



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**HEALTH SCIENCES AUTHORITY  
PRESS RELEASE  
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## **HSA SUSPENDS LICENCES OF TEN RETAILERS WHO SOLD TOBACCO TO UNDER-AGED PERSONS**

From August 2019 to June 2020, the Health Sciences Authority (HSA) suspended the licences of 10 tobacco retailers who sold cigarettes to persons under the Minimum Legal Age<sup>1</sup> (MLA). The retailers sold to youths who were aged 18 years or below. They were caught via HSA's ground surveillance and enforcement activities to deter the illegal sale of tobacco products to under-aged persons. (Please refer to Annex A for the list of retailers and photos.)

### **Retail Licences Suspended**

2 HSA suspended the retail licences of 10 outlets after the operators were caught selling to under-aged persons for the first time. The outlets are:

<b>Name of Retail Outlet</b>	<b>Address</b>
Teo Chuan Hoe & Co	7 Jalan Bukit Merah
Ramiyaa S Maarketing Pte Ltd	498A Tampines Street 45
Rahmaniya Grocery	543 Bedok North Street 3
XinYuYang Pte Ltd	84 Bedok North Street 4
Wah Chiang Telecommunication	49 Stirling Road
Fortune	731 Yishun Street 72
Eng Seng Coffee Stall	221B Boon Lay Place
Tawfiqa Trading Pte Ltd	932B Hougang Avenue 9
Guru Brothers Trading and Supermart Pte Ltd	423 Hougang Avenue 6
Express Avenue	58 Marine Terrace

3 These affected outlets are not allowed to sell tobacco products during the six-month suspension period.

### **Reminder to Retailers**

4 HSA takes a stern approach towards errant retailers and will not hesitate to take prosecution actions against them. Tobacco retail licensees are reminded that they are responsible for all transactions of tobacco products taking place at their outlets, as well

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<sup>1</sup> The MLA applies to persons under 19 years old in 2019 and 20 years old in 2020.

as the actions of their employees. Sellers take the risk of contravening the laws if they assess age by mere physical appearance of the buyer.

5 All tobacco retail licensees are reminded to educate their employees on the law pertaining to the sale of tobacco products and for sellers to verify the age of those who wish to buy tobacco products. The MLA to use, possess or buy tobacco products has been **raised to 20 years with effect from 1 January 2020**, and it will be raised to 21 years with effect from 1 January 2021.

6 Under the Tobacco (Control of Advertisements and Sale) Act, anyone caught selling tobacco products to persons below the MLA is liable, on conviction in Court, to a maximum fine of up to \$5,000 for the first offence and up to \$10,000 for the second or subsequent offence. In addition, the tobacco retail licence will be suspended for six months for the first offence and revoked for the second offence. However, if any outlet is found selling tobacco products to **under-aged persons in school uniform or those below 12 years of age**, the tobacco retail licence will **be revoked**, even at the first offence. From 2015 to June 2020, 102 tobacco retail licences were suspended and 16 were revoked by HSA.

7 In accordance with the licence application criteria, any person who commits an offence of selling tobacco to a person under the MLA will not be eligible to apply for a tobacco retail licence.

8 Members of the public can view the updated List of Suspended / Revoked Tobacco Retailers [here](#).

9 HSA encourages members of the public who have information on the illegal sale or supply of tobacco products to under-aged persons to report to the Tobacco Regulation Branch via this [online form](#) or call Tel: 66842036 or 66842037 during office hours (9:00am to 5:30pm, Monday to Friday).

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### **About the Health Sciences Authority (HSA)**

The Health Sciences Authority (HSA) applies medical, pharmaceutical and scientific expertise through its three professional groups, Health Products Regulation, Blood Services and Applied Sciences, to protect and advance national health and safety. HSA is a multidisciplinary authority. It serves as the national regulator for health products, ensuring they are wisely regulated to meet standards of safety, quality and efficacy. As the national blood service, it is responsible for providing a safe and adequate blood supply. It also applies specialised scientific, forensic, investigative and analytical capabilities in serving the administration of

justice. For more details, visit <http://www.hsa.gov.sg/>.

For more updates on public health and safety matters, follow us on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/HSAsg](http://www.twitter.com/HSAsg).

### **About HSA's Health Products Regulation Group**

The Health Products Regulation Group (HPRG) of HSA ensures that drugs, innovative therapeutics, medical devices and health-related products are wisely regulated and meet appropriate safety, quality and efficacy standards. It contributes to the development of biomedical sciences in Singapore by administering a robust, scientific and responsive regulatory framework.

## HSA SUSPENDS LICENCES OF TEN RETAILERS WHO SOLD TOBACCO TO UNDER-AGED PERSONS

**Table 1 – List of Errant Tobacco Retailers**

<b><u>Licences Suspended</u></b>			
<b>S/N</b>	<b>Name of Retail Outlet</b>	<b>Address of Retail Outlet</b>	<b>Suspension period (6 months)</b>
1	Teo Chuan Hoe & Co	7 Jalan Bukit Merah, #01-4426, Singapore 150007	From 1 Aug 2019 to 31 Jan 2020
2	Ramiyaa S Maarketing Pte Ltd	498A Tampines Street 45, #01-360, Singapore 520498	From 4 Aug 2019 to 3 Feb 2020
3	Rahmaniya Grocery	543 Bedok North Street 3, #01-1318, Singapore 540543	From 13 Aug 2019 to 12 Feb 2020
4	XinYuYang Pte Ltd	84 Bedok North Street 4, #01-67B, Singapore 460084	From 13 Aug 2019 to 12 Feb 2020
5	Wah Chiang Telecommunication	49 Stirling Road, #01-495, Singapore 141049	From 8 Nov 2019 to 7 May 2020

6	Fortune	731 Yishun Street 72, #01-51, Nee Soon Central Vista, Singapore 760731	From 7 Sep 2019 to 6 Mar 2020
7	Eng Seng Coffee Stall	221B Boon Lay Place, #01- 103, Singapore 642221	From 12 Oct 2019 to 11 Apr 2020
8	Tawfiqa Trading Pte Ltd	932B Hougang Avenue 9, #01- 03, Singapore 532532	From 12 Oct 2019 to 11 Apr 2020
9	Guru Brothers Trading and Supermart Pte Ltd	423 Hougang Avenue 6, #01- K1, Singapore 530423	From 29 Feb 2020 to 28 Aug 2020
10	Express Avenue	58 Marine Terrace #01-43 Singapore 440058	From 7 Mar 2020 to 6 Sep 2020

Photographs of the 10 Errant Tobacco Retailers (as listed in Table 1)



Teo Chuan Hoe & Co at 7 Jalan  
Bukit Merah



Ramiyaa S Maarketing Pte Ltd at 498A  
Tampines Street 45



Rahmaniya Grocery at 543 Bedok  
North Street 3



XinYuYang Pte Ltd at 84 Bedok  
North Street 4



Wah Chiang Telecommunication at 49  
Stirling Road



**Fortune at 731 Yishun Street 72**



**Eng Seng Coffee Stall at 221B  
Boon Lay Place**



**Tawfiqa Trading Pte Ltd at 932B  
Hougang Avenue 9**



**Guru Brothers Trading and Supermart Pte Ltd  
at 423 Hougang Avenue 6**



**Express Avenue at 58 Marine Terrace**