



Press Releases

Company director gets four months for bribing bank staff

2017-7-14

A director of a manufacturing company, charged by the ICAC, was sentenced to four months' imprisonment at the Fanling Magistracy today (July 14) after admitting that he had offered a bribe of 9,999 Renminbi twice to an employee of a bank for assisting him in opening an account for his company.

Zhao Genglian, 55, sole director-cum-shareholder of China (HK) Huanggang Int'l Investment & Development Limited (CHII), today pleaded guilty to two charges of offering an advantage to an agent, contrary to Section 9(2)(a) of the Prevention of Bribery Ordinance, while the prosecution offered no evidence to a similar charge against him.

In sentencing, Magistrate Mr Raymond Wong Kwok-fai said the bribery offences committed by the defendant were serious in nature. He reduced the starting point of six months in jail by one-third to four months after taking into account the defendant's guilty plea.

The court heard that at the material time, the defendant was the sole director-cum-shareholder of CHII, a manufacturing company registered in Hong Kong.

On January 17, 2017, the defendant visited the Sheung Shui Business Centre of The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited (HSBC) to apply for opening a bank account for CHII.

An assistant manager of HSBC was assigned to handle the defendant's application and interview him. During the interview, the assistant manager asked the defendant to submit additional documents for the application.

The court heard that on February 9, 2017, the defendant sent the additional documents to the assistant manager via an instant messaging platform. He asked the assistant manager to say something positive to his supervisor and swiftly approve his application.

On the following day, the defendant sent a 9,999 Renminbi transfer note to the assistant manager in the instant messaging platform.

The assistant manager did not accept the transfer, but the defendant continued to send messages to persuade him to accept it. The assistant manager reported the matter to his supervisor.

The court heard that on February 11, 2017, the defendant sent a 9,999 Renminbi transfer note to the assistant manager again through the instant messaging platform. The assistant manager did not accept it and reported the matter to the bank.

The account opening application of CHII was rejected by HSBC on February 14, 2017.

The defendant was arrested by the ICAC on June 5, 2017. When interviewed under caution by ICAC officers, he admitted that he sent the two transfer notes to the assistant manager, the court was told.

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

The prosecution was today represented by ICAC officer Serena Lam.

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新聞公佈

公司董事承認就開立戶口行賄銀行職員判囚四個月

2017年7月14日

一名製造公司董事兩次以一筆九千九百九十九元人民幣的賄款行賄一名銀行職員，以協助他為其公司開立戶口，早前被廉政公署起訴。被告今日(七月十四日)在粉嶺裁判法院承認控罪，判囚四個月。

趙更連，五十五歲，中國(香港)黃崗國際投資開發有限公司(黃崗國際)唯一董事兼股東，今日承認兩項向代理人提供利益罪名，違反《防止賄賂條例》第9(2)(a)條，而被告另外一項相類罪名則獲控方不提證供起訴。

裁判官黃國輝判刑時稱，被告干犯的貪污罪行性質嚴重，量刑起點為監禁六個月，但考慮到被告認罪，故將他的刑期扣減三分之一至四個月。

案情透露，被告於案發時為黃崗國際的唯一董事兼股東，該製造公司在香港註冊。

被告於二〇一七年一月十七日到香港上海滙豐銀行有限公司(滙豐銀行)位於上水的中小企中心為黃崗國際申請開立戶口。

滙豐銀行一名助理經理獲指派處理被告的申請，並與他會面。會面期間，該助理經理要求被告就有關申請提供補充文件。

案情透露，被告於二〇一七年二月九日透過一個即時通訊平台向該助理經理提交補充文件。他要求該助理經理向其上司多加美言及盡快審批其申請。

被告於翌日透過有關即時通訊平台向該助理經理發出九千九百九十九元人民幣的人民幣轉賬通知。

該助理經理沒有接受該筆轉賬，惟被告多次發出訊息嘗試說服對方。該助理經理向上級匯報事件。

案情透露，被告於二〇一七年二月十一日再次透過有關即時通訊平台向該助理經理發出九千九百九十九元人民幣的人民幣轉賬通知。該助理經理亦沒有接受，並向銀行匯報事件。

滙豐銀行於二〇一七年二月十四日拒絕黃崗國際的開戶申請。

案情透露，被告於二〇一七年六月五日被廉署拘捕。被告接受廉署人員的警誡會見時承認，該兩次轉賬通知均是由他發給該助理經理。

滙豐銀行管理層在廉署調查案件期間提供全面協助。

控方今日由廉署人員林詠瑜代表出庭。

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