



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

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Disease prevention for pigs and humans

No loophole is allowed in the period of epidemic prevention

**AEA enhances the enforcement level of the fine related to the violation of epidemic
prevention regulations of African Swine Fever nationally**

With the coming Lunar New Year Holidays, the risk of African Swine Fever entering the country still exists through the meat products carried by passengers, sent, or purchased online by the public is still high. In order to fully implement the African Swine Fever epidemic prevention policies to stop the spread of diseases from abroad, and ensure that there will be no loopholes in the epidemic prevention, the AEA arranged and invited the directors of 13 branches to attend the seminar on "Implementing the epidemic prevention policies and Penalty Cases related to the Violations of African Swine Fever and Food Waste Handling Regulations" held on February 1, 2021. During the seminar, Director-General Lin, Ching-Tsung conveyed the instructions from the Premier Su of Executive Yuan and Minister of Justice Tsai to "fully implement the epidemic prevention regulations of African Swine Fever and demonstrate the determination of the government on exercising public power cooperation between different ministries." In addition to the instructions, Director-General Lin also ordered that all 13 branches of AEA initiated "the special project on enhancing the enforcement against the cases related to the fine of violating the African Swine Fever epidemic prevention regulations" on that day in accordance with the decision of the seminar. On February 3, AEA enforcement officers went to 52 locations to enforce the properties of the obligors, and seized 3 lands, 5 buildings, 3 automobiles, 4 motorcycles, and imposed restrictions on leaving the country against 17 people to fully demonstrate the determination of the government on exercising the public power.

On the date of implementing the special project, all branches reached extraordinary

results with strong enforcement. An obligor Wang, who lives in Lukang Township, Changhua County, returned to Taiwan from Guangzhou with his wife on May 22, 2019. He brought 2 boxes of local specialty "chicken cakes" into the country. He didn't know that the cakes were mixed with pork and was fined NTD 200,000. Although Wang still complained that the customs officers did issue a warning before they imposed a penalty on him, he decided to pay the fine at once after being persuaded by executors. Another obligor, a new inhabitant Fan, who lives in Guiren District, Tainan City, was fined NTD 200,000 because she brought pork ham sausages into the country and did not apply for inspection in 2019. A motorcycle was seized at the Fan residence by executors, and the motorcycle was under Fan's custody. The officers allowed her to pay NTD 3,000 in monthly installments. An obligor Wu, who violated the African Swine Fever regulations on the morning of January 29, 2020 after his flight from Hong Kong landed. He brought back 1 pack of pork sausage bread when entering the country. All pork products should be applied for entry as quarantine items. However, the obligor Wu did not apply as quarantine items when entering the country to the quarantine agency. After being transferred for enforcement and fined NTD 200,000 for the violation, the obligor Wu applied to the transfer agency for installment payments. After the failure to pay on time, there was still an overdue fine of NTD 130,000 that was not paid and transferred to the Kaohsiung Branch. The Kaohsiung branch seized the real property owned by the obligor Wu located on Zhonghua 3rd Road. If the obligor Wu does not pay the fine on time, the real property will be auctioned. Another case is of an obligor Pan, who lives in Taoyuan City. Executors went to the obligor's residence at 6:30 a.m., when it was still dark, and seized one 2020 155c.c heavy motorcycle owned by the obligor. However, the obligor needed the motorcycle as a transportation method to get to and from work on weekdays. He applied to pay in six installments and paid the first installment of NTD 10,000 on the spot. A single mother who lives in Taipei City and works as a community janitor. She is listed as a low-income family in the record of the Department of Social Welfare, Taipei City Government. Although she was willing to pay the fine, she does not have much left after deducting the monthly rent and living expenses. She is unable to pay off the fine of NTD 200,000 for bringing meat products into the country from the epidemic area of African Swine Fever. When the executors went to enforce on-site, they decided to take lenient enforcement measures based on the core value of justice and care of the enforcement

authority. They persuaded the obligor to apply to pay in installments. Another obligor Lo, who lives in Zhonghe District, New Taipei City, brought about 1 kilogram of pork products into the country from China and was fined NTD 200,000. The chief enforcement officer led a team to his residence to enforce today. The spouse of the obligor Lo said that her husband used to work in Myanmar and she was currently unemployed. She currently had to take care of three children aged 3, 7 and 10 at home. Lo gave her NTD 20,000 each month, but the rent of their residence was NTD 11,000 per month. The family's financial status was in difficulty and they could not afford to pay the fine in installments. The New Taipei Branch had already imposed restrictions on leaving the country and the island. However, the Lo family really suffered from financial difficulties. The Branch decided to implement lenient enforcement measures in this case and gave care services to the family.

AEA stated that, for the penalties of violating the provisions of the Statute for Prevention and Control of Infectious Animal Diseases by competent authority for ordering animal inspection objects online and sent back to the country, or bringing animal inspection objects when entering the country, any overdue fine would be deferred to the branches of AEA to enforce. In addition to seizing deposits or salaries, personal or real properties, etc., the executor also imposed restrictions on leaving the country for the cases where the deferred amount exceeds NTD 100,000 yuan and meets the requirements for restrictions on leaving the country. For obligors who are obviously capable of paying the fine but deliberately refuse to pay the fine, the officers will apply arrests and detentions. The court will eliminate the mindset of a few persons who want to take a chance and strictly implement the government policy, preventing the spread of African Swine Fever.

AEA stated that it has always held the attitude of cooperating with the Ministry of Health and Welfare, the Council of Agriculture, Executive Yuan and the local city or county governments jointly to protect the health and food safety of the public on the cases related to the violations of the epidemic prevention and African Swine Fever regulations. AEA will enforce the said cases actively, and the obligor shall not take a chance and challenge the government's determination to enforce the laws. If the obligor has financial difficulties paying the fine at once, he may apply to pay in installments to AEA. AEA once again urged the public not to be complacent on the epidemic prevention measures and should remind their relatives and friends abroad not to bring pork products when entering the country or send pork products packages to the country to avoid a huge fine. All

citizens shall comply with relevant laws and fulfill their obligations to protect Taiwan together.



AEA held the seminar of "Implementing the epidemic prevention policies and Penalty Cases related to the Violations of African Swine Fever and Food Waste Handling Regulations"





The New Taipei Branch enforced on-site with gentle attitude and care

The Taipei Branch implemented lenient measures on the enforcement and went to the working places of the obligor to process the payment in installments in accordance with the time and will of the obligor.





The Kaohsiung Branch enhances the enforcement level, seizing the real properties of the obligor.