

### **Press Releases**

# Merchant charged by ICAC with bribing bank staff for expediting account opening

2024-7-30

The ICAC today (July 30) charged a merchant with allegedly bribing a bank employee for expediting the process of opening his personal bank account.

Bian Wei-long, 39, merchant, faces one count of offering an advantage to an agent, contrary to section 9(2)(a) of the Prevention of Bribery Ordinance. He was released on ICAC bail, pending his appearance at the Eastern Magistrates' Courts on Thursday (August 1) for plea.

At the material time, Bian was a merchant operating duty-free shops in Southeast Asia. In early May 2023, Bian visited a branch of China Construction Bank (Asia) Corporation Limited (CCB (Asia)) in Central for opening a personal account. He was received by a then sales executive of the branch.

It is alleged that on the next day after his visit to the aforesaid branch of CCB (Asia), Bian offered a bribe of \$2,000 to the then sales executive for expediting the account opening process at the bank.

The ICAC investigation arose from a corruption complaint in relation to opening bank accounts. Enquiries revealed that Bian's bank account was opened shortly after he had paid the bribe to the sales executive mentioned.

Law Tsz-hin, the then sales executive of CCB (Asia), 31, was also earlier charged by the ICAC for his role in the scam. He was earlier sentenced to a jail term of six weeks after pleading guilty at the Eastern Magistrates' Courts to four bribery charges for

soliciting and accepting bribes totalling \$13,000 for expediting the process of opening personal bank accounts for six clients, including Bian.

CCB (Asia) has rendered full assistance to the ICAC during its investigation into the case.

The ICAC reminds the general public not to bribe bank staff in exchange for its services. Should anyone comes across any suspicion of corruption, he or she should report to the ICAC immediately. The ICAC has recently launched the "Corruption Prevention Guide for Banks" to enhance the corruption prevention capabilities of banks and assist banks in managing corruption risks in core operations including account opening and referral of client. To promote probity culture in the banking sector, an Ethics Promotion Programme for the Banking Industry was also launched to help managerial and other ranks of bank staff understand common corruption loopholes.

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# 新聞公佈

# 廉署起訴商人涉嫌行賄銀行職員助加快開戶

## 2024年7月30日

廉政公署今日(7月30日)落案起訴一名商人,控告他行賄一名銀行職員,以加快開立個人銀行戶口的流程。

卞维龙·39歲·商人·被控一項向代理人提供利益罪名·違反《防止賄賂條例》第9(2)(a)條。他獲廉署准予保釋·星期四(8月1日)在東區裁判法院答辯。

卞维龙案發時是一名在東南亞經營免稅店的商人,他於2023年5月初到中國建設銀行(亞洲)股份有限公司(建行(亞洲))中環一間分行,打算開立個人戶口,獲該分行一名時任銷售主任接待。

卞维龙涉嫌於他到訪上述建行(亞洲)分行翌日,向該時任銷售主任提供賄款2,000元,以協助他加快在該銀行的開戶流程。

廉署早前接獲涉及開立銀行戶口的貪污投訴遂展開調查,發現下维龙向該銷售主任支付賄款後不久便成功開立銀行戶口。

涉案的建行(亞洲)時任銷售主任羅子軒,31歲,早前亦被廉署落案起訴。他早前在東區裁判法院承認四項貪污罪行,被判入獄六星期,涉及藉索賄及受賄共13,000元,為包括卞维龙 在內的六名客戶加快開立個人銀行戶口的流程。

建行(亞洲)在廉署調查案件期間提供全面協助。

廉署提醒公眾,切勿行賄銀行職員以獲取服務。任何人士如遇到懷疑貪污情況,應立即向 廉署舉報。廉署早前推出全新《銀行防貪指南》,協助銀行管理主要營運範疇包括開戶及 轉介業務的貪污風險,提升銀行防貪能力。廉署亦推出「銀行業誠信推廣計劃」,協助銀行管理層及各級職員了解常見的貪污陷阱,與業界共建廉潔文化。

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