<u>Macao former chief prosecutor</u> <u>sentenced to 21 years in prison</u>

Macao's former chief prosecutor Ho Chio Meng was found guilty for more than over 1,000 charges and sentenced to 21 years in prison, the special administrative region (SAR)'s Court of Final Appeal said in its final judgment on Friday.

The judges agreed that the accused had violated so many laws in a long period of time, which makes his cases very rare and severe.

As a top official of the public prosecutions office of the Macao SAR, Ho had carried out legal practice for many years but he abused the power in his position and ignored law and discipline.

The former chief prosecutor was brought to trial in December 2016 in Court of Final Appeal on charges such as fraud and abuse of power.

His cases involved about 76 million patacas (about 9.5 million U.S. dollars).