



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HEALTH SCIENCES AUTHORITY
PRESS RELEASE
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HSA SUSPENDS LICENCES OF NINE RETAILERS WHO SOLD 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.)

Retail Licences Suspended

2 All nine outlets were caught selling tobacco products to under-18 minors for the first time. The outlets are Guan Joo Seng Mini-Supermarket at 132 Bukit Batok West Avenue 6, 7-Eleven at 153 Serangoon North Avenue 1, SPH Buzz Pte Ltd at 11A Sembawang Vista, Rainbow Super Mart at 174D Hougang Avenue 1, 112 Mini Market at 112 Pending Road, Raajaa Mini Mart at 117 Bukit Batok West Avenue 6, Anba Pte Ltd at 845 Jurong West Street 81, K11 Minimart at 105 Bukit Batok Central and M28 Minimart at 182A Rivervale Crescent. The suspension will prohibit the errant retailers from selling tobacco products for six months.

Reminder to Retailers

3 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.

4 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.

5 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 2014 to date, 32 tobacco retail licences were suspended and 20 were revoked by HSA.

6 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.

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

Reminder to Members of the Public

8 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 2014 to date, 29 individuals have been caught for such offences.

9 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.

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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.

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.

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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	SPH Buzz Pte Ltd	Blk 11A Sembawang Vista Singapore 757527	14 th July 2016 to 13 th January 2017
2	Rainbow Super Mart	Blk 174D Hougang Avenue 1 #01-1615 Singapore 539174	18 th July 2016 to 17 th January 2017
3	Guan Joo Seng Mini— Supermarket	Blk 132 Bukit Batok West Avenue 6 #01-308 Singapore 650132	3 rd August 2016 to 2 nd February 2017
4	7-Eleven	Blk 153 Serangoon North Avenue 1 #01-546 Singapore 550153	3 rd August 2016 to 2 nd February 2017
5	112 Mini Market	Blk 112 Pending Road #01-120 Singapore 670112	11 th August 2016 to 10 th February 2017
6	Raajaa Mini Mart	Blk 117 Bukit Batok West Avenue 6 #01-K1 Singapore 650117	31 st August 2016 to 28 th February 2017

7	Anba Pte Ltd	Blk 845 Jurong West Street 81, #01-229 Singapore 640845	13 th September 2016 to 12 th March 2017
8	K11 Minimart	Blk 105 Bukit Batok Central #1-K1 Singapore 650105	14 th September 2016 to 13 th March 2017
9	M28 Minimart	Blk 182A Rivervale Crescent #01-02 Singapore 541182	29 th September 2016 to 28 th March 2017

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



Guan Joo Seng Mini-Supermarket



7-Eleven



SPH Buzz Pte Ltd



Rainbow Super Mart



112 Mini Market



Raajaa Mini Mart



Anba Pte Ltd



K11 Minimart



M28 Minimart