

Trio in court for alleged \$745,000 service contracts fraud

25 September 2014

An employee of a biotechnology company wholly owned by The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) and two others appeared in the Shatin Magistracy today (Thursday) after being charged by the ICAC for their alleged roles in the fraudulent award of service contracts totalling over \$745,000.

Chui Chun-keung, 51, a senior technician of the Hong Kong Institute of Biotechnology Limited (HKIB), and Chow Paul Christian, 55, a director cum shareholder of Ngai Fung Services Co., Limited (NFS), who were charged on Tuesday (September 23), jointly faced one count of fraud.

Chow was further charged with two counts of possessing equipment for making a false instrument and one of using a false instrument.

Also charged on Tuesday was Kwok Hang-pong, 41, a salesperson, who faced five counts of using a false instrument.

The cases arose from a corruption complaint. Subsequent ICAC inquiries revealed the above alleged offences.

The defendants pleaded not guilty to their charges. Principal Magistrate Mr Andrew Ma Hon-cheung adjourned the case to October 23 this year for a pre-trial review.

At the material time, Chui was a senior technician of HKIB, a company wholly owned by CUHK. Among his duties was to award water and electrical service contracts of HKIB to various engineering companies.

Chow was a director cum shareholder of NFS, a subcontractor which provided HKIB with water and electrical services, while Kwok was a salesperson of an air-conditioning engineering company.

The fraud charge alleged that Chui and Chow falsely represented that all the submitted quotations for each of 23 contracts, with the purchase requisition numbers, were prepared separately and independent of each other, and with intent to defraud, induced HKIB to award those contracts to NFS. The 23 contracts were said to amount to \$745,300.

Two other charges alleged that Chow had in his custody softcopies of nine quotations of the air-conditioning engineering company and a softcopy of a quotation of another engineering company, with the intention that he or another would make false instruments to induce somebody to accept them as genuine.

Chow was also alleged to have used a quotation of the engineering company, which he knew to be false, with the intention of inducing the staff at HKIB to accept it as genuine.

The remaining five charges alleged that Kwok used five quotations of a ventilation system company, with quoted prices ranging from \$11,000 to \$105,200, which he knew to be false, with the intention to inducing the staff at HKIB to accept them as genuine.

The above alleged offences took place between October 2007 and March 2014.

Chui was granted cash bail of \$10,000, while Chow and Kwok were each on cash bail of \$50,000. They were also ordered not to interfere with prosecution witnesses.

CUHK had rendered full assistance to the ICAC during its investigation.

The prosecution was today represented by ICAC officer Dickson Liang.

廉署起訴三人疑涉七十四萬五千元 服務合約詐騙案今提堂

2014年9月25日

廉政公署落案起訴由香港中文大學(中大)全資擁有的生物科技公司一名員工及另外兩名人士，控告他們在批出總額逾七十四萬五千元的服務合約過程中涉嫌觸犯欺詐及相關罪行。三名被告今日(星期四)在沙田裁判法院應訊。

崔振強，五十一歲，香港生物科技研究院有限公司(生物科技研究院)高級技術員；周民生，五十五歲，藝豐服務有限公司(藝豐)董事兼股東，於星期二(九月二十三日)同被控一項欺詐罪名。

周另被控三項罪名，即兩項管有用作製造虛假文書的設備，及一項使用虛假文書。

同於星期二被控的郭恒邦，四十一歲，營業員。他被控五項使用虛假文書罪名。

廉署早前接獲貪污投訴，調查後揭發上述涉嫌罪行。

各被告否認所有控罪。主任裁判官馬漢璋將案件押後至今年十月二十三日進行預審。

崔於案發時是生物科技研究院的高級技術員，該研究院是中大全資擁有的公司。崔的職責包括為生物科技研究院批出有關水務及電力工程的服務合約予多間工程公司。

周是藝豐的董事兼股東，該公司是為生物科技研究院提供水務及電力工程服務的承辦商，而郭則是一間空調工程公司的營業員。

有關欺詐控罪指崔及周涉嫌虛假地表示，就二十三份附有購價單編號的合約每份所提交的報價單，全部均為個別製備，互相並無關連，並意圖詐騙而誘使生物科技研究院將該批合約授予藝豐。涉案的二十三份合約總值據報為七十四萬五千三百元。

另外兩項控罪指周涉嫌保管九份屬有關空調工程公司報價單的電子版本，以及一份另一間工程公司報價單的電子版本，意圖由其本人或他人製造虛假文書，以誘使另一人接受該批文書為真文書。

周亦被控另一項罪名，指他涉嫌使用一份屬該工程公司的報價單，而他知道該文書屬虛假，意圖誘使生物科技研究院員工接受該文書為真文書。

其餘五項控罪指郭涉嫌使用五份屬一間通風系統公司的報價單，上面載有介乎一萬一千元至十萬零五千二百元的報價，而他知道該等文書屬虛假，意圖誘使生物科技研究院員工接受該等文書為真文書。

上述涉嫌罪行於二〇〇七年十月至二〇一四年三月期間發生。

崔獲准以現金一萬元保釋，而周及郭則各准以現金五萬元保釋。各被告又受命不得騷擾控方證人。

中文大學在廉署調查案件期間提供全面協助。

控方今日由廉署人員梁永源代表出庭。

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