

The real story behind Renaissance Capital Inc. lawyer jailed in China

In 2009, Alessandro Di Giacobbe, 28, an innocent young French Canadian lawyer from Quebec, was hired to work for Renaissance Capital Inc. He was posted in Beijing where he was no doubt looking forward to an exciting adventure working and experiencing what can be an exciting life for a young person in China. Instead, directly because of the cut-throat and under-handed way his boss John Park chooses to conduct business, he unwittingly found himself caught up in the middle of an extremely bad situation and circumstances beyond his control.



Chinese police, at the behest of China's entire immigration agency community, began an entirely merited investigation into RCI's business activities in China. There was irrefutable proof that RCI had attempted to bypass Chinese immigration regulations in order to cut out the middle man and increase its profit margin. RCI deliberately stupidly conducted public seminars without legal authorization and it got caught red-handed.

RCI's offices were closed down. RCI deservedly lost millions in revenue because of its misdeeds but the real tragedy and untold story is that this RCI employee ended up losing almost 8 months of his life segregated in a Chinese jail. Imagine that.

Let there be no doubt, this young man and his parents no doubt suffered greatly because of John Park's unethical practices.

Good employee. Bad boss.

Truth and consequences. You can't escape bad karma.

This innocent pawn didn't know what he was signing up for and he paid dearly for the sins of his boss.

What has never been reported is the real story behind Giacobbe's incarceration. He was a hapless victim of machinations beyond his control, of which he wasn't even aware,

Di Giacobbe was held for several months without charges but eventually was charged and convicted of obstructing a government official in the course of his official duties. In total he was and in Chinese jail for almost 8 months before being released and taken directly to the airport and deported. Upon return to Canada he considered suing RCI, eventually recovered from his ordeal and was luckily able to resume legal practice in Quebec without any sanctions from the bar. He had suffered enough.

John Park and RCI continue to operate with impunity.