FORMER SOLICITOR, NOW BANKRUPT, SUED FOR \$HK8.70 MILLION

It's Another Case Of: Whom May One Trust?

It appears that nary a month goes by when <u>a solicitor, or a barrister</u>, or a former member of the High Court of the Hongkong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) of the People's Republic of China (PRC) is found to have been wanting.

It was only a few short months ago that a former HKSAR High Court Judge, Mr Miles Jackson-Lipkin, and his wife, a former HKSAR barrister, Lucile Fung Yung Shim, were found guilty of cheating on welfare payouts.

They were, both, sentenced to 11 months in jail.

They are, both, still languishing in an HKSAR prison, today.

Then, in March, this year, Mr Miles Jackson-Lipkin was sentenced to another month in jail, to run concurrently with the previous, 11-month custodial sentence, for Contempt of Court in that he refused to disclose the identity of a person whom, Mr Miles Jackson-Lipkin alleged, had warned him not to return to the territory and, by staying away, no prosecution would be taken out against him or his wife.

Chief Magistrate, Mr Patrick Li Hon Leung, said that, by Mr Miles Jackson-Lipkin not disclosing the name of this alleged party, it had damaged the integrity of the HKSAR legal profession and affected public confidence.

It was the first time in the history of the HKSAR that a former, high-ranking member of the judiciary had (a) been found guilty of cheating on welfare payments and (b) been incarcerated.

And, now, there is the case of Mr Desmund Leung Man Wai (), formerly a solicitor of the High Court of the HKSAR.

Mr Desmund Leung Man Wai, according to the database of **TOLFIN** (), was named as a Debtor in Bankruptcy Petition, Number 2607 of 2004, that Petition, having been lodged in the HKSAR High Court by East Wind Overseas Investments Ltd of Causeway Bay, the HKSAR, on March 9, 2004.

Mr Desmund Leung Man Wai was declared a bankrupt on May 19, 2004.

That was a civil matter, but **TOLFIN**'s records, also, indicate that Mr Desmund Leung Man Wai, along with 6 other Defendants, was hauled before a Magistrate on March 30, 2005, and charged with the crime of Conspiracy to Steal ().

Long before the aforementioned matters, however, clerks of the HKSAR Courts knew well of the existence of Mr Desmund Leung Man Wai and of his solicitors' firm of Chong, Leung and Company (,) – because of the plethora of cases, in which this former HKSAR solicitor and his firm had been Defendants.

And, now, Mr Shiu Yeuk Yuen () has engaged a high-priced, HKSAR barrister to draft a Statement of Claim, which has been attached to the Writ of Summons in High Court Action, Number 716, claiming \$HK8.70 million from Mr Desmund Leung Man Wai, formerly trading as Chong, Leung and Company.

TOLFIN's records show that Mr Shiu Yeuk Yuen was a Substantial Shareholder and an Executive Director of Companion Building Materials (Holdings) Ltd, now called Pacific Century Premium Developments Ltd ()

(Code: 432, Main Board, The Stock Exchange of Hongkong Ltd).

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