hong Kong Chiu Chow Po Hing Buddhism Association Limited (PHA), who was charged last Friday (August 1), faced one count of fraud and one of conspiracy to defraud.

No plea was taken. Principal Magistrate Mr Peter Law Tak-chuen transferred the case to the District Court for plea on August 26.

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

At the material time, PHA was a registered non-profit making charitable organisation of which the defendant was the chairman cum director.

One of the charges alleged that between November 23, 2011 and March 2, 2012, the defendant concealed from PHA of his interests in the purchase of a property in Fa Yuen Street, Kowloon, by PHA, and with intent to defraud, induced PHA to buy the property at \$39.2 million, which resulted in benefit to the defendant or in prejudice to PHA.

The other charge alleged that between January 6, 2012 and March 1, 2012, the defendant conspired with the proprietor of a property agency to defraud PHA by falsely representing that the transaction for the sale and purchase of the property was genuinely procured by the property agency, thereby inducing PHA to pay a sum of \$300,000 as agency fee to the property agency in relation to the transaction.

The defendant was granted cash bail of \$100,000. He was also ordered not to interfere with prosecution witnesses, not to leave Hong Kong and reside at his reported address.

The prosecution was today represented by ICAC officer Michael Tsoi.

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## 慈善組織前主席涉購買三千九百萬元物業詐騙今提堂

2014年8月5日

廉政公署落案起訴一名慈善組織前主席，控告他在購入一個價值逾三千九百萬元的物業時涉嫌詐騙。被告今日(星期二)在九龍城裁判法院應訊。

趙世昭，六十八歲，僑港潮洲普慶念佛社有限公司(「普慶念佛社」)前主席，於上星期五(八月一日)被控兩項罪名，即一項欺詐及一項串謀詐騙。

被告毋須答辯。主任裁判官羅德泉將案件轉介區域法院至今年八月二十六日答辯。

廉署早前接獲貪污舉報，調查後揭發上述涉嫌罪行。

「普慶念佛社」於案發時是註冊的非牟利慈善組織，而被告則是該組織的主席兼董事。

其中一項控罪指被告涉嫌於二〇一一年十一月二十三日至二〇一二年三月二日期間，向「普慶念佛社」隱瞞他在「普慶念佛社」購買位於九龍花園街一個物業事宜上的利益，並意圖詐騙而誘使「普慶念佛社」以三千九百二十萬元購買該物業，導致被告得益或「普慶念佛社」蒙受不利。

另一項控罪指被告涉嫌於二〇一二年一月六日至三月一日期間，與一名物業代理公司東主串謀詐騙「普慶念佛社」，虛假地表示有關物業的買賣交易確實是由該物業代理公司促致，從而誘使「普慶念佛社」就該宗交易向有關物業代理公司支付三十萬元作為代理費。

被告獲准以現金十萬元保釋，並受命不得騷擾控方證人、不准離開香港及須在報住的地址居住。

控方今日由廉署人員蔡程傑代表出庭。

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