



## Press Releases

# Ex-bank manager charged by ICAC admits bribery over account opening

2023-5-4

A then bank manager, charged by the ICAC, today (May 4) admitted at the District Court that he had accepted bribes from various intermediary company representatives for assisting non-domestic clients to open personal and corporate accounts with a local bank, and used copies of false instruments to falsely represent that the clients were in Hong Kong when they made account opening applications.

Lai Chee-wai, 39, then senior relationship manager of **The Bank of East Asia, Limited (BEA)**, pleaded guilty to pleaded guilty to seven charges – six of conspiracy for an agent to accept advantages, contrary to section 9(1)(a) of the Prevention of Bribery Ordinance and Section 159A of the Crimes Ordinance; and one of conspiracy to use copies of false instruments, contrary to sections 74 and 159A of the Crimes Ordinance. Four similar charges against Lai were left on file at the District Court.

Judge Mr Eddie Yip Chor-man adjourned the case to January 10 next year for mitigation and sentence. Lai was granted bail.

The offences took place between December 2018 and March 2021. At the material time, Lai was a senior relationship manager of BEA posted to its Admiralty Branch. His duties included opening accounts for clients. **Hongkong Hechuang Business Secretary Limited (HKHBS) and Hong Kong Chiying Consulting Co., Limited (HKCC)** were intermediary companies providing secretarial services to clients. **Chen Baicai was a business consultant of HKHBS while Ke Yingying was an operator of HKCC.**

The court heard that in late 2019, **Chen told Lai that he could refer clients to BEA for opening accounts and would reward Lai \$3,000 to \$4,000 for his assistance in each successful application.** Lai agreed to Chen's proposal.

Chen then sought Lai's assistance in opening a corporate account for a client and Lai received a reward of \$12,000. Afterwards, Chen further asked Lai to open personal accounts for his clients. **Lai would accept a reward from \$10,000 to \$15,000 in return for each successful application.**

Lai also met with three other operators or representatives of intermediary companies respectively, and agreed to assist clients referred by the trio in opening accounts at BEA. **Lai then received a reward from \$2,000 to \$10,000 for each successful application, involving bribes totalling over \$290,000.**

As BEA required corporate account applicants to attend its branches in person for due diligence purpose, **Lai and Ke conspired together to submit to BEA eight copies of false landing slips purportedly issued by the Immigration Department to falsely represent that eight applicants were in Hong Kong when the applications were made.** ICAC inquiries revealed that those applicants had not visited Hong Kong at the material time.

Chen and Ke were also charged by the ICAC for their roles in the scam. **On December 14, 2022, Chen and Ke respectively received a jail term of 12 months and four months after pleading guilty** at the District Court to a total of six charges of bribery and using copies of false instruments.

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

The prosecution was today represented by Acting Senior Public Prosecutor Jason Lau, assisted by ICAC officer Gary Li.

To further enhance the professional standard of the banking sector, the ICAC organised the Professional Anti-Corruption Training in Banking Management in late March. The “Corruption Prevention Guide for Banks” was also launch recently to assist banks in managing corruption risks in core operations through analysing case scenarios and providing corresponding corruption prevention safeguards. To promote probity culture in the banking sector, an Ethics Promotion Programme for the Banking Industry was also launched, under which a self-learning animation series “Unveil the Secret: Integrity Myths in the Banking Industry” was produced to help frontline bank staff understand common corruption loopholes.

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## 新聞公佈

### 遭廉署起訴前銀行經理承認收賄代客開立帳戶候判

2023年5月4日

廉政公署早前落案起訴一名時任銀行經理從多名中介公司代表收受賄款，以協助非本地客戶在一間本地銀行開立個人及公司帳戶，並在處理申請時使用虛假文書副本，訛稱客戶於開戶當日在香港。被告今日(5月4日)在區域法院承認控罪。

黎賜慧，39歲，東亞銀行有限公司(東亞銀行)時任高級客戶經理，承認七項罪名，即六項串謀使代理人接受利益，違反《防止賄賂條例》第9(1)(a)條及《刑事罪行條例》第159A條；以及一項串謀使用虛假文書的副本，違反《刑事罪行條例》第74條及第159A條。他另外四項相類罪名則留區域法院法庭檔案。

法官葉佐文將案件押後至明年1月10日求情及判刑。黎賜慧獲准保釋。

本案於2018年12月至2021年3月期間發生。案發時，黎賜慧任職東亞銀行金鐘分行高級客戶經理，職責包括協助客戶開立帳戶。香港和創商務秘書有限公司(和創)及香港智盈諮詢顧問有限公司(智盈)同為中介公司，為客戶提供秘書服務。當時陳栢材為和創顧問，柯莹莹則是智盈營運者。

案情透露，陳栢材於2019年底向黎賜慧表示可轉介客戶在東亞銀行開立戶口，如對方能從中協助，可就每宗成功申請獲取報酬3,000元至4,000元。黎賜慧同意陳栢材的建議。

陳栢材其後要求黎賜慧協助一名客戶開立公司戶口，黎賜慧因而收取報酬12,000元。陳栢材其後再要求黎賜慧協助其客戶開立戶口，而黎賜慧因此就每宗成功申請收取報酬10,000元至15,000元不等。

黎賜慧其後又分別與另外三名中介公司營運者或代表見面，並同意協助他們轉介的客戶開立東亞銀行帳戶，而黎賜慧因此就每宗成功申請收取報酬2,000元至10,000元不等，有關賄款逾290,000元。

東亞銀行要求公司帳戶申請人須親身到分行開戶，以符合盡職審查要求。黎賜慧與柯莹莹遂一同串謀向東亞銀行提交八份虛假入境標籤副本，訛稱八名申請人於開戶當日在香港。廉署調查發現，該八人當時並沒有到訪香港。

陳栢材與柯莹莹亦因涉案同被廉署起訴。兩人於2022年12月14日在區域法院承認共六項有關貪污及使用虛假文書的罪名，分別判囚12個月及四個月。

東亞銀行在廉署調查案件期間提供全面協助。

控方今日由署理高級檢控官劉卓賢代表出庭，並由廉署人員李啟邦協助。

為提升銀行業界反貪專業水平，廉署三月底舉辦為期兩日的「銀行管理人員反貪專業課程」，並推

出全新《銀行防貪指南》，透過剖析貪污案例和提供相應的防貪措施，協助銀行管理其主要營運範疇的貪污風險。為與業界並肩構建廉潔文化，廉署亦推出「銀行業誠信推廣計劃」，包括製作「銀行業誠信解密系列」網上自學培訓動畫，協助前線銀行職員了解常見的貪污陷阱。

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