

Company fined \$68,000 for contravening Employment Ordinance

Number 1 HONG KONG Bio-tech Limited was prosecuted by the Labour Department (LD) under the Employment Ordinance (EO) for failing to pay an employee's wages and defaulting on the sum awarded by the Labour Tribunal (LT). The company was convicted at Kowloon City Magistrates' Courts today (October 19) and fined a total of \$68,000. The company was also ordered to pay an outstanding sum of around \$14,000 via the court to the employee.

The company failed to pay the employee's wages within seven days after termination of employment as required by the EO. Also, the company failed to pay the employee the awarded sum of around \$14,000 within 14 days after the date set by the LT in accordance with the EO.

"The ruling helps disseminate a strong message to all employers that they have to pay employees wages within the time limit in accordance with the EO and the awarded sums of the LT or the Minor Employment Claims Adjudication Board," a spokesman for the LD said.

"The LD will not tolerate these offences and will continue to make dedicated efforts in enforcing the law and safeguarding employees' statutory rights," the spokesman added.