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84 MONTHS' AND 4 WEEKS' JAIL FOR RECALCITRANT MONEY MULE WHO HELPED OVERSEAS SCAMMERS LAUNDER CRIMINAL PROCEEDS

On 2 August 2021, Rohaiza Binte Alap ("Rohaiza") was sentenced to a global imprisonment term of 84 months' and 4 weeks' of jail. She was convicted of the following charges earlier on 1 July 2021 in the State Courts:

- three charges for providing her bank accounts to receive criminal proceeds under Section 44(1) of the Corruption, Drug Trafficking and Other Serious Crimes Act ("CDSA");
- eight charges for conspiring with others to receive criminal proceeds through their bank accounts under Section 44(1) of CDSA read with Section 109 of the Penal Code ("PC");
- two charges for moving cash exceeding the prescribed amount out of Singapore without giving a report of the movement under Section 48C of CDSA;
- one charge for disclosing prejudicial information to someone under Section 48 of CDSA; and
- one charge for intentionally aiding someone to possess monies reasonably suspected of being stolen or fraudulently obtained under Section 35(1) of the Miscellaneous Offences (Public Order and Nuisance) Act read with Section 109 of the PC.
- Rohaiza provided her bank accounts to Nigerian scammers in return for commissions. She also recruited other people to similarly act as money mules. She provided a total of 25 bank accounts to receive criminal proceeds and laundered over S\$1.35 million through these accounts. In all, she had helped the scammers move over S\$2 million out of Singapore. She also sought to compromise investigations by instructing one of the money mules to inform the Commercial Affairs Department of the Singapore Police Force ("SPF")

that the said money mule had no knowledge of the monies received in her bank accounts.

- This case involved a money mule syndicate, where an organised, sophisticated network acted as a professional money laundering group. (The modus operandi of Rohaiza and her syndicate is set out in **Annex A**.) In light of this, the Prosecution had sought a deterrent global sentence of at least 85 months' imprisonment. The sentence of 84 months and 4 weeks imposed by the Court was in line with what Prosecution had submitted for. (A breakdown of the sentence per proceeded charge is set out in **Annex B**.) For future cases, we will be seeking sentences in this range for persons who knowingly allow their bank accounts to be used for criminal purposes.
- Scam cases remain a major crime concern. The total number of scam cases reported increased by 65.1% to 15,756 cases in 2020, from 9,545 cases in 2019. It made up 42.1% of overall crime in 2020, up from 27.2% in 2019. Scams perpetrated from overseas are of particular concern because it is difficult and nearly impossible to recover monies once they are transferred out of Singapore. This is further compounded when scams are enabled by individuals who allow their bank accounts to be used by scammers to receive monies, hide their tracks, and launder the proceeds of crime.
- 5 The Attorney-General's Chambers and SPF take a serious view of such criminal activities. We will continue to work together to deter offenders from using Singapore's financial system as a refuge or conduit for illicit funds.

ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S CHAMBERS SINGAPORE POLICE FORCE 2 AUGUST 2021

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¹ Source: Annual Crime Brief 2020

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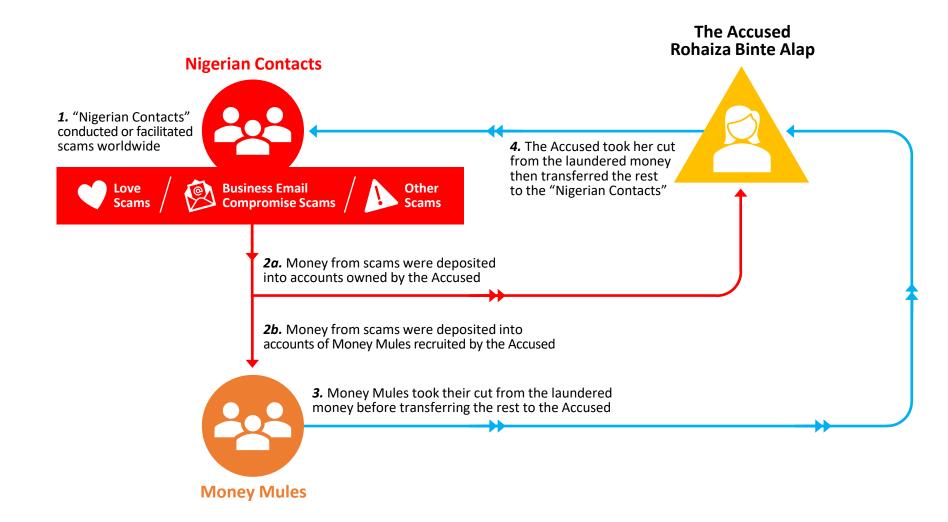
ANNEX A

PP v Rohaiza Binte Alap

Modus Operandi of the Money Mule Syndicate

Workflow 1 - Criminal Proceeds Sent to Money Mules

Workflow 2 - Laundered Money Transferred to "Nigerian Contacts"





ANNEX B

PP v Rohaiza Binte Alap

Imprisonment Sentence and Offence Details

IMPRISONMENT SENTENCE OF

84 & 4
MONTHS WEEKS

58 CHARGES WITH 15 CHARGES PROCEEDED

25 BANK ACCOUNTS FOR RECEIVING CRIMINAL PROCEEDS

S\$ 1.35M

LAUNDERED THROUGH THESE BANK ACCOUNTS

0VER 2.0M

MOVED OUT OF SINGAPORE

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S/No.	OFFENCE DETAILS	SENTENCE IMPOSED	
Charges under Section 44(1) of the Corruption, Drug Trafficking and Other Serious Crimes Act			
1.	The Accused received criminal proceeds of SGD 70,186	10 Months	
2.	The Accused received criminal proceeds of SGD 155,429.73	25 Months	
3.	The Accused received criminal proceeds of SGD 235,464.20	35 Months*	
4.	Conspired with an individual to receive criminal proceeds of SGD 56,085	15 Months	
5.	Conspired with an individual to receive criminal proceeds of SGD 55,385.46	15 Months	
6.	Conspired with an individual to receive criminal proceeds of SGD 13,500	10 Months*	
7.	Conspired with an individual to receive criminal proceeds of SGD 14,750	10 Months	
8.	Conspired with an individual to receive criminal proceeds of USD 26,099.26 & SGD 9,817.25 (equivalent to SGD 46,280.53)	15 Months	
9.	Conspired with two individuals to receive criminal proceeds of USD 32,421.71 (equivalent to SGD 45,636.80)	15 Months	
10.	Conspired with two individuals to receive criminal proceeds of USD 34,490.71 (equivalent to SGD 47,717.90)	15 Months	
11.	Conspired with several individuals to receive criminal proceeds of USD 101,490.40 (equivalent to SGD 139,782.73)	35 Months*	
Charges under Section 48C of the Corruption, Drug Trafficking and Other Serious Crimes Act			
12.	For moving cash out of Singapore amounting to SGD 165,520	4 Months*	
13.	For moving cash out of Singapore amounting to SGD 182,702	4 Months	
Charge under Section 48(1) of the Corruption, Drug Trafficking and Other Serious Crimes Act			
14.	For disclosing prejudicing information to an individual	4 Weeks*	
Charge under Section 35(1) of the Miscellaneous Offences (Public Order and Nuisance) Act			
15.	Intentionally aided an individual to receive criminal proceeds of USD 50,000	3 Months	
* Charges to run consecutively			