



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**HEALTH SCIENCES AUTHORITY
PRESS RELEASE
12 APRIL 2017**

HSA SUSPENDS THE LICENCES OF NINE RETAILERS FOR SELLING TOBACCO TO MINORS

The Health Sciences Authority (HSA) has suspended the tobacco retail licences of nine errant tobacco retailers who sold tobacco products to minors under 18 years of age. They were caught via HSA's ground surveillance and enforcement activities to deter the illegal sale of tobacco products to under-18 minors. (Please refer to Annex A for the list of retailers and photos.)

2 All nine sellers did not ask for any form of identification to check the buyers' age. They had claimed that they were either busy or that the minors looked older than they were. Sellers are reminded that they take the risk of contravening the laws if they assess age by mere physical appearance of the buyer.

Retail Licences Suspended

3 All nine outlets were caught selling cigarettes to under-18 minors for the first time. The outlets are Everyday Come Coffee Shop at 477 Tampines Street 43, Mini Mart @ 476 Pte Ltd at 476 Tampines Street 44, JS Minimart at 950 Jurong West Street 91, Shafen Supermarket at 424 Bukit Batok West Avenue 2, Rainbow Mart at 806 Woodlands Street 81, Kurinji Stores at 350 Bukit Batok Street 34, Chuan Lee Fruit & Mini-Mart at 835 Tampines Street 83, Seng Yong Huat Minimart at 919 Hougang Avenue 4 and Sky Blue Trading located at 7 Jalan Batu. The suspension prohibits the errant retailers from selling tobacco products for six months.

Reminder to Retailers

4 HSA would like to remind tobacco retail licensees that they are responsible for all transactions of tobacco products taking place at their outlets, as well as the actions of their employees.

5 HSA urges all tobacco retail licensees to educate their employees on the law pertaining to the sale of tobacco products and for sellers to check the age of those who wish to buy tobacco products.

6 Under the Tobacco (Control of Advertisements and Sale) Act, anyone caught selling tobacco products to persons below the age of 18 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 6 months for the first offence and revoked for the second offence. However, if any outlet is found selling tobacco products to **under-18**

minors 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 date, 41 tobacco retail licences were suspended and 8 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 18 years of age 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](#).

Reminder to Members of the Public

9 HSA would also like to remind the public not to supply any tobacco products to under-18 minors. Anyone caught buying or acquiring any tobacco product for a person below the age of 18 years is liable, on conviction in Court, to a maximum fine of up to \$2,500 for the first offence and up to \$5,000 for the second or subsequent offence. Similarly, anyone caught giving or furnishing any tobacco product to a person below the age of 18 is liable, on conviction in Court, to a maximum fine of up to \$500 for the first offence and up to \$1,000 for the second or subsequent offence. From 2015 to date, 17 individuals have been caught for such offences.

10 HSA encourages members of the public who have information on the illegal sale of tobacco products to under-18 minors to call the Tobacco Regulation Branch at Tel: 66842036 or 66842037 during office hours.

**HEALTH SCIENCES AUTHORITY
SINGAPORE
12 APRIL 2017**

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.

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 NINE RETAILERS FOR SELLING TOBACCO TO MINORS

Table 1 – List of Errant Tobacco Retailers Caught Selling Tobacco to Under-18 Minors

S/N	Name of Retail Outlet	Address of Retail Outlet	Suspension period for retailer
1	Everyday Come Coffee Shop	477 Tampines Street 43, #01-190, Singapore 520477	18 Jan 2017 – 17 July 2017
2	Mini Mart @ 476 Pte Ltd	476 Tampines Street 44, #01-199 Singapore 520476	18 Jan 2017 – 17 July 2017
3	JS Minimart	950 Jurong West Street 91 #01-K1, Singapore 640950	15 Feb 2017 – 14 Aug 2017
4	Shafen Supermarket	424 Bukit Batok West Avenue 2, #01-239, Singapore 650424	15 Feb 2017 – 14 Aug 2017
5	Rainbow Mart	806 Woodlands Street 81 #01-01, Singapore 730806	24 Feb 2017 – 23 Aug 2017
6	Kurinji Stores	350 Bukit Batok Street 34, #01-K1, Singapore 650350	26 Feb 2017 - 25 Aug 2017

7	Chuan Lee Fruit & Mini-Mart	835 Tampines Street 83, #01-02, Singapore 520835	4 Mar 2017 – 3 Sep 2017
8	Seng Yong Huat Minimart	919 Hougang Avenue 4, #01-457, Singapore 530919	11 Mar 2017 to 10 Sep 2017
9	Sky Blue Trading	7 Jalan Batu, #01-97A, Singapore 431007	29 Mar 2017 to 28 Sep 2017

Photographs of Errant Tobacco Retailers Caught Selling Tobacco to Under-18 Minors (as listed in Table 1)



Everyday Come Coffee Shop



Mini Mart @ 476 Pte Ltd



JS Minimart



Shafen Supermarket



Rainbow Mart



Kuringi Stores



Chuan Lee Fruit & Mini-Mart



Seng Yong Huat Mini Mart



Sky Blue Trading