

Senior engineer jailed 6 months for recording upskirt video



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KUCHING: The Magistrates' Court here has sentenced a 29-year-old senior engineer to six months behind bars for secretly recording an upskirt video of a woman at the Kuching Food Festival.

Magistrate Ling Hui Chuan convicted Vincent Tan Kim Poh on his own guilty plea to a charge under Section 509 of the Penal Code for outraging the woman's modesty, which carries a maximum penalty of five years' imprisonment or a fine, or both, upon conviction.

The offence was committed at the festival organised by the Kuching South City Council (MBKS) at around 8.30pm on Aug 1.

According to the facts of the case, a festival-goer noticed an unknown man, later identified as Tan, using his mobile phone to



Tan is escorted from the courtroom after proceedings.

record a woman's rear.

The person later alerted the woman, who subsequently lodged a police report leading to Tan's arrest.

Investigations revealed that Tan had secretly recorded the complainant while she was walking with her husband in search of a place to sit and eat.

Police found a video in Tan's possession showing the complainant wearing white

shorts, with the recording capturing the inside of her buttocks without her knowledge or consent.

Further examination of Tan's mobile phone uncovered numerous other videos focusing on the buttocks and rear body parts of other women.

He also admitted that he had a habit of recording such videos.

In mitigation, defence counsel Fung Lee Fook sought a lenient

sentence, saying Tan, a senior engineer with a reputable company, is a first-time offender.

"He is remorseful for his actions and has promised not to repeat the offence. He also pleaded guilty, thereby saving the court's time and costs," Fung submitted.

However, deputy public prosecutor Chuah Kai Sheng urged the court to impose a deterrent sentence in the public interest, arguing that the need to protect the public warranted an appropriate punishment despite the mitigating factors.

"The Kuching Food Festival is a place for people to enjoy and experience food culture while contributing to the local economy. It should not be exploited by the accused to commit such offences amid the large crowds," he said.

Chuah further submitted that the complainant was not Tan's first victim, as numerous videos focusing on the rear body parts of other women were found on his mobile phone.

"This clearly shows that the accused is a habitual offender," he added.