

QR code payment fraudsters jailed 15 months each



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KUCHING: Three men and a woman were each sentenced to 15 months in prison by the Magistrates' Court here yesterday for attempting to commit payment fraud using a falsified quick response (QR) code.

Mohammad Zairie Mohamad Helmi, 24, Muhammad Akmal Danial Dahlan, 25, Nur Makrifah Rambli, 24, and Mohd Jasrizan Naim Azery, 25, pleaded guilty after the charge under Section 417 of the Penal Code read together with Sections 511 and 34 of the same Code was read to them before Magistrate Ling Hui Chuan.

The Section provides for up to five years in jail or a fine, or both, upon conviction.

The accused committed the offence at a supermarket in

Jalan Batu Kawa here at around 3.30pm on Apr 15, 2025.

According to the facts of the case, the four attempted to deceive a supermarket staffer by using a falsified QR code to purchase items worth RM1,422.40.

Muhammad Akmal attempted to make the payment using an edited QR code image sourced from Nur Makrifah's mobile phone, while Mohd Jasrizan made a genuine payment of RM0.01 using the QR code before editing the receipt image to reflect a payment of RM1,422.40, which was then shown to the staff as proof of payment.

Suspicious of the transaction, the staffer alerted a supervisor who reviewed security camera footage and recognised the group as having previously attempted a similar fraud at the store.

Two of the accused were detained by supermarket security personnel and a police report was subsequently lodged.

The group's modus operandi

involved visiting business premises that accept QR payments, making a nominal payment of RM0.01, and then digitally altering the payment receipt to display the full item value, to deceive cashiers.

The same court also sentenced Mohd Jasrizan to two years' imprisonment and one stroke of the cane for a separate cheating offence using the same modus operandi.

Magistrate Ling meted out the sentence after the accused pleaded guilty to the charge, framed under Section 420 of the Penal Code.

The offence was committed at a convenience store along Jalan Kuching-Serian in June last year.

According to the case facts, Mohd Jasrizan showed the store's cashier a falsified QR payment receipt to deceive the victim into believing he had paid RM511.30 for his purchases.

Insp Nur Shafiqah Nyaie Ilin prosecuted both cases, while all the accused were unrepresented.