

# Employer and occupier of premises fined for contravening labour legislation

Studiosanz Company Limited and Engineering Impact Limited were fined \$132,000 and \$220,000 respectively at Kowloon City Magistrates' Courts today (November 15). Studiosanz Company Limited violated the Occupational Safety and Health Ordinance (OSH) and the Employees' Compensation Ordinance (ECO), whereas Engineering Impact Limited violated the OSH. The prosecutions were launched by the Labour Department (LD).

The case involved two accidents that occurred in connection with a concert held in July 2022 at the Hong Kong Coliseum, Hung Hom. During a concert rehearsal on July 25, 2022, a dancer fell off the stage into a void and was injured. On July 28, 2022, two dancers were hit and injured by a display panel that fell from height during a stage performance of the concert.

The LD hopes that the judgement will send a strong message to other duty holders that they are required to protect employees' occupational safety and health (OSH), give notice of any accident to the Commissioner for Labour and take out employees' compensation insurance policies for their employees in accordance with the law. The LD safeguards OSH and statutory employment rights and benefits of all employees in Hong Kong. The LD does not tolerate such offences and spares no effort in prosecuting employers/occupiers of premises who defy the law.

The LD stresses that employers and occupiers of premises are required to take adequate OSH precautions pursuant to relevant provisions under the OSH law. The ECO stipulates that employers should give notice of accidents to the Commissioner for Labour in the prescribed form within the statutory time limit, and that employers are required to take out employees' compensation insurance policies for all their employees to cover the liabilities of employers under the laws (including the common law) for injuries at work.