



Customs and Excise Department
香港海關

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Circular

**Circular to Money Service Operators
Enforcement News**

Woman fined for operating money service without licence

A woman was convicted at Kwun Tong Magistrates' Courts today (June 30) of operating money service without a valid licence and was fined \$25,000.

The woman was found offering remittance service to customers through an online auction website during a cyber patrol by the Customs and Excise Department ('C&ED'). Further investigation found that she had been operating remittance business between November 2015 and June 2016 without a licence from the Commissioner of Customs and Excise.

Under the Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorist Financing (Financial Institutions) Ordinance came into effect on April 1, 2012, a person who wishes to operate a remittance and/or money changing service is required to apply for a licence from C&ED. Any person who operates money service without a valid licence commits an offence. The maximum penalty on conviction is imprisonment for six months and a fine of \$100,000.

Members of the public are appealed to report any case of unlicensed money service operation by calling the Customs' 24-hour hotline 2545 6182.