

Money service operator convicted of operating without licence

A woman was fined \$10,000 today (March 5) at West Kowloon Magistrates' Courts for operating a money service without a valid licence.

Acting on information, officers of Customs and Excise Department (C&ED) found that the woman had operated the money service between April 5 and October 7, 2016, without a licence from the Commissioner of Customs and Excise.

Under the Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorist Financing Ordinance, a person who wishes to operate a remittance and/or money changing service is required to apply for a licence from the C&ED. Any person who operates a money service without a valid licence commits an offence. The maximum penalty upon conviction is a fine of \$100,000 and imprisonment for six months.

Members of the public may report any suspected unlicensed money service operation to the Customs 24-hour hotline 2545 6182.