

Weston-Super-Mare woman convicted of making a fraudulent claim

Press release

Lisa Pearce prosecuted by the Security Industry Authority (SIA), pleads guilty to fraud at Bristol Crown Court.



Security Industry Authority

On 18 December 2020, Lisa Pearce of Weston-Super-Mare pleaded guilty to fraud at Bristol Crown Court; Pearce's sentence was 180-hours of unpaid work which must be completed within two years. Pearce was prosecuted by the Security Industry Authority (SIA).

Pearce was formerly an SIA licensed Door Supervisor and her licence expired on 7 August 2018.

She applied for a new licence on 3 February 2019 and there was a delay in processing Pearce's licence application.

Pearce received her licence on 21 August 2019 and the SIA returned her application fee and advised her about the compensation for a loss of earnings. Pearce made a claim against the SIA for the loss of earnings during the period. Applicants have the right to seek compensation if there is a delay to their application. The SIA will consider a request for compensation for loss of earnings, if a claim is justified and legitimate.

The SIA requested Pearce to submit evidence of the loss of earnings by proving her historic earnings as a security operative. The documents Pearce submitted aroused the SIA's suspicions, it sought to verify the documents with her employer but was unable to.

Pearce submitted documents and payslips for the following amounts:

- November 2018 – £1,379.50
- December 2018 – £1,379.50
- January 2019 – £1,286.50

On 30 August 2019 Pearce was interviewed under caution and admitted that she

had downloaded template payslips from the internet and completed them to use as an illustration and admitted creating fraudulent articles.

Nathan Salmon, from the SIA's Criminal Investigations team, said:

Lisa Pearce sought to defraud the SIA by providing false documents. Licensees have a right to compensation if there is a case, but if there is an attempt to defraud, then the SIA will prosecute. Pearce tried to gain financially from her loss of earnings claim by supplying fraudulent wage slips. Pearce had her door supervisor's licence suspended by the SIA pending the outcome of the prosecution. She has now lost that licence due to her criminal record.

During the prosecution, His Honour Julian Lambert, said in his sentencing remarks:

Pearce's decision to make the false claim for loss of earnings to the SIA was a stupid one. Her lies have caught up with her and now she must pay the price. That price is the loss of a job that she loved and the means to support herself.

Notes to editors:

- by law, security operatives working under contract must hold and display a valid SIA licence
- [read about SIA enforcement and penalties](#)
- the offence mentioned in the above news release is: Fraud Act 2006: Section 7 (Making or supplying articles for use in frauds)

Further information:

- The Security Industry Authority is the organisation responsible for regulating the private security industry in the United Kingdom, reporting to the Home Secretary under the terms of the Private Security Industry Act 2001. Our main duties are: the compulsory licensing of individuals undertaking designated activities; and managing the voluntary Approved Contractor Scheme.
- For further information about the Security Industry Authority visit www.gov.uk/sia. The SIA is also on [Facebook](#) (Security Industry Authority) and [Twitter](#) (SIAuk).

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Change of British High Commissioner to Rwanda: Omar Daair

Press release

Mr Omar Daair has been appointed British High Commissioner to the Republic of Rwanda in succession to Ms Joanne Lomas.



Mr Omar Daair has been appointed British High Commissioner to the Republic of Rwanda in succession to Ms Joanne Lomas who will be transferring to another Diplomatic Service appointment. Mr Daair will take up his appointment during July 2021.

Curriculum Vitae

Full name: Omar Talal Ali Daair

Year	Role
2019 to 2020	Department for International Development (DFID), Head of Europe Department
2018 to 2019	FCO/DFID, Private Secretary to the Minister for Africa
2017	Cabinet Office, Senior Policy Adviser, National Security Capabilities Review, National Security Secretariat
2014 to 2016	FCO, Deputy Head, Africa (East and West) Department
2011 to 2014	Washington, First Secretary – Africa, UN and Conflict issues
2010 to 2011	Juba, Head of British Embassy Office
2008 to 2010	FCO, Head of NATO policy team
2005 to 2008	Khartoum, Senior Political Officer and Head of Press
2004 to 2005	Full-time Language Training (Arabic)
2002 to 2003	FCO, Desk Officer, Southern European Department

All the latest news is available on the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office page of the [gov.uk website](https://www.gov.uk).

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Ban for takeaway boss who hid sales to avoid tax

Yue Chang Dai (56), from Dartford, Kent, was the sole director of Good View Da Ltd. The company was incorporated in April 2016 and traded as the Good View takeaway on Watling Street in Dartford.

Good View Da, however, was unable to pay its debts and the company was placed into creditors voluntary liquidation in October 2019 before Yue Chang Dai's conduct was referred to the Insolvency Service for further enquiries.

Investigators found that Yue Chang Dai had deliberately concealed the true amount of take away orders to avoid paying tax worth just under £265,000.

In total at liquidation, Yue Chang Dai owed the tax authorities almost £364,000, including penalties and interest.

On 21 December, the Secretary of State accepted a disqualification undertaking from Yue Chang Dai after he did not dispute that he failed to ensure that Good View Da Ltd submitted accurate tax returns by suppressing the business's turnover.

Effective from 11 January 2021, Yue Chang Dai's is banned for 7 years from directly or indirectly becoming involved, without the permission of the court, in the promotion, formation or management of a company.

Lawrence Zussman, Deputy Director of Insolvent Investigations for the Insolvency Service, said:

From the very start of trading, Yue Chang Dai deliberately suppressed takings with the sole intention of avoiding paying the correct amount of taxes.

He thought he could walk away from his responsibilities without repercussions but instead Yue Chang Dai's actions means he has been disqualified from the catering industry and the wider business environment for a significant period.

Yue Chang Dai's date of birth is December 1964.

Good View Da Ltd (Company Reg no. 10119008).

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 [range of other restrictions](#).

Further information about the work of the Insolvency Service, and how to complain about financial misconduct, is [available](#).

You can also follow the Insolvency Service on:

[HMRC issues record £23.8m fine for money laundering breaches](#)

Today (7 January 2021), HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC) published the latest [list of businesses](#) handed fines for breaching strict regulations aimed at preventing criminals from laundering illicit cash.

The list includes money transfer company MT Global Limited, which has been handed the largest ever fine issued by HMRC, for significant breaches of the regulations between July 2017 and December 2019 relating to:

- risk assessments and associated record-keeping
- policies, controls and procedures
- fundamental customer due diligence measures

Nick Sharp, Deputy Director of Economic Crime, Fraud Investigation Service, HMRC, said:

Businesses who fail to comply with the money laundering regulations leave themselves, and the UK economy, open to attacks by criminals.

Money laundering is not a victimless crime. Criminals use laundered cash to fund serious organised crime, from drug importation to child sexual exploitation, human trafficking and even terrorism.

We're here to help businesses protect themselves from those who would prey on their services. That includes taking action against the minority who fail to meet their legal obligations under the regulations as this record fine clearly shows.

HMRC supervises more than 30,000 businesses across the UK, including 1,500 principal money service businesses (MSBs), and helps these firms protect themselves from criminals who seek to launder cash or finance terrorism.

Webinars, guidance and e-learning is available here to help guide and educate businesses on their money laundering responsibilities.

HMRC works closely with partner law enforcement agencies and government departments to reduce the criminal abuse of the sector through tightened registration, greater understanding of the risks, and joint periods of

concerted action focussing on those MSBs at greatest risk of being used by organised crime.

In 2019 to 2020 HMRC completed 2,000 interventions on supervised businesses, issued penalties totalling £9.1 million and stopped 89 non-compliant businesses and individuals from trading. It also recouped over £166 million from the proceeds of crime, of which more than £22 million was linked to money laundering offences – sending a very clear message that crime doesn't pay.

Further information

In accordance with our responsibilities under the Money Laundering Regulations (MLRs) 2017, HMRC publishes details of businesses failing to comply with the MLRs who have received a penalty.

Money laundering is the process through which criminals disguise the criminal origin of money and assets they earned through criminal activity. [Anti-money laundering guidance for MSBs is available on GOV.UK](#)

Serious and organised crime costs the UK billions of pounds every year and HMRC's anti-money laundering supervision is a vital tool in combatting that. Money laundering regulations are in place to prevent criminals benefitting from the proceeds of crime and to help tackle money laundering/terrorist financing, human trafficking, drugs, prostitution and other organised crime.

Using a range of civil penalties and prosecutions, HMRC responds effectively to businesses who fail to comply with the money laundering regulations.

Last year, HMRC announced a £7.8 million fine against a London MSB that ignored anti-money laundering regulations. HMRC, Metropolitan Police (MPS) and Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) also carried out a [month-long crackdown in July 2019 on MSBs](#) at risk of being used for money laundering to fund organised crime.

HMRC has a range of enforcement powers that it can use for businesses who do not comply with the money laundering regulations, including civil penalties, criminal proceedings and removal from the register. Any of these sanctions can be used in combination. HMRC can:

- issue a financial penalty
- issue a censuring statement
- impose a suspension on management of a relevant business upon a person
- impose a prohibition on management of a relevant business upon a person
- suspend a registration
- cancel a registration
- decide a relevant person in a business is no longer fit and proper, which will lead to either suspension or prohibition on management, or suspension or cancellation of the business' registration
- obtain a court injunction
- refer a case for criminal investigation and potential prosecution

HMRC supervises around 1,500 principal MSBs, which together have 31,000 operating premises.

The number of operating MSBs supervised by HMRC has fallen by 19 per cent since August 2017, mostly due to continuing action to tackle the use of MSBs for the laundering of dirty money. However, the government recognises the majority of MSBs are compliant with money laundering regulations.

Information about [money service business guidance for money laundering supervision](#) is available on GOV.UK.

HMRC promotes help and education for those businesses that need it, including webinars, e-learning and guidance. These activities enable us to educate a larger audience than could be covered by traditional visits or events.

[Recordings of these webinars](#) can be found on GOV.UK.

The UK was rated as having the most robust processes in the world for tackling money laundering by the Financial Action Task Force in its last UK report and HMRC has played a key part in that.

Letter to Commissioners for Domestic Abuse and Victims about coronavirus (COVID-19)

[unable to retrieve full-text content]The Home Secretary, Priti Patel, writes to the Domestic Abuse Commissioner and the Victims Commissioner about the government response to COVID-19.