

# Company fined for illegal club operation

A company was fined \$7,500 at the Eastern Magistrates' Courts today (November 26) for contravening the Clubs (Safety of Premises) Ordinance.

The courts heard that in June last year, officers from the Office of the Licensing Authority (OLA) of the Home Affairs Department conducted an inspection at a club on Wyndham Street in Central which had been operating with a certificate of compliance (CoC).

OLA officers posed as customers and patronised the club for food without being asked to show their membership status or being invited to join the club as members. Also, the club's staff failed to show a copy of the certificate of fire service installation and equipment, and the registered drawing upon the OLA officers' request. Conditions 10, 17 and 19 of the CoC were breached.

The company, being the CoC holder of the club, was charged with contravening section 21(2) of the Ordinance.

A spokesman for the department reminded all CoC holders to comply with the conditions as stipulated therein. Enforcement action will continue to be taken against illegal club operations.