

# [Appointments to Air Transport Licensing Authority](#)

The Government announced today (July 28) the reappointment of two incumbent members, Ms Kelly Chan Yuen-sau and Ms Avon Yue Nga-fong, and the appointment of a new member, Ms Jasmine Lee Shun-yi, to the Air Transport Licensing Authority for two years from August 1, 2023.

The Secretary for Transport and Logistics, Mr Lam Sai-hung, said, "We are confident that the team of new and serving members, with their expertise and backgrounds in different sectors, will make valuable contributions to the work of the Authority in facilitating the development of air services in Hong Kong.

"The Government is most grateful to the retiring member, Miss Mabel Chan Mei-bo, for her invaluable contribution during her six years with the Authority. Her current term of service will expire on July 31, 2023."

The appointments have been published in the Government Gazette today.

The Authority is an independent statutory body established under the Air Transport (Licensing of Air Services) Regulations (Cap. 448A). It is responsible for considering applications from airlines of Hong Kong for licences to operate scheduled services to and from Hong Kong in accordance with the provisions of the said regulations. The Authority comprises a Chairman and seven non-official members. The membership list with effect from August 1, 2023, is as follows:

## Chairman

Mr Eugene Fung Ting-sek

## Members

Ms Kelly Chan Yuen-sau

Ms Fung Po-yee

Ms Miranda Kwok Pui-fong

Ms Jasmine Lee Shun-yi

Professor Leung Siu-fai

Mr Suen Jenkin

Ms Avon Yue Nga-fong

---

## [Hong Kong Customs seizes suspected](#)

## Liquid ketamine, suspected cannabis buds and suspected methamphetamine worth about \$38.6 million (with photos)

Hong Kong Customs detected three dangerous drugs cases at Hong Kong International Airport, the Shenzhen Bay Control Point and in Yuen Long in June and July this year. About 47 kilograms of suspected liquid ketamine, about 33kg of suspected cannabis buds and about 8kg of suspected methamphetamine, with a total estimated market value of about \$38.6 million, were seized.

In the first case, Customs on June 17 and 18 inspected a batch of air consignment declared as carrying car wax, arriving in Hong Kong from the Netherlands at the airport. Upon examination, Customs officers found there were 92 bottles of car wax inside three carton boxes, among which 48 of them concealed suspected liquid ketamine. The total weight of the drugs was about 47kg and the estimated market value was about \$25.3 million.

In the second case, Customs on July 3 inspected an inbound express consignment, declared as carrying wall clocks and spare parts, arriving in Hong Kong from South Africa via Shenzhen at the Shenzhen Bay Control Point. Upon examination, a batch of suspected cannabis buds was found inside a false compartment of a wall clock and the interlining of a wooden box carrying the clock. The total weight of the drugs was about 33kg and the estimated market value was about \$7.6 million.

In the third case, Customs officers on July 21 seized a large machine at a warehouse in Yuen Long. About 8kg of suspected methamphetamine with an estimated market value of about \$5.7 million was found concealed inside the machine.

Investigations of the three above-mentioned cases are ongoing.

Customs reminds members of the public to stay alert and not to participate in drug trafficking activities for monetary return. They must not accept hiring or delegation from another party to carry controlled items into and out of Hong Kong. They are also reminded not to carry unknown items for other people, nor to release their personal data or home address to others for receiving parcels or goods.

Under the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance, trafficking in a dangerous drug is a serious offence. The maximum penalty upon conviction is a fine of \$5 million and life imprisonment.

Members of the public may report any suspected drug trafficking activities to Customs' 24-hour hotline 2545 6182 or its dedicated crime-

reporting email account ([crimereport@customs.gov.hk](mailto:crimereport@customs.gov.hk)) or online form ([eform.cefs.gov.hk/form/ced002/](http://eform.cefs.gov.hk/form/ced002/)).



---

## [HAD opens temporary heat shelters](#)

The Home Affairs Department will continue to open 19 community halls/community centres as temporary heat shelters today (July 28).

The temporary heat shelters will remain open for people to take refuge from the heat when the Very Hot Weather Warning is in force. From 10.30pm to 8am the next day, the temporary heat shelters will also provide bedding and a sleeping place for people in need. The shelters are manned by duty attendants.

For further information, please call the department's hotline before midnight on 2572 8427.

The heat shelters are located at:

Hong Kong Island:

---

Central and Western –

Sai Ying Pun Community Complex Community Hall  
3/F, Sai Ying Pun Community Complex  
2 High Street, Sai Ying Pun

Eastern –

Causeway Bay Community Centre  
3/F, 7 Fook Yum Road, Causeway Bay

Southern –

Wah Kwai Community Centre  
Wah Kwai Estate, Kellett Bay

Wan Chai –

Wan Chai Activities Centre  
LG/F, Wan Chai Market, 258 Queen's Road East, Wan Chai

Kowloon Districts:

---

Kowloon City –

Hung Hom Community Hall  
1/F, Kowloon City Government Offices  
42 Bailey Street, Hung Hom

Kwun Tong –

Lam Tin (West) Estate Community Centre  
71 Kai Tin Road, Lam Tin

Sham Shui Po –

Nam Cheong District Community Centre  
1 Cheong San Lane, Sham Shui Po

Wong Tai Sin –

Tsz Wan Shan (South) Estate Community Centre  
45 Wan Wah Street, Tsz Wan Shan

Yau Tsim Mong –

Henry G Leong Yaumatei Community Centre  
60 Public Square Street, Yau Ma Tei

New Territories Districts:

---

Islands –

Tung Chung Community Hall  
G/F, Tung Chung Municipal Services Building, 39 Man Tung Road, Tung Chung

Kwai Tsing –

Kwai Shing Community Hall

Podium, Block 6, Kwai Shing West Estate, Kwai Chung

North –

Cheung Wah Community Hall  
Cheung Wah Estate, Fanling

Sai Kung –

Hang Hau Community Hall  
G/F, Sai Kung Tseung Kwan O Government Complex, 38 Pui Shing Road, Hang Hau,  
Tseung Kwan O

Sha Tin –

Lung Hang Estate Community Centre  
Lung Hang Estate, Sha Tin

Tai Po –

Tai Po Community Centre  
2 Heung Sze Wui Street, Tai Po

Tsuen Wan –

Lei Muk Shue Community Hall  
G/F, Hong Shue House, Lei Muk Shue Estate, Tsuen Wan

Tuen Mun –

Butterfly Bay Community Centre  
Butterfly Estate (near Tip Sum House), Tuen Mun

Yuen Long –

Long Ping Community Hall  
Long Ping Estate, Yuen Long

Yuen Long –

Tin Yiu Community Centre  
Tin Yiu Estate, Tin Shui Wai

In addition to the above heat shelters, a number of community halls/community centres can also be used for taking refuge from the heat during their operating hours. For their address details, please browse the following

document: [www.had.gov.hk/file\\_manager/en/documents/public\\_services/emergency\\_services/List\\_CH\\_CC\\_Day\\_E.pdf](http://www.had.gov.hk/file_manager/en/documents/public_services/emergency_services/List_CH_CC_Day_E.pdf).

---

**[Fraudulent website related to Bank](#)**

# Julius Baer & Co. Ltd.

The following is issued on behalf of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority:

The Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) wishes to alert members of the public to a press release issued by Bank Julius Baer & Co. Ltd. relating to a fraudulent website, which has been reported to the HKMA. A hyperlink to the press release is available on the [HKMA website](#).

The HKMA wishes to remind the public that banks will not send SMS or emails with embedded hyperlinks which direct them to the banks' websites to carry out transactions. They will not ask customers for sensitive personal information, such as login passwords or one-time password, by phone, email or SMS (including via embedded hyperlinks).

Anyone who has provided his or her personal information, or who has conducted any financial transactions, through or in response to the website concerned, should contact the bank using the contact information provided in the press release, and report the matter to the Police by contacting the Crime Wing Information Centre of the Hong Kong Police Force at 2860 5012.

---

## 16 persons arrested during anti-illegal worker operations (with photos)

The Immigration Department (ImmD) mounted a series of territory-wide anti-illegal worker operations codenamed "Twilight", and joint operations with the Hong Kong Police Force codenamed "Champion" and "Windsand", for four consecutive days from July 24 to yesterday (July 27). A total of 14 suspected illegal workers, one suspected employer and one suspected aider and abettor were arrested.

During operation "Twilight", ImmD Task Force officers raided 18 target locations including commercial buildings, a massage parlour, premises under renovation, restaurants and retail shops. Seven suspected illegal workers and one suspected employer were arrested. The arrested suspected illegal workers comprised two men and five women, aged 33 to 52. Among them, one woman was a holder of a recognisance form, which prohibits her from taking any employment. One man, aged 43, was suspected of employing the illegal workers and was also arrested.

During operation "Champion", enforcement officers raided 117 target locations in Central and Western districts, including a laundry, premises

under renovation and restaurants. Six suspected illegal workers and one suspected aider and abettor were arrested. The arrested suspected illegal workers comprised six women, aged 27 to 46. One woman, aged 74, who was suspected of aiding and abetting a person who breached the condition of stay in Hong Kong, was also arrested.

Furthermore, during operation "Windsand", one male Mainland visitor, aged 26, was arrested for breaching his condition of stay by being involved in suspected illegal parallel trading activities at Po Wan Road in Sheung Shui district. The goods mainly included cosmetics products and skincare products.

An ImmD spokesman said, "Any person who contravenes a condition of stay in force in respect of him or her shall be guilty of an offence. Also, visitors are not allowed to take employment in Hong Kong, whether paid or unpaid, without the permission of the Director of Immigration. Offenders are liable to prosecution and upon conviction face a maximum fine of \$50,000 and up to two years' imprisonment. Aiders and abettors are also liable to prosecution and penalties."

The spokesman warned, "As stipulated in section 38AA of the Immigration Ordinance, an illegal immigrant, a person who is the subject of a removal order or a deportation order, an overstayer or a person who was refused permission to land is prohibited from taking any employment, whether paid or unpaid, or establishing or joining in any business. Offenders are liable upon conviction to a maximum fine of \$50,000 and up to three years' imprisonment."

The spokesman reiterated that it is a serious offence to employ people who are not lawfully employable. Under the Immigration Ordinance, the maximum penalty for an employer employing a person who is not lawfully employable, i.e. an illegal immigrant, a person who is the subject of a removal order or a deportation order, an overstayer or a person who was refused permission to land, has been significantly increased from a fine of \$350,000 and three years' imprisonment to a fine of \$500,000 and 10 years' imprisonment to reflect the gravity of such offences. The director, manager, secretary, partner, etc, of the company concerned may also bear criminal liability. The High Court has laid down sentencing guidelines that the employer of an illegal worker should be given an immediate custodial sentence.

According to the court sentencing, employers must take all practicable steps to determine whether a person is lawfully employable prior to employment. Apart from inspecting a prospective employee's identity card, the employer has the explicit duty to make enquiries regarding the person and ensure that the answers would not cast any reasonable doubt concerning the lawful employability of the person. The court will not accept failure to do so as a defence in proceedings. It is also an offence if an employer fails to inspect the job seeker's valid travel document if the job seeker does not have a Hong Kong permanent identity card. Offenders are liable upon conviction to a maximum fine of \$150,000 and to imprisonment for one year. In that connection, the spokesman would like to remind all employers not to defy the law by employing illegal workers. The ImmD will continue to take resolute enforcement action to combat such offences.

Under the existing mechanism, the ImmD will, as a standard procedure, conduct an initial screening of vulnerable persons, including illegal workers, illegal immigrants, sex workers and foreign domestic helpers, who are arrested during any operation with a view to ascertaining whether they are trafficking in persons (TIP) victims. When any TIP indicator is revealed in the initial screening, the ImmD officers will conduct a full debriefing and identification by using a standardised checklist to ascertain the presence of TIP elements, such as threats and coercion in the recruitment phase and the nature of exploitation. Identified TIP victims will be provided with various forms of support and assistance, including urgent intervention, medical services, counselling, shelter or temporary accommodation and other supporting services. The ImmD calls on TIP victims to report crimes to the relevant departments immediately.

