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02 May 2023

SFC Circular - SFC obtains court order to freeze assets of suspected insider dealers of I.T Limited shares

The Court of First Instance has granted an interim injunction order against Ms Tsang Ching Yi and Mr Barry Kwok Sze Lok in legal proceedings commenced by the Securities and Futures Commission (SFC), prohibiting them from removing assets, including selling of their real properties, up to the value of \$8,246,496 from Hong Kong in relation to an ongoing investigation into suspected insider dealing in the shares of I.T Limited (I.T).

The SFC alleged that Tsang shared with her friend Kwok inside information relating to the privatisation of I.T that she acquired through her employment as a manager at an investment bank. Both of them then went on to deal in I.T shares using such inside information; they bought 2.844 million I.T shares through Kwok's securities accounts in October and November 2020. After the proposed privatisation was announced by I.T in December 2020, they immediately sold the shares, yielding profits of \$4,123,248.

Tsang and Kwok have both left Hong Kong and have taken steps to remove their assets from Hong Kong. In the light of the clear risk of dissipation, the SFC considers that it is necessary to obtain a freezing order to prevent Tsang and/or Kwok from further transferring their assets, including the suspected illicit gains of their trading, out of Hong Kong and to ensure any future orders made by the Court and/or the Market Misconduct Tribunal can be fulfilled if they are found liable for insider dealing.

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中文版本

證監會取得法庭命令凍結涉嫌就I.T Limited股份進行內幕 交易人士的資產

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Level 18A, Heng Shan Centre, 145 Queen's Road East, Wan Chai, Hong Kong | heinbroconsulting.com | heinbro@heinbro.com | +852 2811 1708 原訟法庭向曾靜怡(女)及郭詩樂(男)頒發臨時強制令,禁止兩人將涉嫌就 I.T Limited (I.T)股份進行的內幕交易所涉及價值高達8,246,496元的資產調離 香港,包括不得出售他們的物業。有關法律程序由證券及期貨事務監察委員會 (證監會)展開,涉嫌內幕交易活動的調查仍在進行中。

證監會指稱,曾與其友人郭分享她在某投資銀行任職經理期間獲得關於I.T私有化的內幕消息。兩人其後遂利用相關內幕消息買賣I.T股份,並於2020年10月及11月透過郭的證券帳戶買入284.4萬股I.T股份。他們在I.T於2020年12月公布私有化建議後,隨即出售相關股份,從中獲利4,123,248元。

曾及郭均已離港,並已採取行動將他們的資產調離香港。鑑於存在明顯的資產 耗散風險,證監會認為取得凍結令乃屬必要,以防止曾及/或郭進一步將包括 交易產生的涉嫌非法收益在內的資產調離香港,並在兩人被裁斷須對內幕交易 承擔法律責任時,確保法庭及/或市場失當行為審裁處日後發出的任何命令均 得以履行。

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