

Press Release

08/08/07

Cruise company director charged for allegedly accepting \$1m in bribes

A cruise company director was today (Wednesday) charged by the ICAC for allegedly accepting bribes totalling about \$1 million from operators of three transportation companies for awarding business to the latter.

Tang Kwong-chuen, 44, director (port and embarkation) of Star Cruises (HK) Limited (Star Cruises), will appear at Eastern Magistracy at 9:30 am on Friday (August 10) on four counts of agent accepting an advantage, contrary to Section 9(1)(a) of the Prevention of Bribery Ordinance.

One of the charges alleges that between November 5, 1999 and December 31, 2004, Tang accepted \$200,000 from an operator of a transportation company.

He is also alleged of accepting a monthly bribe of about \$11,000 from an operator of another transportation company between mid 2004 and December 31, 2006.

The remaining two charges accused Tang of accepting from an operator of a third transportation company a sum of about \$200,000 to \$300,000 between January 2000 and December 2004, and a monthly bribe of \$15,000 from late 2005 until July 9, 2007.

The alleged bribes are rewards for Tang to award transportation orders to those companies for providing transport services for the cruise's staff members.

Star Cruises rendered full assistance to the ICAC during its investigation.

The defendant is currently on ICAC bail, pending his court appearance on Friday.