

Bank manager jailed 3 months for faking customer's signature

A BANK manager was jailed for three months yesterday for forging documents and faking a customer's signature.

Wendy Tan Law Ling, a former DBS senior relationship manager, faked the signature on a multimillion-dollar mutual fund order in July last year.

The 29-year-old, who was fired and is now a private tutor, admitted yesterday to that charge and 10 others.

Her lawyer, Mr Rajah Retnam, said she faked the signature to make up for clerical errors and did not benefit from the forgeries.

District Judge John Ng said the offences were nonetheless serious.

The element of trust was vital in the banking sector and the accused had, by her actions, betrayed the trust of her employer and the trust of the customer of the bank, he said.

The court heard that Tan was trying to fix a mistake by a co-worker, who opened a savings account for a client, instead of a current account.

She forged the Malaysian client's signature on July 28 to close the savings account so that a current account could be opened. The client had earlier transferred \$5 million into the account number provided by Tan.

The same month, she forged her client's signature on bank documents related to a \$3 million mutual fund purchase.

When she realised that she had bought shares in the wrong fund, she forged several other documents in the hope of covering up the mistake.

She could have been jailed for up to two years and fined for each forgery.

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