

# GUILTY

## John Lam, 47

**Who:** Former City Harvest Church (CHC) finance committee member.

**Verdict:** Found guilty of three charges of criminal breach of trust.

**What he had said in court:**

Believed the Xtron bonds were a sound investment because of Ms Ho Yeow Sun's success with her previous music albums.

**What judge said:** Lam's role was evidently less substantial in conceiving and executing the plan to channel church funds through Xtron. But he had his own part to play as a board member and investment committee member.

**What next:** Lam is considering whether to appeal. He said: "I'm obviously disappointed, but it's been a very long trial, and someone prudent would have been prepared for conviction. But of course we were always believing in our acquittal."

## Chew Eng Han, 55

**Who:** Former CHC fund manager.

**Verdict:** Found guilty of six charges of criminal breach of trust and four charges of falsification of accounts.

**What he had said in court:**

Called the Crossover Project and Ms Ho's music career the "real shams", not the bond investments he designed (based on Kong Hee's album sales projections) to support them.

**What judge said:** Chew played a substantial role in the plan to channel church funds through Xtron. He hid the truth about the Xtron bonds to give auditors the impression that CHC and Xtron were independent of each other.

**What next:** Chew told reporters: "I didn't expect it. It's a shock for my family. Of course I will appeal."

## Kong Hee, 51

**Who:** Founder and senior pastor of CHC.

**Verdict:** Found guilty of three charges of criminal breach of trust.

**What he had said in court:**

Kong always maintained that he had sought and received assurance from lawyers and auditors that all financial transactions were above board.

**What judge said:** Kong played a substantial role in conceiving and executing the plan to channel CHC's Building Fund through music firm Xtron, which managed his wife Ho Yeow Sun for the Crossover Project.

**What next:** His wife said in a Facebook post that "we are disappointed by the outcome". His lawyer Edwin Tong said they will be studying the grounds of decision before deciding whether to appeal.

## Tan Ye Peng, 42

**Who:** Founding member and CHC deputy senior pastor.

**Verdict:** Found guilty of six charges of criminal breach of trust, and four charges of falsifying the church's accounts.

**What he had said in court:**

Tan insisted he never thought what they had done was illegal, also admitted previously he was not trained in accounting.

**What judge said:** Tan played a substantial role in the plan to channel church funds through Xtron, and kept round-tripping transactions from auditors. Although "a leader in his own right", he trusted Kong's leadership completely. However, this does not exonerate him from criminal liability.

**What next:** His lawyer said he has to wait for the grounds of decision before deciding on the next step.

## Serina Wee, 38

**Who:** Former CHC finance manager.

**Verdict:** Found guilty of six charges of criminal breach of trust and four charges of falsification of accounts.

**What she had said in court:**

Wee, who handled the accounts for the Crossover Project, claimed it never crossed her mind that what they were doing could be violating the law.

**What judge said:** Wee played a substantial role in the plan to channel church funds through Xtron. He was unconvinced that Wee and others had genuinely believed in the success of Ms Ho's US Crossover Project, and said she had readily conceded that Ms Ho's Asian Crossover albums all made losses.

**What next:** "As you've heard, the judge said it's not that they are morally wrong or used the money for personal gains. It's too early to say what our next course of action is," said her husband Kenny Low.

## Sharon Tan, 40

**Who:** CHC finance manager who took over from Wee.

**Verdict:** Found guilty of three charges of criminal breach of trust and four charges of falsification of accounts.

**What she had said in court:**

Claimed she had flagged concerns about the alleged round-tripping of church funds but was assured by the others that everything was "okay".

**What judge said:** She was aware of the round-tripping transactions and false accounting entries, including a redemption of Xtron bonds in the form of a set-off against advance rental.

**What next:** Tan said she will speak to her lawyer today to decide if she would be filing an appeal. "I will keep on praying."

