

DBKL enforcement deputy director, assistant face bribery charges

SHAH ALAM: Kuala Lumpur City Hall (DBKL) deputy director of Enforcement Muhamad Irwan Abdullah and his assistant pleaded not guilty at the Sessions Court here yesterday to two charges of corruption.

Muhamad Irwan, 44, and assistant Zahari Muhammad, 34, entered their pleas after the charges were read before Judge Datuk Anita Harun.

They are accused of jointly soliciting RM200,000 and receiving RM160,000 monthly from a 62-year-old man as an inducement to refrain from taking enforcement action

against unlicensed entertainment premises under his supervision.

Muhamad Irwan also claimed trial to a third corruption charge, for allegedly receiving RM130,000 in cash from the same individual as a bribe to prevent enforcement action against unlicensed entertainment premises managed by the man.

The offences were allegedly committed at a restaurant in Puchong between February and June 5 of this year.

They were charged under Section 16(a)(A) of the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) Act 2009, which is

punishable by up to 20 years' imprisonment and a fine of not less than five times the value of the bribe or RM10,000, whichever is higher, upon conviction.

The judge ordered both accused to be released on RM15,000 bail each with the condition that they surrender their passports to the court, and set case mention for Sept 30. MACC deputy public prosecutor Muaz Ahmad Khairuddin appeared for the prosecution, while Muhamad Irwan and Zahari were represented by lawyers Mak Kah Keong and Ahmad Faiz Munawar, respectively. — Bernama