



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**HEALTH SCIENCES AUTHORITY
PRESS RELEASE
14 DECEMBER 2004**

**HSA SUSPENDS LICENCE OF A RETAILER FOR REPEATEDLY
SELLING TOBACCO PRODUCT TO THE UNDERAGED**

The Health Sciences Authority (HSA) has suspended the licence of a tobacco retailer, M/s Heng Lee Fa Kiosk, at Block 274 Yishun Street 22 #01-K1 for six months from 15 December 2004 to 14 June 2005.

2 The licensee, Mr Kwa Say Tiong, was convicted in court and fined \$2,500 on 25 November 2004 for selling tobacco product to a 14-year-old male on 16 June 2004. Mr Kwa was also caught for a similar offence on 28 March 1996 and the offence was compounded for \$1,000.

3 It is an offence under the Smoking (Control of Advertisements and Sale of Tobacco) Act to sell tobacco products to persons below the age of 18 years. The offence is punishable with a maximum fine of up to \$5,000 for the first conviction and up to \$10,000 for the second and subsequent conviction. Repeat offenders are also liable to have their licences suspended.

4 HSA takes a very serious view of smoking by underaged youths and consequently, the sale of tobacco products to them. HSA will continue to enforce this prohibition stringently so as to discourage and prevent the illegal sale of tobacco products to underaged youths.

5 Members of the public who have information on the illegal sale of tobacco products are encouraged to call the hotline of the Tobacco Regulation Unit of HSA at Tel: 6866-3495 / 6866-3496 during office hours.

**HEALTH SCIENCES AUTHORITY
14 DECEMBER 2004**

About the Health Sciences Authority

At the Health Sciences Authority [HSA], a People Developer and Singapore Innovation-class organisation, we apply medical, pharmaceutical and specialised scientific expertise to safeguard public health and safety in Singapore. As one multidisciplinary agency, we serve as the national regulator of all therapeutic products by providing a seamless yet rigorous regulatory process to the healthcare and biomedical sciences industries. We also operate the national blood bank, Bloodbank@HSA, protecting the integrity of the nation's blood supply. As the national reference agency, we exploit specialised scientific, forensic, investigative and analytical capabilities in order to serve the administration of justice and enhance safety in our community. For more details, visit [**www.hsa.gov.sg**](http://www.hsa.gov.sg).