



Press release from the Administrative Enforcement Agency (AEA), Ministry of Justice

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AEA gives priority to the enforcement of the cases of epidemic regulation violations to safeguard the health of the public

The global epidemic of Covid-19 is still severe. In order to safeguard the health of the public in Taiwan, CECC announced that the Level 3 epidemic alert will be extended again. As a member of Team Taiwan against the epidemic, AEA will continue to enhance enforcement to demonstrate the strong determination of the government against the violation of relevant regulations. AEA will not let the reckless actions of a few people create any breach during the epidemic prevention period.

AEA pointed out that during the period of Level 3 alert, each branch will actively enforce with non-contact methods, such as seizing account against the cases violating the epidemic prevention regulations. The enforcement officer will enforce on-site only in an urgent or necessary circumstance, and all officers will implement quarantine and epidemic prevention measures before such enforcement. For example, an obligor Tsai, who returned to Taiwan from China, was fined NTD 100,000 for taking out garbage. He did not pay the fine and then left the country and went to China on February 14. After his case was referred for enforcement on April 15, Shilin Branch seized the obligor's mansion located in Tianmu on April 19. After receiving the notice, the obligor Tsai finally asked his friend to transfer the amount owed on April 26 to pay off the fine. An obligor Wang, who lived in New Taipei City, did not provide a COVID-19 RT-PCR test report when returning to the country, and also went out on the first day of home quarantine period without authorization. The CDC and the Department of Health of New Taipei City Government each fined him NTD 10,000 and NTD 200,000. The cases were referred for enforcement at the end of April and the beginning of May. After investigation, Taipei Branch found that the financial status of the obligor Wang was quite resourceful, thus seized his deposits on May 7, and collected the full amount of the fine for the treasury on May 27. The obligor Huang, who lived in Hualien

County, returned to Taiwan by plane from New York in August 2020. He did not wear a mask in accordance with the regulations in the flight. After the flight crew told him repeatedly, he still did not put on his mask. CDC fined him NTD 3,000 and referred his case at the end of this April. After accepting the case, Hualien Branch immediately seized his deposits on April 28 and collected the payment of fines. This was the first enforcement case in Hualien and Taitung that was fined for not wearing masks. In addition, Nantou County Government found that a spa & massage clinic was still operating illegally during the period of Level 3 epidemic prevention alert, and fined NTD 300,000 against the responsible person Chou. The case was referred to the Changhua Branch for enforcement on June 15. After receiving the case, Changhua Branch instructed to enforce immediately, and collected NTD 300,000 from the bank account of the responsible person Chou within 24 hours. An obligor Wang, who lived in Huwei Township, Yunlin County, did not provide a COVID-19 RT-PCR test report when returning to the country from Japan on January 8, and also did not complete the application for entry quarantine affidavit. His action had constituted an action of refusing, avoiding or hindering the quarantine or measures implemented by the competent authority. He was fined NTD 10,000 and the case were referred for enforcement. Chiayi branch had notified the obligor to pay after accepting the case at the end of February, but the obligor ignored the notice of payment. Chiayi branch seized the bank deposit NTD 10,000 of the obligor and collected the full amount on February 25. A French citizen, Mr. N, was fined NTD 100,000 for going out during the home quarantine period. He failed to pay the fine in time and his case was referred to enforcement on January 21. The Yilan branch found that the obligor's duration of stay in Taiwan would expire soon, then the Branch imposed a restriction on leaving the country against him to prevent him leaving the country to avoid paying the fine. The branch found that Mr. N was working part-time in Beitou District, Taipei City. The Yilan Branch contacted Shilin Branch to help to enforce at the workplace of Mr. N. The obligor stated that he might misunderstood the regulations related to quarantine period due to language difference. He would like to pay the fine in 5 installment, each installment would be NTD20,000. The fine was paid off on June 5. An obligor Tsai, who traveled to Cambodia, was fined NTD 300,000 for going out for 15 hours during the home quarantine period, his case was referred for enforcement in November 2020 for failing to pay in time. After investigation, Kaohsiung Branch found that the obligor Tsai had 2 real properties and 1 Mercedes-Benz automobile. The real properties were seized and preserved on December 15, but the Mercedes-Benz automobile was not found after many

visits, and the deposits of the obligor were insufficient to pay off the fine owed. Kaohsiung Branch notified the obligor Tsai to the office of the Branch to explain the situation. However, the obligor did not show up in time, so the Branch imposed a restriction on leaving the country in accordance with law on this January 26. After the obligor Tsai paid off the fine on May 17 in cash, Kaohsiung Branch lifted the restriction on leaving the country and revoked the seizure immediately. A college student Hsieh, who entered the country from Japan on September 3, 2020. She was fined NTD 200,000 for going to school on the last day of the home quarantine period due to a misunderstanding of the home quarantine regulations. Although she filed an administrative appeal against the punishment, the enforcement would not be stayed in accordance with law. The case was referred to New Taipei Branch by the Department of Health, New Taipei City Government for enforcement in February. The college student Hsieh was imposed a restriction on leaving the country because she did not have any property registered under her name. The college student Hsieh had to go to Japan to visit her relatives, and also was willing to accept the punishment, so she paid NTD 100,000 with cash and NTD 100,000 by credit card on June 24. Soon after, the New Taipei Branch lifted the restrictions on leaving the country. There was also an obligor Cheng, who entered the country from Macau on April 27, who was fined NTD 600,000 for leaving the quarantine residence without reasons multiple times. After the case was referred to Tainan Branch, the Branch inspected his property immediately and found the obligor's house located in East District, vehicles and bank account. The Branch seized those properties immediately, then the obligor Cheng paid off the fine of NTD 600,000 in cash on July 6.

AEA specifically urges that during the severe epidemic, all citizens of Taiwan are on the same boat, everyone shall fully follow the epidemic prevention regulations. AEA and its branches will continue to give priority to enforcements against cases of violating home quarantine and home isolation regulations or not wearing masks. AEA urges that the obligor should not take a chance with not paying the fine; if the obligor has financial difficulties, the obligor may contact the officer in charge of the branch by telephone. Depend on the specific situation of the obligor, the branch may adopt lenient enforcement measures or provide care referral services to help the obligor get through the tough period. In addition, AEA has noticed all branches not to seized the relief fund or relief loan of the obligor; if the obligor claims that the amount seized is the relief fund or relief loan, the branch shall inspect immediately; if the branch finds that the amount seized is indeed the relief fund or relief

loan, the seizure shall be revoked as soon as possible and return the amount to the obligor.



(Shilin Branch seized the obligor's mansion located in Tianmu)



(Taipei Branch issued a seizure order to seize the deposit of the obligor)



(Changhua Branch enforced at the business location of the obligor)



(Yilan Branch's enforcement officer and clerk in charge explained the case to the French man in English and communicated the matters related to payment with him)



(Kaohsiung Branch enforced at the residence of the obligor)