

## FEHD raids fresh provision shop suspected of selling frozen meat as fresh meat (with photo)

In a blitz operation today (September 27), the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) raided a licensed fresh provision shop (FPS) at Lei Muk Shue Shopping Centre, Lei Muk Shue Estate, Tsuen Wan, suspected of selling frozen meat as fresh meat.

FEHD officers marked and sealed about 179 kilograms of suspected frozen beef at the licensed FPS for further investigation. One beef sample was collected for testing of preservatives. Prosecution will be initiated if sufficient evidence is collected. During the operation, the FEHD also initiated prosecution against the licensee of the FPS for suspected violation of the Food Business Regulation regarding cleanliness of equipment, and issued verbal warnings to the licensee for non-compliance with the relevant licensing condition.

A spokesman for the FEHD said, "Anyone selling chilled or frozen meat without permission commits an offence and is liable to a maximum fine of \$50,000 and six months' imprisonment on conviction. The department will continue to closely monitor the sale of fresh meat at the retail level and take stringent enforcement action to safeguard food safety and public health. Moreover, if FPSs are found in breach of the licensing condition for the sale of chilled or frozen meat as fresh meat, the department will consider cancellation of their licences."

