Press release: Kebab shop owner disqualified for employing illegal workers

Amjid Ali Maqbool Hussain, the director of Madina Kebab House Limited in Peterborough, has been disqualified for six years for failing to comply with its statutory obligations under the Immigration, Asylum and Nationality Act of 2006.

The disqualification, from 21 February 2017, prevents Mr Hussain from directly or indirectly becoming involved in the promotion, formation or management of a company until February 2023.

Mr Hussain's disqualification follows an investigation by the Insolvency Service which found he had failed to ensure relevant immigration checks were completed and documents retained, resulting in the employment of four illegal workers and which resulted in a penalty notice of £60,000 being issued by the Home Office.

Madina Kebab House Limited was placed into Liquidation on 18 December 2015, with an estimated deficiency to creditors in excess of £66,000.

Robert Clarke, Senior Investigator, said:

The Insolvency Service rigorously pursues directors who fail to pay fines imposed by the government for breaking employment and immigration laws. We have worked closely in this case with our colleagues at the Home Office to achieve this disqualification.

The director sought an unfair advantage over his competitors by employing individuals who did not have the right to work in the UK in breach of his duties as a director.

The public has a right to expect that those who break the law will face the consequences. Running a limited company, means you have statutory obligations as well as protections. If you fail to comply with your obligations then the Insolvency Service will investigate you.

A Home Office spokesperson said:

Illegal working is not victimless. It undercuts honest employers, cheats legitimate job seekers out of employment opportunities and defrauds the taxpayer.

Businesses should be aware that they have a duty to check that

their staff have permission to work in the UK.

We are happy to work with employers who play by the rules but those who do not should know that they will not go under our radar.

Mr Hussain's date of birth is 13 June 1978 and he resides in Peterborough.

Madina Kebab House Limited (CRO No. 08110208) was incorporated on 19 June 2012 and latterly traded as a takeaway from 65 Galdstone Street, Peterborough, PE1 2BN.

Mr Hussain was a director from 19 June 2012 to Liquidation. The Company went into Creditors Voluntary Liquidation on 18 December 2015 with an estimated deficiency of £66,244.

A disqualification order has the effect that without specific permission of a court, a person with a disqualification cannot:

- act as a director of a company
- take part, directly or indirectly, in the promotion, formation or management of a company or limited liability partnership
- be a receiver of a company's property

Disqualification undertakings are the administrative equivalent of a disqualification order but do not involve court proceedings.

Persons subject to a disqualification order are bound by a <u>range of other</u> <u>restrictions</u>.

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