



Press Releases

Businesswoman absconded for seven years gets 11 months' jail for bribing vice president of bank

2023-11-13

One of the two directors of a trading company, who had absconded after being charged by the ICAC in 2015, was today (November 13) sentenced to 11 months' imprisonment at the Eastern Magistrates' Courts after admitting conspiracy to bribe a vice president of a bank over the acceptance of a standby letter of credit (L/C) in the amount of 500 million euros as collateral for granting its credit facility application.

Huang Wei, 54, director of Tianhe International Commerce (China) Holdings Limited (Tianhe), today pleaded guilty to one count of conspiracy to offer an advantage to an agent, contrary to section 9(2)(a) of the Prevention of Bribery Ordinance and section 159A of the Crimes Ordinance.

Huang today also pleaded guilty to an additional charge of failing to surrender to custody without reasonable cause, contrary to section 9L(1) of the Criminal Procedure Ordinance.

In sentencing, Principal Magistrate Miss Ivy Chui Yee-mei remarked that Hong Kong was a clean society which did not tolerate corruption. The present case involved a standby L/C in the amount of 500 million euros and a bribe of HK\$10,000 per month. In view of the serious nature of the case, the defendant deserved an immediate custodial sentence.

The court heard that at the material time, Huang and Pan Shancheng were directors of Tianhe. They were both the authorised signatories of Tianhe's bank account held with The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited (HSBC).

In April 2015, Huang and Pan discussed the loan matter of Tianhe with a vice president of Commercial Banking Department of HSBC. The duo said Tianhe would receive a standby L/C in the amount of 500 million euros and requested HSBC to receive it as collateral for granting a credit facility to Tianhe.

HSBC accepted standby L/Cs to be used as collateral for granting credit facilities to clients, but the duo failed to provide the required documents for the bank's assessment. In May 2015, the duo met with the VP of HSBC twice and requested the latter to assist in causing the bank to accept the standby L/C for Tianhe, adding that they would offer a monthly payment of HK\$10,000 in return. The offer was turned down by the VP of HSBC.

Huang and Pan were subsequently arrested by the ICAC, and were charged with conspiracy to offer bribes in November 25, 2015. They pleaded not guilty to the charge and a pre-trial review was scheduled for January 8, 2016 at the Eastern Magistrates' Courts. The duo failed to appear before court and warrants for their arrests were issued. After absconding for over seven years, Huang was arrested by ICAC officers upon arriving Hong Kong in late June 2023.

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

The prosecution was today represented by Senior Public Prosecutor Claudia Ng, assisted by ICAC officer Emily Cheung.

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新聞公佈

女商人賄賂銀行副總裁遭廉署起訴潛逃七年回港認罪判囚11個月

2023年11月13日

兩名貿易公司董事串謀賄賂一名銀行副總裁，企圖使該銀行接受一張五億歐元的備用信用證為抵押品以批准其融資申請，2015年被廉政公署落案起訴後潛逃。其中一名被告早前抵港時被拘捕，今日(11月13日)在東區裁判法院承認控罪，判囚11個月。

黃瑋，54歲，案發時為天和國際商業(中國)控股有限公司(天和)董事，今日承認一項串謀向代理人提供利益罪名，違反《防止賄賂條例》第9(2)(a)條及《刑事罪行條例》第159A條。

黃瑋今日被加控一項沒有按照法庭的指定歸押罪名，違反《刑事訴訟程序條例》第9L(1)條。她亦承認該罪行。

主任裁判官徐綺薇判刑時指，香港社會廉潔，不容許貪污出現。本案涉及五億歐元備用信用證，以及每月一萬港元賄款，案情嚴重，須判處被告即時監禁。

案情透露，黃瑋和潘善誠於案發時同為天和的董事。二人亦是天和在香港上海滙豐銀行有限公司(滙豐銀行)所持戶口的授權簽署人。

二人於2015年4月與滙豐銀行一名工商金融業務部副總裁商討天和的貸款事宜，並指天和將收到一張金額為五億歐元的備用信用證，希望以它為抵押品向滙豐銀行申請融資。

滙豐銀行接受客戶以備用信用證作為信貸抵押品，但二人未能提供所需文件供銀行審批。二人於2015年5月先後兩次與該名滙豐銀行副總裁會面，要求對方協助使銀行接受天和的備用信用證，並表示會提供每月一萬港元的賄款作為報酬，但遭拒絕。

廉署其後拘捕黃瑋與潘善誠，並於2015年11月25日落案起訴二人串謀行賄罪名。二人否認控罪，案件原訂2016年1月8日在東區裁判法院進行審前覆核，但二人未有到法庭應訊，裁判官遂就二人簽發拘捕令。黃瑋潛逃逾七年後於2023年6月底抵港時被拘捕。

滙豐銀行在廉署調查案件期間提供全面協助。

控方今日由高級檢控官吳卓樺代表出庭，並由廉署人員張靄琳協助。

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