

# KL City Hall enforcement man fined RM13,000 for accepting bribe

**KUALA LUMPUR:** A Kuala Lumpur City Hall enforcement assistant was fined RM13,000 by the Sessions Court here yesterday after pleading guilty to five charges of accepting a total of RM1,200 in cash to protect premises operating under an "Ali Baba" licence.

Judge Azura Alwi meted out the sentence against Syahrul Riza Md Yusof, 42, after he pleaded guilty to accepting the cash from an individual whom he knew had a connection with his official duties.

All offences were committed at the Selayang Market here between 5pm and midnight, from Dec 27, 2022 to June 20, 2023.

Earlier, deputy public prosecutor Irna Julieza Maaras asked the court to impose a deterrent sentence to serve as a lesson to the accused, arguing that his actions in accepting bribes had tarnished City Hall's image and his own reputation.

"Corruption must be eradicated (and the deterrent sentence

would) reflect the court's seriousness in addressing this crime," she said.

However, Syahrul Riza, who was unrepresented, pleaded for a minimum fine, saying he supported his family and had a wife suffering from a urinary tract infection.

Meanwhile, City Hall enforcement department assistant officers Muhammad Syawal Riezqan Jauhar, 28, and Amran Mat Dali, 45, were also charged with the same offence for accepting RM4,800 and RM100, respectively, from the same individual for a similar purpose.

They pleaded not guilty. All offences were committed at the same location from 4.30pm to 2pm, between Oct 26, 2022, and Aug 15, 2023.

Irna Julieza and Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission prosecutor Afiqah Ab Razak prosecuted while lawyer Mohd Baharuddin Ahmad Kassim represented Amran.

Suzana set RM5,000 and RM6,000 bail against Amran and Syawal Riezqan, respectively.

It was reported that Ali Baba type businesses run by foreigners were popping up nationwide like "mushrooms after rain".

Continuous enforcement efforts by local councils also seemed to have no effect in deterring them.

MACC surveillance had revealed that various illegal activities in big cities nationwide were being protected by these authorities.

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**IRNA JULIEZA MAARAS**  
Deputy public prosecutor