Prisoner murder case: Five Kepayan prison personnel freed of murder charges, five others plead guilty to reduced charges

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The Prisons personnel with their defence counsel outside the courtroom after the proceedings today. (Photo: Daily Express/Jo Ann Mool)

KOTA KINABALU: Five of the 10 prison personnel charged with murdering an inmate at Kepayan Prison four years ago, were freed of the charge while the other five were each fined RM1,500 or one month jail on a reduced charge of causing death by negligence. Barry Jipmon, 34, Mohd Dzulfikri Mohd Safri, 32, Ab Mutalib @ Talib Abd Rasul, 44, Zerry Maidin, 37, and Shahryll Nazry Wan Sofian, 29, were discharged and acquitted of the murder charge by High Court Judge Datuk Christopher Chin Soo Yin at the end of the prosecution stage. The other five - Farizan Mokri, 45, Mohd Saiful Saidin, 38, Amran Yasik, 29, Tomy Momoh, 40 and Muhammad Fazi Lakui, 36, were ordered to enter their defence on a reduced charge of causing death by negligence under Section 304A of the Penal Code. However, they pleaded guilty to the charge and were ordered to pay a fine of RM1,500 or one month each. The 10 were all jointly accused of murdering one Shainal Mukhtar, 36, in cell number 11, Gemilang Block, at Kota Kinabalu Central Prison, Jalan Kepayan near here at 4.20pm, between Oct 2 and Oct 4, 2019. The charges under Section 302 of the Penal Code carried a death penalty on conviction.