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Eleven car testers face court for allegedly forging roadworthiness certificates

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Eleven former and serving Approved Car Testers (ACTs) of a car testing centre were charged by the ICAC for conspiring to forge certificates of roadworthiness (CORs) for private cars and light goods vehicles.

The defendants are Chan Yiu-keung, 49, Tang Siu-kwong, 51, Lee Kin-ming, 45, Chan Man-po, 41, Leung Chin-hung, 42, Leung Wing-fai, 36, Lo Chi-hung, 49, Ma Man-chung, 45, Law Kwok-sum, 39, and Lam Sik-wa, 48, all ACTs of Dah Chong Hong (Motor Service Centre) Limited (DCH), and Chan Chi-wai, 44, former ACT of DCH. They faced a joint charge of conspiracy to forge documents, contrary to Section 71 and 159A of the Crimes Ordinance.

No plea was taken when they appeared at the Kwun Tong Magistracy today (Tuesday). Principal Magistrate Mr Ernest Lin transferred the case to the District Court for plea on May 14 this year.

The case arose from a corruption complaint. Subsequent ICAC enquiries revealed the above alleged offence.

According to the Road Traffic Ordinance (RTO), all private cars of six years or above and light goods vehicles not exceeding 1.9 tonnes are required to undertake an annual roadworthiness examination. A COR will be issued by an ACT on behalf of a car testing centre (CTC) for the vehicle owner to renew the licence of the vehicle.

The defendants were ACTs of DCH stationed at a CTC in Kowloon Bay which was appointed by the Transport Department (TD) to conduct the examination.

The charge alleged that the defendants conspired together with other persons between March 12, 2007 and November 7, 2011 to make false CORs purporting that the vehicles were roadworthy and complied with the requirements of the RTO for the vehicle owners to use them to induce the TD to accept them as genuine.

The defendants were each granted cash bail of \$5,000. They were also ordered not to leave Hong Kong and not to interfere with the prosecution witnesses.

TD and the management of the DCH had rendered full assistance to the ICAC during its investigation.

The prosecution was today represented by ICAC officer Eastman Tang.

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