



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**HEALTH SCIENCES AUTHORITY
PRESS RELEASE
16 AUGUST 2017**

HSA REVOKES THE LICENCE OF RETAILER WHO SOLD TOBACCO TO MINOR IN SCHOOL UNIFORM, SUSPENDS TWELVE OTHERS

The Health Sciences Authority (HSA) has revoked the tobacco retail licence of an errant tobacco retailer who sold cigarettes to a minor under 18 years of age who was wearing a school uniform. The licences of 12 other retailers were suspended between May to July this year for tobacco sales to under-18 minors. They were caught via HSA's ground surveillance and enforcement activities to deter the illegal sale of tobacco products to under-18 minors. (Please refer to Annex A for the list of retailers and photos.)

2 All 13 sellers did not ask for any form of identification to check the buyers' age. They had claimed that they were busy or that the minors looked older than they were. Sellers take the risk of contravening the laws if they assess age by mere physical appearance of the buyer.

Retail Licence Revoked

3 Value Supermart located at 301 Serangoon Avenue 2 was caught selling cigarettes to a minor, aged 17, in school uniform. Its tobacco retail licence was revoked and it will no longer be able to sell tobacco products.

Retail Licences Suspended

4 The remaining twelve outlets were caught selling cigarettes to under-18 minors for the first time. The suspension prohibits the errant retailers from selling tobacco products for six months. The outlets are:

326 Coffee Shop at 326 Woodlands Street 32	151 Coffee & Tea at 151 Serangoon North Avenue 2
Sri Kumaran Mini Mart at 557 Jurong West Street 42	Angel Supermart at 326 Woodlands Street 52
Kopitiam Investment Pte Ltd at 108 Punggol Field	H & N Mini-Mart at 620 Hougang Avenue 8
Good Price Hub at 135 Jurong Gateway Road	Chin Ju Heng Mini Supermarket at 835 Tampines Street 83
Jaya Ambiga Trading Pte Ltd at 176 Boon Lay Drive	Zeng Mao Sheng at 716 Yishun Street 71
Fortune Supermarket at 780 Woodlands Crescent	Zhong Guo Chao Shi at 418 Yishun Avenue 11

Reminder to Retailers

5 HSA would like to remind tobacco retail licensees that they are responsible for all transactions of tobacco products taking place at their outlets, as well as the actions of their employees.

6 HSA urges all tobacco retail licensees to educate their employees on the law pertaining to the sale of tobacco products and for sellers to check the age of those who wish to buy tobacco products.

7 Under the Tobacco (Control of Advertisements and Sale) Act, anyone caught selling tobacco products to persons below the age of 18 is liable, on conviction in Court, to a maximum fine of up to \$5,000 for the first offence and up to \$10,000 for the second or subsequent offence. In addition, the tobacco retail licence will be suspended for 6 months for the first offence and revoked for the second offence. However, if any outlet is found selling tobacco products to **under-18 minors in school uniform or those below 12 years of age**, the tobacco retail licence will **be revoked**, even at the first offence. From 2015 to date, 53 tobacco retail licences were suspended and 9 were revoked by HSA.

8 In accordance with the licence application criteria, any person who commits an offence of selling tobacco to a person under 18 years of age will not be eligible to apply for a tobacco retail licence.

9 Members of the public can view the updated List of Suspended / Revoked Tobacco Retailers [here](#).

Reminder to Members of the Public

10 HSA would also like to remind the public not to supply any tobacco products to under-18 minors. Anyone caught buying or acquiring any tobacco product for a person below the age of 18 years is liable, on conviction in Court, to a maximum fine of up to \$2,500 for the first offence and up to \$5,000 for the second or subsequent offence. Similarly, anyone caught giving or furnishing any tobacco product to a person below the age of 18 is liable, on conviction in Court, to a maximum fine of up to \$500 for the first offence and up to \$1,000 for the second or subsequent offence. From 2015 to date, 17 individuals have been caught for such offences.

11 HSA encourages members of the public who have information on the illegal sale of tobacco products to under-18 minors to call the Tobacco Regulation Branch at Tel: 66842036 or 66842037 during office hours.

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About the Health Sciences Authority (HSA)

The Health Sciences Authority (HSA) applies medical, pharmaceutical and scientific expertise through its three professional groups, Health Products Regulation, Blood Services and Applied Sciences, to protect and advance national health and safety. HSA is a multidisciplinary authority. It serves as the national regulator for health products, ensuring they are wisely regulated to meet standards of safety, quality and efficacy. As the national blood service, it is responsible for providing a safe and adequate blood supply. It also applies specialised scientific, forensic, investigative and analytical capabilities in serving the administration of justice. For more details, visit <http://www.hsa.gov.sg/>.

For more updates on public health and safety matters, follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/HSAsg.

About HSA's Health Products Regulation Group

The Health Products Regulation Group (HPRG) of HSA ensures that drugs, innovative therapeutics, medical devices and health-related products are wisely regulated and meet appropriate safety, quality and efficacy standards. It contributes to the development of biomedical sciences in Singapore by administering a robust, scientific and responsive regulatory framework.

**HSA REVOKES THE LICENCE OF RETAILER WHO SOLD
TOBACCO TO MINOR IN SCHOOL UNIFORM,
SUSPENDS TWELVE OTHERS**

Table 1 – List of Errant Tobacco Retailers Caught Selling Tobacco to Under-18 Minors

S/N	Name of Retail Outlet	Address of Retail Outlet	Punishment for retailer
1	326 Coffee Shop	Blk 326 Woodlands Street 32, #01-103, Singapore 730326	Six-month suspension (12 May 2017 – 11 Nov 2017)
2	Sri Kumaran Mart	Blk 557 Jurong West Street 42, #01-391A, Singapore 640557	Six-month suspension (30 May 2017 – 29 Nov 2017)
3	Kopitiam Investment Pte Ltd	Blk 108 Punggol Field, #01-01, Singapore 820108	Six-month suspension (23 Jun 2017 – 22 Dec 2017)
4	Good Price Hub	Blk 135 Jurong Gateway Road, #01-323, Singapore 600135	Six-month suspension (28 Jun 2017 to 27 Dec 2017)
5	Jaya Ambiga Trading Pte Ltd	Blk 176 Boon Lay Drive, #01-348, Singapore 640176	Six-month suspension (30 Jun 2017 to 29 Dec 2017)
6	Fortune Supermarket	Blk 780 Woodlands Crescent, #01-01, Multi-Storey Carpark, Singapore 730780	Six-month suspension (11 Jul 2017 to 10 Jan 2018)

7	151 Coffee & Tea	Blk 151 Serangoon North Avenue 2, #01-41, Singapore 550151	Six-month suspension (15 Jul 2017 to 14 Jan 2018)
8	Value Supermart	Blk 301 Serangoon Avenue 2, #01-338, Singapore 550301	Revocation Wef 17 Jul 2017
9	Angel Supermart	Blk 326 Woodlands Street 32, #01-117, Singapore 730326	Six-month suspension (19 Jul 2017 to 18 Jan 2018)
10	HNH Pte Ltd	Blk 620 Hougang Avenue 8, #01-262, Singapore 530620	Six-month suspension (21 Jul 2017 to 20 Jan 2018)
11	Chin Ju Heng Mini Supermarket	Blk 835 Tampines Street 83, #01-12, Singapore 520835	Six-month suspension (22 Jul 2017 to 21 Jan 2018)
12	Zeng Mao Sheng	Blk 716 Yishun Street 71, #01-252, Singapore 760716	Six-month suspension 23 Jul 2017 to 22 Jan 2018
13	Zhong Guo Chao Shi	418 Yishun Avenue 11 #01-423 Singapore 760418	Six-month suspension 25 Jul 2017 to 24 Jan 2018

Photographs of Errant Tobacco Retailers Caught Selling Tobacco to Under-18 Minors (as listed in Table 1)



326 Coffee Shop



Sri Kumaran Mart



Kopitiam Investment Pte Ltd



Good Price Hub



Jaya Ambiga Trading Pte Ltd



Fortune Supermarket



151 Coffee & Tea



Value Supermart



Angel Supermart



HNH Pte Ltd



Chin Ju Heng Mini Supermarket



Zeng Mao Sheng



Zhong Guo Chao Shi