



Awang Zulkipli being escorted by a Prisons personnel inside the courthouse.
— Photo by Kentigern Minggu

Knife possession at Serian school lands man five years behind bars

KUCHING: A 44-year-old man was sentenced to five-year imprisonment and one stroke of the cane by the Sessions Court here on Tuesday, over the charge of unlawfully possessing a knife at a public place.

Judge Jason Juga meted out the sentence on Awang Zulkipli Awang Ojey after he pleaded guilty to a charge under Section 6(1) of the Corrosive and Explosive Substances and Offensive Weapons Act 1958.

Upon conviction, this would provide for a mandatory prison sentence of between five and 10 years, and whipping.

According to the facts of the case, the incident occurred at about 2pm on Nov 26, when a male teacher was informed by a colleague that an unknown man was knocking on his car door at the parking area of a school in Serian.

The complainant rushed to the scene and saw the man, later identified as Awang Zulkipli,

holding a knife.

Concerned for the safety of pupils and staff, he immediately alerted school's security personnel before lodging a police report.

Police investigations later led to Awang Zulkipli's arrest the following month.

During the investigation, the accused led police to the knife used in the incident, and witnesses were able to positively identify both the accused and the weapon.

Deputy public prosecutor Mohamad Aiman Mutallib Mohamad Shariff prosecuted the case, while the accused was unrepresented by counsel.

For the record, Awang Zulkipli also tested positive for amphetamine and methamphetamine at the time of his arrest.

He was separately sentenced to seven-month imprisonment by the Magistrates' Court on Dec 11 under Section 15(1)(a) of the Dangerous Drugs Act 1952.