

## One more ex-bank manager jailed for bribery and fraud

13 July 2016

A former manager of a bank, charged by the ICAC, was today (Wednesday) sentenced to 10 months' imprisonment at the District Court for offering up to \$115,000 in bribes over referral of clients and deceiving about \$118,000 in commissions following two others jailed for their roles in the case.

Li Lee, 29, a former Wealth Management Manager of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited (HSBC), was also ordered by Judge Frankie Yiu Fun-che to pay over \$52,000 as compensation to HSBC.

In sentencing, the judge said Li had seriously breached the trust placed on her and put the reputation of the bank at risk.

However, the judge said the starting point of 18 months in jail was reduced to 10 months after taking into account various factors, including Li's guilty plea, her assistance rendered to the prosecution and the passive role she played in the scam.

Li earlier pleaded guilty to seven charges – two of offering an advantage to an agent, contrary to Section 9(2)(a) of the Prevention of Bribery Ordinance, and five of fraud, contrary to Section 16A of the Theft Ordinance.

The court heard that at the material time, Li was employed by HSBC as Wealth Management Manager to promote and sell its investment and insurance products to clients.

Between September and October 2012, Li falsely represented to HSBC that she was the sales staff of 11 unit trust subscription orders and one insurance policy made by five clients. As a result, HSBC was induced to release about \$118,000 in commissions to her.

The court heard that in around September and October 2012, Li agreed to offer a bribe of \$55,000 to Chau Hang-yu (formerly known as Aixingero Chat-yung), an Associate Relationship Manager of HSBC, as a reward for referring clients to her.

In November 2012, Li also offered another bribe of \$30,000 to \$60,000 to Chau for the same purpose, the court was told.

Chau, 30, and Steve Chow Chun-yin, 32, a then Wealth Management Manager of HSBC, were also charged by the ICAC for their roles in the scam.

After pleading guilty to two counts of fraud, Chau was sentenced to 12 months' imprisonment at the District Court on February 23 this year.

Chow was found guilty after trial of three charges – two of fraud, and one of offering an advantage to an agent. He was jailed for 18 months.

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

The prosecution was today represented by prosecuting counsel Francis Lo, assisted by ICAC officer Berek Fung.

## 再多一名銀行前經理貪污詐騙判囚

2016年7月13日

一名銀行前經理就轉介客戶行賄達十一萬五千元，並詐騙該銀行約十一萬八千元的佣金，早前被廉政公署拘控。被告今日(星期三)在區域法院被判入獄十個月。同案另外兩名被告早前亦因涉案而被判囚。

李莉，二十九歲，香港上海滙豐銀行有限公司(滙豐銀行)前財富管理經理，亦被法官姚勳智命令須向滙豐銀行歸還逾五萬二千元作為賠償。

法官判刑時表示，李莉嚴重違反誠信，令銀行聲譽受損。

法官續稱，量刑起點為監禁十八個月，惟考慮多項因素，包括李莉承認控罪，協助控方，以及案中角色較被動，遂將刑期減至十個月。

李莉早前承認七項罪名，即兩項向代理人提供利益，違反《防止賄賂條例》第9(2)(a)條，及五項欺詐，違反《盜竊罪條例》第16A條。

案情透露，李莉於案發時受僱於滙豐銀行為財富管理經理，負責向客戶推廣及銷售該銀行的投資及保險產品。

李莉於二〇一二年九月至十月期間，向滙豐銀行虛假地表示，她是五名客戶的十一份單位信託基金認購委託單和一份保險單的銷售職員，因而誘使滙豐銀行向她發放約十一萬八千元的佣金。

案情透露，李莉於二〇一二年九月至十月期間，同意向滙豐銀行客戶經理周倬如(前稱愛新覺羅札蓉)提供一筆五萬五千元的賄款，作為轉介客戶予她的報酬。

李莉於二〇一二年十一月又以相同目的向周倬如提供一筆三萬元至六萬元的賄款。

周倬如，三十歲，及周俊彥，三十二歲，滙豐銀行當時財富管理經理，亦因涉案而被廉署起訴。

周倬如承認兩項欺詐罪名，並於本年二月二十三日在區域法院被判囚十二個月。

周俊彥則被裁定三項罪名成立，即兩項欺詐，及一項向代理人提供利益。他被判入獄十八個月。

滙豐銀行在廉署調查案件期間提供全面協助。

控方今日由大律師盧慶祥代表出庭，並由廉署人員馮志健協助。

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