

Media Title : The Borneo Post Sarawak
Headline : Account mule fined RM200 for possessing RM1,800 linked to scam
Date : 19 April 2023
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Account mule fined RM200 for possessing RM1,800 linked to scam

KUCHING: A magistrates' court here yesterday fined a 25-year-old man RM200 in default four days in jail for unlawfully possessing RM1,800 in his bank account.

Magistrate Syarifah Fatimah Azura Wan Ali convicted Kho Chin Hua from Kampung Iran, Niah on his own guilty plea to a charge under Section 37(1) of the Minor Offences Ordinance Sarawak 1958.

The Section provides for a jail term of up to three months and a fine of up to RM500, upon conviction.

Kho committed the offence at a premises in Chong Lin Park, Jalan Tabuan, here at 4.42pm on Dec 7, 2021.

Based on the facts of the case, a complainant lodged a police report after checking his bank account online and discovering RM1,800 had been transferred into Kho's account.

Police investigations revealed the complainant was deceived by a caller who impersonated a Ministry of Health officer and a police officer from Ipoh.

Kho admitted to having rented out his ATM card to an unknown man for RM200, but failed to identify the man to police.

Insp Merylene Lindan Andrew Mang prosecuted the case, while Kho was unrepresented.