

Mainland pregnant woman jailed for making false representation

A Mainland woman was charged at the Sha Tin Magistrates' Courts with one count of making false representation to an immigration staff and sentenced to 14 months' imprisonment on November 27.

The 34-year-old defendant arrived in Hong Kong as a visitor and went to an Accident and Emergency Department for delivery without prior booking. Investigation revealed that the defendant was asked by an immigration staff member about her pregnancy status during arrival examination upon arrival at the Lo Wu Control Point and she claimed she was not pregnant. The defendant was subsequently charged with one count of making false representation to immigration staff on her pregnancy status. The defendant pleaded guilty to the charge and was sentenced to 14 months' imprisonment at the Sha Tin Magistrates' Court on November 27.

"Under the laws of Hong Kong, any person who makes false representation to an immigration officer commits an offence. Offenders are liable to prosecution and, upon conviction, subject to the maximum penalty of a fine of \$150,000 and imprisonment for 14 years," an Immigration Department spokesman said.