



Press Releases

Police Sergeant charged by ICAC guilty of accepting \$500,000 bribe for assisting businessman over investigation

2023-2-25

A Police Sergeant, charged by the ICAC, was today (February 25) convicted at the District Court of accepting a bribe of \$500,000 for assisting a businessman over an investigation regarding a debt collection matter involving a triad society.

Li Hung-fat, 53, Police Sergeant, was found guilty of one count of public servant accepting an advantage, contrary to section 4(2)(c) of the Prevention of Bribery Ordinance.

Deputy Judge Mr Charles Chan adjourned the case to March 18 for mitigation and sentence, pending the defendant's background report. The defendant was remanded in the custody of the Correctional Services Department (CSD).

In delivering his verdict, the Deputy Judge said circumstantial evidence in the case was crucial in proving the purpose of the defendant's acceptance of \$500,000. The Deputy Judge was satisfied that the prosecution had proved beyond reasonable doubt that the \$500,000 concerned was not a loan provided by the elder brother of the defendant, as claimed by the defence, but a bribe related to the assistance provided by the defendant to the businessman involved in this case.

The court heard that at the material time, the defendant was a Police Sergeant of a District Investigation Team (DIT) of the Eastern District. In February 2019, the defendant came to know a businessman through the younger brother of the defendant's sister-in-law. The businessman had some financial disputes with another person (the Person) who had allegedly caused nuisance to his family member, including sending a dunning letter to him pressing for repayment. A report was made to the Police but no investigation had been conducted.

In the same month, the defendant provided information to another Police Sergeant working in the same district and specialising in the investigation of debt collection cases. It was reported that the nuisance was related to the Person's debt collection syndicate with a triad background and the defendant requested the Police Sergeant to report the matter to the Organized Crime and Triad Bureau.

In March 2019, the defendant urged the aforementioned Police Sergeant to submit the information to the Police. He also obtained from his elder brother, an Assistant Officer I of the CSD, the penal records of the Person, and requested a DIT Police Constable to ascertain the residential address of the Person. The defendant further provided an image of the Person's identity card to another DIT Police Constable in April 2019, and asked the latter to assist in finding out the residential address of the Person.

The ICAC investigation arose from a corruption complaint. It was revealed that the younger brother of the defendant's sister-in-law had issued a cheque of \$500,000 to the defendant in late April 2019. The cheque was deposited into the defendant's personal bank account on July 5 in the same year, as an inducement to or reward for the defendant's assisting the aforesaid businessman in the investigation of the said debt collection matter. The defendant deceitfully claimed that the money was a loan from his elder brother.

The Police had rendered full assistance to the ICAC during its investigation into the case.

The prosecution was today represented by Senior Assistant Director of Public Prosecutions Beney Wong, assisted by ICAC officer Ho Cheuk-wing.

An ICAC spokesperson states that the ICAC has been working closely with the Police to provide regular integrity training to police officers of different ranks, reminding them to adhere strictly to the Prevention of Bribery Ordinance and not to abuse their power for personal gain.

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新聞公佈

警長收賄50萬元向商人提供協助遭廉署起訴罪成

2023年2月25日

廉政公署早前落案起訴一名警長，控告他在協助一名商人調查一宗被三合會社團追債事宜上，接受賄款50萬元。被告今日(2月25日)在區域法院被裁定罪名成立。

警長李鴻發，53歲，被裁定一項公職人員接受利益罪名成立，違反《防止賄賂條例》第4(2)(c)條。

暫委法官陳永豪將案件押後至3月18日求情及判刑，以待索取被告的背景報告。被告還押懲教署看管。

暫委法官宣判指，本案的環境證據對證明被告接受50萬元的目的甚為重要。控方毫無合理疑點地證實，該50萬元並非如辯方所稱為被告大哥向他作出的貸款，而是向涉案商人提供協助的賄款。

案情透露，被告於案發時為東區警區刑事調查隊一名警長。他於2019年2月經嫂嫂的弟弟介紹而認識一名商人，對方與他人(該人士)有財務糾紛後，其家屬遭追債騷擾，收到追債信件。商人報警求助但未獲立案處理。

被告同月向刑事調查隊一名專責調查追收債項案件的警長提供資料，指該人士為三合會社團收數集團成員並與上述騷擾有關，要求該警長將事件呈報有組織罪案及三合會調查科。

被告於同年3月，先後催促該警長向警方呈報資料、透過任職懲教署一級懲教助理的兄長查核該人士的服刑記錄，以及要求刑事調查隊一名警員查明該人士的住址。他於同年4月底再向另一刑事調查隊一名警員提供該人士身份證的相片，要求對方協助找出該人士的住址。

廉署早前接獲貪污投訴後展開調查，發現被告嫂嫂的弟弟於同年4月底向他簽發一張金額50萬元的支票，而該支票於同年7月5日存入被告的個人銀行戶口，作為被告向該商人提供協助的誘因或報酬。被告指稱該50萬元是他大哥向他作出的一筆貸款。

警方在廉署調查案件期間提供全面協助。

控方今日由高級助理刑事檢控專員黃志偉代表出庭，並由廉署人員何倬榮協助。

廉署發言人指，署方一直與警方保持緊密合作，定期為各級警務人員提供誠信培訓，提醒他們必須嚴格遵守《防止賄賂條例》，切勿濫用職權、謀取私利。

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