

Ex-insurance director gets two and a half years for \$4.4m signing fee fraud

17 November 2016

A former district director of an insurance company, charged by the ICAC, was today (November 17) sentenced to two and a half years' imprisonment at the District Court for having defrauded the company of a signing fee amounting to over \$4.4 million with false income-proof documents.

Johnny Wong Chou, 45, former district director of American International Assurance Company (Bermuda) Limited (AIA), now known as AIA International Limited (AIA International), was earlier found guilty of one count of fraud, contrary to Section 16A of the Theft Ordinance.

In sentencing, Deputy Judge Ms Bina Chainrai said the offence committed by the defendant, which constituted a breach of trust, was deliberate, premeditated and sophisticated.

The case arose from a corruption complaint. Subsequent ICAC enquiries revealed the above offence.

The court heard that between April 2002 and April 2011, the defendant worked in Manulife (International) Limited (Manulife), an insurance company. In November 2010, he was invited by AIA to join the company.

AIA offers recruitment packages to new recruits. Among the recruitment packages is a signing fee calculated on the average annual income of a new recruit in the past 24 months.

During the negotiation with AIA, the defendant was asked to submit his income proof documents in the past 24 months to enable the company to calculate the recruitment package for him.

The court heard that the defendant then provided AIA with three statements of agent's account and a notification of remuneration recording the income during his employment with Manulife.

Believing that all the documents provided by the defendant were genuine, AIA worked out that his total income and average annual income between December 2008 and November 2010 were over \$5.8 million and almost \$3 million respectively.

AIA finally approved to offer the defendant a signing fee of over \$4.4 million, which was 150 per cent of his average annual income in the aforesaid period.

Investigations revealed that the true total income of the defendant during the aforesaid period was only about \$4 million, which was about \$1.8 million less than the total income stated in income proof documents he provided to AIA.

Had AIA known the income proof documents provided by the defendant were false or contained any false information, it would not have approved and released the signing fee of over \$4.4 million to him, the court was told.

AIA International and Manulife had rendered full assistance to the ICAC during its investigation.

The prosecution was today represented by prosecuting counsel Phil Chau, assisted by ICAC officer Victor Lee.

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前保險總監欺詐四百四十萬元「握手費」判囚兩年半

2016年11月17日

一名保險公司前區域總監以虛假入息證明文件詐騙該公司四百四十多萬元「握手費」，早前被廉政公署起訴。被告今日(十一月十七日)在區域法院被判入獄兩年半。

王宙，四十五歲，美國友邦保險(百慕達)有限公司(友邦)前區域總監，早前被裁定一項欺詐罪名成立，違反《盜竊罪條例》第16A條。友邦現稱為友邦保險(國際)有限公司(友邦國際)。

暫委法官錢禮判刑時表示，被告干犯的罪行違反誠信，而且他處心積慮，犯案手法精密而複雜。

廉署早前接獲貪污投訴，調查後揭發上述罪行。

案情透露，被告於二〇〇二年四月至二〇一一年四月期間受僱於保險公司宏利人壽保險(國際)有限公司(宏利)。友邦於二〇一〇年十一月邀請被告加盟該公司。

友邦為新入職者提供入職薪酬福利，當中包括以新入職者過往二十四個月平均年度收入計算的「握手費」。

被告與友邦商討加盟事宜期間，友邦要求他提供其過往二十四個月的收入證明，以便該公司計算其入職薪酬福利。

案情透露，被告遂向友邦提供三份代理人戶口結單及一份支付薪酬通知書，有關文件記錄了他受僱於宏利期間的收入。

友邦相信被告所提交的文件為真確，計算出被告於二〇〇八年十二月至二〇一〇年十一月期間的總收入及平均年度收入分別為五百八十多萬元和約三百萬元。

友邦最終批出向被告提供四百四十多萬元「握手費」，即其平均年度收入的一點五倍。

調查顯示，被告於上述時間的總收入僅約四百萬元，比其提交予友邦的收入證明少約一百八十萬元。

倘若友邦知悉被告提供的收入證明為虛假或載有虛假資料，該公司不會批准向被告發放四百四十多萬元「握手費」。

友邦國際及宏利在廉署調查案件期間提供全面協助。

控方今日由大律師周嘉俊代表出庭，並由廉署人員李偉康協助。

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