

EA Alert Dated: 20 Oct 2017

EA Alert (15/2017): [Reminder] Employment Agencies' (EAs) Role in Repatriating Foreign Domestic Workers (FDW)

Dear Licensee & Key Appointment Holders.

This is a reminder that EAs are not allowed to facilitate FDWs to travel to destinations other than their hometown, for example Johor Bahru or Batam.

Under MOM regulations, employers of FDWs have a responsibility to ensure that their FDWs return to their hometown when their work permits expire, are cancelled or revoked. FDWs may however request to go to an alternative destination and this is allowed if both the FDW and her employer mutually agree. Upon agreement, either the employer or the EA is to inform MOM of this arrangement when you cancel the work permit.

EAs that are placing FDWs who formerly worked in Singapore, and whose last port of departure is not their hometown, should also check with the FDW's previous employer that they had an mutual agreement.

EAs that fail to ensure that the mutual agreement was obtained and did not inform MOM of such arrangements, will be deemed to have acted in a manner detrimental to the interest of its client¹. This is also a contravention of Licence Condition 11C. Since Jan 2017, MOM has detected such contraventions, and has taken action against the EAs involved including issuing demerit points. We will continue to take action against any errant EAs.

MOM will continue to share important EA-related information with all EAs through this channel. Please keep your EA email address updated. For further clarification, you may call us at 6438 5122 or email us at MOM_FMMD@mom.gov.sg.

Thank you.

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For Commissioner for Employment Agencies