

## Employment visa applicant jailed for bribing immigration officers

11 February 2014

An applicant, charged by the ICAC, was today (Tuesday) sentenced to one year's imprisonment at the Eastern Magistracy after being convicted of offering \$6,000 to immigration officers in relation to her application for an employment visa under the Admission Scheme for Mainland Talents and Professionals (ASMTP).

Li Li-jing, 34, a director-cum-shareholder of Hoi Lee Hong Kong International Limited (HLL), was today found guilty of one count of offering an advantage to public servants, contrary to Section 4(1)(a) of the Prevention of Bribery Ordinance.

In sentencing, Magistrate Mr So Wai-tak stressed that corruption cases were very serious by nature. The court had to mete out deterrent sentences to offenders so as to curb similar cases from occurring in the public sector.

The court heard that at the material time, the defendant was applying for an employment visa under the ASMTP administered by the Immigration Department (ImmD). The application was processed by an Immigration Officer (IO).

According to the scheme, Hong Kong can admit Mainland talents and professionals possessing skills and knowledge not readily available or in shortage locally.

Upon review of the defendant's application, the IO sent a letter to the defendant on September 27 last year requiring her to submit more supporting documents to the ImmD, including her employment contract and the financial report of her company.

On November 1 last year, the defendant called the IO to enquire about the progress of her application. During the conversation, she asked the IO when she should pay \$6,000.

The IO replied that she was only required to pay a fee of \$160 if the application was approved.

The court heard that on the following working day, the IO received a letter from the defendant asking for an urgent processing of her application. Enclosed in the letter was an HLL cheque for \$6,000 signed by the defendant, with the payee's name left blank. The ImmD immediately referred the matter to the ICAC.

On December 4 last year, the defendant met with the IO at the office of ImmD. During the meeting, the defendant stated that the cheque was to be given to the IO and other related officers to assist in expediting her application.

During the course of the ICAC investigation, the ImmD had rendered full assistance.

The prosecution was today represented by Public Prosecutor Kasmine Hui, assisted by ICAC officer Beta Leung.

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## 就業簽證申請人行賄入境處人員判囚一年

2014年2月11日

一名「輸入內地人才計劃」申請人，就其就業簽證申請向入境事務處人員提供六千元賄款，早前被廉政公署拘控。被告今日(星期二)在東區裁判法院被裁定罪名成立，被判入獄一年。

李麗京，三十四歲，海麗香港國際有限公司(「海麗」)董事兼股東，被裁定一項向公職人員提供利益罪名，違反《防止賄賂條例》第4(1)(a)條。

裁判官蘇惠德判刑時稱，貪污舞弊案件性質十分嚴重，法庭需判以具阻嚇性的刑罰，以打擊此類個案在公營機構發生。

案情透露，被告於案發時正透過入境事務處(「入境處」)的「輸入內地人才計劃」申請就業簽證，其申請由一名入境事務主任負責處理。

根據有關計劃，香港可以輸入擁有本港缺乏或無法即時提供的專業知識和技能的內地優秀人才和專業人才。

該入境事務主任在覆核其申請後，於去年九月二十七日發信予被告，要求她向「入境處」遞交多些證明文件，包括其僱傭合約及其公司的財務報告。

去年十一月一日，被告致電該入境事務主任，查詢其申請的進度。在電話對話中，被告詢問該何時繳付六千元。

該入境事務主任回答申請費用是一百六十元，並且只是在有關申請獲批後才須要繳付。

翌日，該入境事務主任收到被告的來信，要求緊急處理其申請。信內附了一張「海麗」發出的支票，支票金額為六千元。支票上有被告的簽署，但抬頭一欄則沒有填上。「入境處」即時將個案轉介廉署。

被告於去年十二月四日在「入境處」辦事處與該入境事務主任進行會見。會見期間，被告承認該張支票是給予他及其他相關「入境處」人員，以協助加快處理其申請。

「入境處」在廉署調查案件期間提供全面協助。

控方今日由檢控官許熙晴代表出庭，並由廉署人員梁國棟協助。

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