



Press Releases

Job seeker admits seeking employments by using false academic proofs and deception

2018-9-12

A job seeker, charged by the ICAC, admitted at the District Court today (September 12) that he had sought employments from two government departments and the anti-corruption agency by using false academic proofs and deception respectively in a period of nine years, thereby inducing the government departments to pay him remunerations of over \$1.1 million.

Poon Hoi-kan, 41, pleaded guilty to four charges of using a copy of a false instrument, contrary to Section 74 of the Crimes Ordinance; and two alternative charges of obtaining pecuniary advantage by deception, contrary to Section 18(1) of the Theft Ordinance.

Judge Pang Chung-ping ordered that five other charges – four of using a copy of a false instrument or copies of false instruments and one of possessing a false instrument; and another alternative charge of obtaining pecuniary advantage by deception against the defendant be left on court file.

The judge adjourned the case to September 19 for sentence, and granted the defendant bail.

The defendant had paid over \$1.1 million as restitution to the Government.

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

The court heard that the defendant commenced his bachelor's degree course at a university in Australia in February 1999. As he did not complete the course, the university did not award a graduation certificate to him.

Between December 2002 and December 2004, the defendant worked as a General Clerk in the Teacher Registration Section Team of the then Education and Manpower Bureau (EMB). He was tasked to handle academic certificates submitted by teachers.

On an occasion while working in EMB, the defendant had a chance to obtain a photocopy of a genuine graduation certificate of the bachelor's degree issued by the university. He covered the genuine holder's name by his own name and forged a photocopy of a false graduation certificate in his own name.

The court heard that between May 2004 and March 2011, the defendant applied to the then Student Financial Assistance Agency (SFAA) for a post of Processing Officer and the Home Affairs Department (HAD) for four other posts, namely District Council Secretariat Assistant of Yuen Long District Office, Contract Project Executive of the headquarters of the HAD, District Council Project Coordinator of Tsuen Wan District Office, and District Council Executive Assistant of Sai Kung District Office.

The defendant attached to his application forms photocopies of the graduation certificate purportedly issued by the university or falsely represented in his application forms that he obtained a bachelor's degree from it.

As a result, the defendant was offered the employments. He received a total remuneration of over \$220,000 and more than \$907,000 from the SFAA and the HAD respectively.

The court heard that the defendant applied to the ICAC for a post of Assistant Clerical Officer in June 2013. To support his application, the defendant attached a photocopy of the graduation certificate purportedly issued by the university.

The ICAC later sent a letter to the defendant requesting him to complete a normal checking form for processing his application. He declined to do so, and hence his application had not been processed.

The HAD and the Working Family and Student Financial Assistance Agency (formerly known as the SFAA) had rendered full assistance to the ICAC during its investigation into the case.

The prosecution was today represented by Public Prosecutor Karen Yuen, assisted by ICAC officer Jeanne Lam.

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新聞公佈

求職者承認以虛假學歷證明及欺騙手段申請政府職位

2018年9月12日

一名求職者分別透過虛假學歷證明及欺騙手段於九年內向兩個政府部門及廉政公署申請職位，因而誘使該兩個政府部門向他支付薪酬逾一百一十萬元，早前被廉署拘控。被告今日(九月十二日)在區域法院承認控罪。

潘凱勤，四十一歲，承認四項使用虛假文書的副本罪名，違反《刑事罪行條例》第74條；及兩項以欺騙手段取得金錢利益的交替罪名，違反《盜竊罪條例》第18(1)條。

法官彭中屏命令把被告另外五項控罪，即四項使用虛假文書的副本和一項管有虛假文書；及另一項以欺騙手段取得金錢利益的交替罪名紀錄在案。

法官將案件押後至九月十九日判刑，並批准被告保釋。

被告已向政府歸還涉案的逾一百一十萬元款項。

廉署早前接獲貪污投訴，調查後揭發上述罪行。

案情透露，被告於一九九九年二月開始在澳洲一間大學修讀其學士學位課程。由於他未能完成有關課程，該大學並無向他頒發畢業證書。

被告於二〇〇二年十二月至二〇〇四年十二月在當時教育統籌局(教統局)教師註冊組任職普通文員，負責處理教師遞交的學歷證書。

被告在教統局工作時曾有一次伺機取得一張由該大學發出的學士學位課程畢業證書影印本，被告其後以自己的姓名遮蓋證書真正持有人的姓名，偽造出一張自己名字的畢業證書影印本。

案情透露，被告於二〇〇四年五月至二〇一一年三月期間，向當時學生資助辦事處申請處理員一職，及向民政事務總署(民政署)申請其他四個職位，包括元朗民政事務處的區議會助理、民政署總部的合約活動項目策劃主任、荃灣民政事務處的區議會活動統籌員，及西貢民政事務處的區議會行政助理。

被告在申請表附上看來由該大學發出的畢業證書影印本或在申請表上偽稱取得該大學頒授的學士學位。

被告因而獲得受僱，並分別從學生資助辦事處及民政署收取逾二十二萬元及九十萬零七千多元薪酬。

案情透露，被告於二〇一三年六月向廉署申請助理文書主任一職，並附上一份看來由該大學發出的畢業證書影印本以申請有關職位。

廉署其後發信予被告，要求他填寫一般審查表格，以便處理其申請，然而被告拒絕填寫，故此其申請不獲處理。

民政署和在職家庭及學生資助事務處(前稱學生資助辦事處)在廉署調查案件期間提供全面協助。

控方今日由檢控官阮兆妍代表出庭，並由廉署人員林璐琪協助。

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