

Duo charged with \$3m school donations fraud and laundering crime proceeds

8 April 2016

A former assistant admissions officer of an international school and her boyfriend have been charged by the ICAC today (Friday) with defrauding and attempting to defraud two parents of donations totalling \$3 million in relation to the admission of their children to the school, and laundering the related crime proceeds respectively.

Chu Lau-ying, 26, former assistant admissions officer of Harrow International School (Harrow), faces two charges – one of fraud, contrary to Section 16A of the Theft Ordinance, and one of attempted fraud, contrary to Section 16A of the Theft Ordinance and 159G of the Crimes Ordinance.

Co-defendant Ng Mei-chuen, 24, leathersmith, faces one count of dealing with property known or reasonably believed to represent proceeds of an indictable offence, contrary to Section 25(1) of the Organized and Serious Crimes Ordinance.

The defendants will appear in the Tuen Mun Magistracy next Tuesday (April 12) for mention.

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

At the material time, Chu was an assistant admissions officer of the Hong Kong branch of Harrow, an international school operating classes from kindergarten one to year 13, while Ng was her boyfriend.

One of the charges alleges that between February 29 and March 9, 2016, Chu falsely represented to the parent of a child that Harrow was inviting donations for its Shanghai branch, the money donated or to be donated would be used on its establishment, priority for admission to the Hong Kong branch of Harrow would be given to the child if the parent made a donation, and Ng was a senior officer of Harrow; and with intent to defraud, induced the parent to procure issue of a cheque for \$1.5 million payable to Ng.

Another charge alleges that on March 8, 2016, Ng dealt with the \$1.5 million, knowing or having reasonable grounds to believe that the sum of money represented the proceeds of an indictable offence.

The remaining charge alleges that between February 26 and March 18, 2016, Chu falsely represented to the parent of another child that Harrow was inviting donations for its Shanghai branch, the money donated or to be donated would be used on its establishment, and the chance of the child being admitted to the Hong Kong branch of Harrow would be enhanced if the parent made a donation; and with intent to defraud, attempted to induce the parent to transfer \$1.5 million to a bank account of Ng.

Harrow has rendered full assistance to the ICAC during its investigation.

The defendants have been released on ICAC bail, pending their court appearance next Tuesday.

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廉署起訴二人涉嫌分別詐騙學校捐款三百萬元及洗黑錢

2016年4月8日

廉政公署今日(星期五)落案起訴一名國際學校前助理入學主任及其男朋友，控告他們涉嫌分別詐騙及企圖詐騙兩名家長共三百萬元捐款，以讓其孩子入讀該校，及清洗相關犯罪收益。

朱柳英，二十六歲，哈羅國際學校(哈羅)前助理入學主任，被控兩項罪名，即一項欺詐，涉嫌違反《盜竊罪條例》第16A條，及一項企圖欺詐，涉嫌違反《盜竊罪條例》第16A條及《刑事罪行條例》第159G條。

同案被告吳美全，二十四歲，皮匠，被控一項罪名，即處理已知道或有合理理由相信為代表從可公訴罪行得益的財產，涉嫌違反《有組織及嚴重罪行條例》第25(1)條。

被告將於下星期二(四月十二日)在屯門裁判法院提訊。

廉署早前接獲貪污投訴，調查後揭發上述涉嫌罪行。

朱於案發時是哈羅香港分校的助理入學主任，該國際學校開設的班級由幼稚園一年班至第十三班，而吳則是朱的男朋友。

其中一項控罪指朱涉嫌於二〇一六年二月二十九日至三月九日期間，向一名家長虛假地表示，哈羅正為其上海分校籌備捐款，收到的捐款或將會收到的捐款會用作建設上海分校，倘若該家長作出捐款，其孩子可優先入讀哈羅香港分校，及吳是哈羅一名高層人員；並意圖詐騙而誘使該家長促致一張一百五十萬元的支票發出予吳。

另一項控罪指吳涉嫌於二〇一六年三月八日處理該筆一百五十萬元款項，而他知道或有合理理由相信有關款項代表從可公訴罪行的得益。

餘下控罪指朱涉嫌於二〇一六年二月二十六日至三月十八日期間，向另一名家長虛假地表示，哈羅正為其上海分校籌備捐款，收到的捐款或將會收到的捐款會用作建設上海分校，倘若該家長作出捐款，則其孩子入讀哈羅香港分校的機會可獲提升；並意圖詐騙而企圖誘使該家長將一百五十萬元轉賬入吳的銀行賬戶。

哈羅在廉署調查案件期間提供全面協助。

被告已獲廉署准予保釋，以待下星期二應訊。

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