



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**HEALTH SCIENCES AUTHORITY
PRESS RELEASE
1 MARCH 2012**

HSA SUSPENDS / REVOKES ERRANT TOBACCO RETAILERS CAUGHT SELLING TOBACCO TO UNDERAGE YOUTH

The Health Sciences Authority (HSA) announces the suspension of tobacco licenses of 8 errant tobacco sellers for selling tobacco to underage youth and the revocation of the licence of 1 tobacco retailer. These offenders were prosecuted and convicted between September and December 2011 and the licences of the respective tobacco retail outlets (please refer to **Annex A**, S/n 1 to S/n 8) will be suspended for 6 months, from 1 March 2012 to 31 August 2012. The licence of one of the tobacco retailers will be revoked as the retail outlet's employee was caught for selling tobacco products to an underage youth in school uniform (please refer to **Annex A**, S/n 9).

2 HSA reminds all tobacco retailers that they are responsible for all transactions of tobacco products taking place at their outlets, as well as for the actions of their employees. 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 also 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 underage youth in school uniform or those below 12 years of age, the tobacco retail licence will immediately be revoked, even for the first offence.

3 HSA takes a serious view of the use and illegal sales of tobacco products to underage youth. We will enforce this prohibition stringently, so as to prevent the illegal sales of tobacco products to underage youth.

4 Members of the public can view the List of Suspended / Revoked Tobacco Retailers at:
http://www.hsa.gov.sg/publish/hsaportal/en/health_products_regulation/tobacco/Suspended_Licences.html.

5 HSA also encourages members of the public who have information on the illegal sales of tobacco products to underage youth to call the hotline of the Tobacco Regulation Branch at Tel: 66842036 or 66842037 during office hours.

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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, 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. It operates the national blood bank, Bloodbank@HSA, securing the nation's 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/>.

- **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.

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Table 1 – List of Errant Tobacco Retailers

S/N	Name of Retail Outlet	Address of Retail Outlet	Date of offence	Court actions against seller	Punishment for retailers
1	Best Cafeteria	530 Lorong 6 Toa Payoh #01-01 Toa Payoh Interchange	5-Jun-11	Fine of \$2,000	6 months suspension (1-Mar-12 to 31-Aug-12)
2	Sein Min Trading	214 Jurong East Street 21 #01-439	17-Jun-11	As above	As above
3	Everbest F&B Pte Ltd	445 Tampines Street 42 #01-14	8 Jul-11	As above	As above
4	Ang Chong Mini Mart	506 Pasir Ris Street 52 #01-189	9-Jul-11	As above	As above
5	Simei Fruits Trading	139 Simei Street 1 #01-14	12-Jul-11	As above	As above
6	Bedok Goodwill Store	79 Bedok North Road #01-256	17-Jul-11	As above	As above
7	K Ismail Zeenath Provision Supplier	10 Haig Road #01-369	8-Aug-11	As above	As above
8	Darusalam Store	419 Jurong West Street 42 #01-K1	11-Aug-11	As above	As above
9	Siraj & Haleem Kiosk	262 Yishun Street 22 #01-K1	4-Oct-11	As above	Revocation (from 1-Mar-12 onwards)