



**Press release from the Administrative Enforcement Agency (AEA), Ministry of Justice**

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**No holidays for epidemic prevention Safeguard Taiwan simultaneously Enhance enforcement simultaneously by all 13 branches of AEA for the second "special project against the overdue fines related to the violation of epidemic prevention regulations"**

In order to avoid a breach resulted from the lack of awareness of the public on epidemic prevention and exercise public power, AEA and its 13 branches continued to implement the "special project against the overdue fines related to the violation of epidemic prevention regulations" after Lunar New Year Holidays, and enhanced the enforcement implementation for the second time on February 23 simultaneously. The branches sent the executors to 95 different locations and made on-site enforcement against the people who refused to pay the fine related to the violation of epidemic prevention regulations. The measure implemented including seizures of 20 lands, 12 buildings, 5 automobiles, 2 motorcycles, and restricted 8 people from leaving the country. These measures fully demonstrated the government's determination to safeguard the success in epidemic prevention.

AEA stated that during the implementation of enforcing the fines of violating epidemic prevention projects, it discovered that some obligors were punished by the health protection authorities because they acted at their discretion and ignored the epidemic prevention regulations. For example, an obligor of Changhua Branch, Li, did not return to the home isolation residence immediately after the inspection and to a familiar dentist for medical treatment. He was fined NT\$100,000; the obligor argued that he went to the hospital for inspection by himself, so he should not be fined for his stop at the dentist on the way home. He believed that he went home directly after the treatment and the action was different from the general situation where the obligor goes out after returning to the quarantine residence. Therefore, he thinks that he should not be fined. There was also an obligor of the Hsinchu branch, Lin, who entered the country from abroad and was notified to follow the quarantine regulations at home. However, he stopped at the Hukou branch, Taiwan Business Bank on the way home and withdrew NTD 2,000 for daily use during the

home quarantine. He argued that he only stayed at the bank for a few minutes and was fined NTD 100,000. The obligor felt aggrieved. Both the said obligors had paid off the fine at once or in installments smoothly after being appeased and advised by the executors. However, some obligors were fined because of ignoring the epidemic prevention regulations. For instance, an obligor of the Tainan branch, Juan, who entered the country from Vietnam in January this year, did not return home immediately as required and went to a non-epidemic-prevention hotel to stay. Accordingly the Health Department of Tainan City Government fined her NTD 100,000. After due date, the Tainan branch approved the enforcement order against Juan, her deposits in her bank account were seized in full. An obligor of the Yilan Branch, Lin, who entered the country in October 2020, did not abide by the home quarantine regulations and left home 2 days after entering the country and went to the public office to ask the court for matters related to taking leaves. After being found by the office on the spot and deferring to the Department of Health, he was fined NTD 100,000. The enforcement officer of the Yilan Branch led a team to enforce the said case at the obligor Lin's residence. When the obligor's father was notified of the consequences of not paying the fine, the father decided to purchase NTD 100,000 bills exchange orders at the post office and gave it to the enforcement officer to pay off the fine for his son. There was also an obligor of the Taipei branch, Tung, who lives in Shengkeng District. She was fined NTD 200,000 on the last day of home quarantine because she felt bored at home and decided to leave her residence. The Taipei branch seized her deposits in the post office in full.

AEA stated that Premier Su of the Executive Yuan had recently urged the public to unite in the epidemic prevention in Taiwan. No matter how strong the virus is, the general will of the public will not be overwhelmed by Covid-19. However, the epidemic around the world is still dangerous. Taiwan is a blessed place in this tough time, and the public should not take it for granted. In order to implement the epidemic prevention policies and enhance the "special project against the overdue fine related to the violation of epidemic prevention regulations," the public shall comply with the epidemic prevention policies of the government to follow the home quarantine, home isolation regulations and other epidemic prevention measures. Don't take a chance and try to avoid creating any breach in epidemic prevention. In accordance with the indication of Minister of Justice Tsai, the executors will provide assistance to the obligors in tough financial situation as possible. In

addition to adopting lenient enforcement measures such as paying in installments, the officers will also defer the obligors to apply for social assistance or employment services to the competent social affairs authorities or charity organizations. For example, the spouse of a Vietnamese obligor Wu of Taipei branch called the branch a few days ago to inform them that the obligor was working in a Vietnamese restaurant and cannot pay the fine of NTD 200,000 at once due to the tough financial situation. After visiting the working place, the executors found that the obligor was busy in preparing for restaurant work and had to nurse her child at the same time. The obligor explained that he did not intend to violate the law, just miscounted the starting date of the 14-day home quarantine. Her financial situation was affected by the epidemic and cannot pay the fine at once. Therefore, the branch decided to approve her application of paying in 12 installments based on the core value of justice and care of AEA. AEA once again urged that if the obligors have any financial difficulty, they can contact the branches actively. Please do not try to evade the obligation of paying the fine and comply with the laws to protect Taiwan together.



The executors of the Taipei Branch helped the Obligor Wu to apply to pay in installments



The father of the obligor Lin purchased NTD 100,000 bills exchange orders and gave it to the executors of Yilan Branch to pay off his son's fine.



The executors of the Hsinchu Branch advised the obligor to pay in installments.