LAURENCE PANG AND COMPANY: THE CLAIMS CONTINUE TO PILE UP, MONTHS AFTER THE FIRM'S CLOSURE

It would, indeed, be difficult to name a solicitor and/or his firm, formerly practising in the Hongkong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) of the People's Republic of China (PRC), dancing more clumsily at his final performance than Mr Laurence Pang Chak Tong () and Laurence Pang and Company.

Because these 2 names, clearly, take the cake!

For many of Mr Laurence Pang Chak Tong's former staff, no doubt the word, ignominious, comes quickly to their minds when they hear the names, <u>Laurence Pang and Company ()</u> and Mr Laurence Pang Chak Tong.

This is because many of the former staff members of this former solicitors' firm have sought assistance to obtain money, legally due to them, through various Court of the HKSAR.

It is not that Mr Laurence Pang Chak Tong does not, or did not, have money, because, according to The Commissioner of Inland Revenue of Hongkong, Mr Laurence Pang Chak Tong owes the Hongkong taxman \$HK345,038.94 in back taxes.

This tax assessment suggests that the period in which the assessment was made, Mr Laurence Pang Chak Tong was deemed to have earned not less than \$HK2.30 million.

The assessment period could not have been during the 2006-Year because Laurence Pang and Company and Mr Laurence Pang Chak Tong ceased all official operations on January 1, 2006, according to the database of **TOLFIN** () (The Computerised Online Financial Intelligence Service and Web-Based, Credit-Checking Provider).

TOLIN's records indicate that, on or about June 8, 2004, Mr Laurence Pang Chak Tong sold a flat of the 18th Floor of Elizabeth House, Causeway Bay, to a person by the name of Ismail Fatima for exactly \$HK2.85 million.

That date appears to coincide, just about, at least, with a number of Claims, lodged in the District Court of the HKSAR, made by former staff of Mr Laurence Pang Chak Tong, seeking to register Labour Tribunal Awards. (Please see tables below).

Just before closing up shop in the HKSAR, so to speak, Mr Laurence Pang Chak Tong had to front up before a Magistrate in order to give an explanation as to the reason that his firm had failed to pay the required Business Registration Fee for the solicitors' firm of Laurence Pang and Company and the required Branch Business Registration Fee for a branch of that same firm.

These are both criminal offences, as far as the HKSAR law is concerned, and one would have thought that Mr Laurence Pang Chak Tong would have been well aware of the law since he had been admitted as a solicitor of the High Court.

Laurence Pang and Company used to have offices in Yuen Long, The New Territories, but, when the firm did not pay rent for a period of 10 months, the landlord determined to take legal action and, eventually, obtained possession of the property.

There is a very long list of cases, lodged in various HKSAR Courts, in which Mr Laurence Pang Chak Tong

and/or his former firm have been accused of owing money to various entities and individuals, going all the way back 22 years.

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