

Businessman freed of RM5mil cheating, money laundering charges

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Sessions court judge Sabariah Othman says there were gaps in the prosecution's case and sufficient documents were not produced for the court's consideration. (Reuters pic)

KUALA LUMPUR: The sessions court today acquitted a former real estate broker who was charged with 17 counts of money laundering and three counts of cheating totalling about RM5 million.

In not calling for the defence of Chandra Subramaniam, judge Sabariah Othman said there were gaps in the prosecution's case and sufficient documents were not produced for the court's consideration.

"Material witnesses were not called to prove a prima facie case. On the other hand, the testimony of a witness (Amran Ahmad) was also not credible," she said.

The prosecution had called 38 witnesses to give evidence.

Two years ago, Chandra, 45, was charged with three counts of cheating amounting to about RM1.5 million by deceiving the Malaysian Building Society Bhd (MBSB) at its headquarters, and AmlIslamic Bank at its Bandar Permaisuri branch.

The offences were allegedly committed between Feb 15, 2014 and June 24, 2015.

He was also charged with accepting about RM5 million, believed to be proceeds from illegal activities involving several individuals, including Amran, who turned prosecution witness.

The RM5 million was inclusive of the RM1.5 million that Chandra was alleged to have cheated.

Deputy public prosecutor Kee Shu Min appeared for the prosecution while Muniandy Vestanthan, A Ashok and Fiona Aurella Culas represented Chandra.

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