

Press Release

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Ex-listed company senior executive charged for alleged \$430,000 accounting fee fraud

The ICAC has charged a former senior finance executive of a listed telecommunications company and a former senior partner of an accounting firm for alleged conspiracy to defraud the listed company of over \$430,000 in accounting service fees.

Lam Sing-keung alias Steve, 48, former director of group finance of PCCW Limited (PCCW); and Robin Frederick Keppel Radcliffe, 67, former senior partner of Baker Tilly Hong Kong Limited (BTHK), face a joint charge of conspiracy to defraud. Lam further faces one count of conspiracy to pervert the course of public justice.

The joint charge alleges that between January 1 and 17, 2005, Lam and Radcliffe had conspired to defraud PCCW.

They are alleged to have falsely represented in a debit note that accounting assistance services had been rendered by BTHK for various PCCW entities in Mainland China in 2004 at agreed fees totalling \$432,000.

As a result of the alleged false representation, PCCW had made payment to BTHK to settle the debit note.

Lam is also alleged to have conspired with another person to pervert the course of public justice between September 21 and 28, 2006 in relation to the ICAC investigation into the alleged accounting fee fraud.

Lam had allegedly asked that person to make false representations to ICAC officers to obstruct and hinder the investigation.

Meanwhile, Lam and Radcliffe, together with Hsieh Yung-hseuh alias Diana, 43, a housewife, have been further charged with one count of conspiracy to defraud the Immigration Department between January 1 and May 21, 2004.

The defendants are alleged to have falsely represented in an application for an extension of stay that Hsieh would be genuinely employed by Baker Tilly Hong Kong Business Services Limited as a business development manager, to induce officers of the Immigration Department to grant an extension of visa to Hsieh.

The above alleged offences were revealed in an ICAC investigation into a corruption complaint.

PCCW had rendered full assistance to the ICAC in the course of its investigation.

The defendants, currently on ICAC bail, will appear in Eastern Magistracy at 9:30 am tomorrow (Friday) for transfer to the District Court.