

Company director sentenced to 240 hours' community service order for contravening Employment Ordinance

A director of CIL Holdings Limited was prosecuted by the Labour Department (LD) for violation of the Employment Ordinance (EO). The director pleaded guilty earlier and was sentenced at the Kowloon City Magistrates' Courts today (December 18) to a community service order of 240 hours.

The company failed to pay an employee, in accordance with the requirement of the EO, wages totalling about \$1.05 million within seven days after the expiry of the wage periods and termination of employment contract. The company also failed to pay another employee the awarded sum of about \$750,000 within 14 days after the date set by the Labour Tribunal (LT). The director concerned was prosecuted and convicted for his consent, connivance or neglect in the above offences committed by the company.

"The judgment will disseminate a strong message to all employers, directors and responsible officers of companies that they have to pay wages to employees within a statutory time limit stipulated in the EO, as well as the sums awarded by the LT or the Minor Employment Claims Adjudication Board," a spokesman for the LD said.

"The LD will not tolerate these offences and will spare no effort in enforcing the law and safeguarding employees' statutory rights," the spokesman added.