

Company director gets 18 months for bribery over transportation orders

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A director of a transportation company, charged by the ICAC, was today (Wednesday) sentenced to 18 months' imprisonment at the District Court for offering bribes up to \$2 million in return for business.

Ng Lap-chung, 48, director-cum-shareholder of Sky Win Investment Limited (Sky Win), was earlier found guilty by Deputy Judge Rickie Chan Kam-cheong of one count of offering an advantage to Tang Kwong-chuen, director of port and embarkation of Star Cruises (HK) Limited (Star Cruises), contrary to Section 9(2)(b) of the Prevention of Bribery Ordinance.

The court heard that Star Cruises arranged for transportation of crew members, immigration officers and goods for its cruise liners.

On the recommendation of Tang, Sky Win, a transportation company, was engaged to provide transportation services for Star Cruises.

The court heard that since April 2004, the defendant had lodged several complaints with Star Cruises, accusing Tang of soliciting bribes from him as rewards for awarding transportation orders to Sky Win.

On one occasion in February 2007, the defendant told an employee of Star Cruises that he had offered bribes totalling between \$1 million and \$2 million to Tang between November 5, 1999 and September 30, 2004.

In return, Tang awarded transportation orders of Star Cruises to Sky Win, the court was told.

Tang, 47, was earlier charged by the ICAC with accepting bribes totalling about \$1 million from operators of three transportation companies, including Sky Win, for awarding business to the latter. He was found guilty of four counts of agent accepting an advantage, and sentenced to 45 months' imprisonment.

The prosecution was today represented by Acting Senior Public Prosecutor Anthony Chau, assisted by ICAC officer Edwin Tsang.