

Employer fined \$50,000 for contravening Employment Ordinance

An employer was prosecuted by the Labour Department (LD) under the Employment Ordinance (EO) for failing to pay an employee's wages and defaulting the sums awarded by the Labour Tribunal (LT). The employer pleaded guilty at Kowloon City Magistrates' Courts today (October 12) and was fined a total of \$50,000. The employer was also ordered to pay an outstanding sum of \$8,800 via the court to the employee.

The employer failed to pay the employee's wages of \$8,800 within seven days after the termination of employment as required by the EO. As well, the employer failed to pay the employee the awarded sum within 14 days after the date set by the LT in accordance with the requirement of the EO.

"The ruling helps disseminate a strong message to all employers that they have to pay employees' wages within the time limit stipulated in the EO and awarded sums according to the awards of the LT or the Minor Employment Claims Adjudication Board," a spokesman for the LD said.

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"The LD will not tolerate these offences and will continue to make a dedicated effort in enforcing the law and safeguarding employees' statutory rights," the spokesman added.