



Mohd Hastree (front) and others seen exiting the court holding room. — Photo by Hafizah Abdul Hamid

# Cop gets jail, caning for desertion, possessing machete

**Hafizah Abdul Hamid**

**KUCHING:** A police constable was sentenced to a total of five years and two weeks in prison and one stroke of the cane for failing to report for duty for five months, and for possessing a machete without reasonable cause.

In the Magistrates' Court, Mohd Hastree Mohamad, 36, pleaded guilty to a charge of desertion under Section 86 of the Police Act 1967, which provides for up to 12 months in jail upon conviction.

According to the charge, he was absent from duty between May 14 and Sept 29, 2025 at the Commandant's Office of the Sarawak Police Contingent

headquarters here.

Magistrate Nursyaheega Nazwa Radzali sentenced him to two weeks' jail and ordered the imprisonment to take effect from yesterday.

The facts of the case stated that during an inspection in June this year, a police officer found that the accused had been absent from duty for 15 consecutive days.

Mohd Hastree was arrested while in a vehicle on Sept 29, with investigations revealing that he had shown a lack of interest and poor attitude towards his career in the police force.

Meanwhile in the Sessions Court, judge Iris Awen Jon sentenced Mohd Hastree to five years in prison and one stroke of the cane after he pleaded guilty to possessing a dangerous

weapon without lawful purpose.

The charge was framed under Section 6(1) of the Corrosive and Explosive Substances and Offensive Weapons Act 1958, which provides for imprisonment of between five and 10 years and whipping, upon conviction.

He committed the offence on the same day during his arrest, when police discovered a machete in the back seat of the vehicle he was in.

At the time, the accused failed to provide a reasonable explanation for possessing the weapon.

The prosecution was conducted separately by deputy public prosecutors Aiman Mutalib Muhammad Shariff and Chuah Kai Sheng, while the accused was unrepresented.