

## **Il Lido Pte Ltd fined \$14,000 for Halloween-themed dinner involving 75 individuals**

Il Lido Pte Ltd, the licensee of Gemma Steakhouse located at 1 St Andrews Road, #05-03, National Gallery Singapore, was fined a total of \$14,000 by the Court today for breaching Safe Management Measures (SMMs) during Phase Two of Singapore's reopening from the circuit breaker period last year.

2 On 2 November 2020, the Singapore Food Agency (SFA) received information on a Halloween-themed dinner held on 31 October 2020 at Gemma Steakhouse. Investigations found that the restaurant had worked with a private members' club to organise the dinner, which was attended by about 75 diners comprising both members of the club and their guests.

3 Although the diners were seated at tables of up to five, CCTV footage showed multiple occasions of intermingling between diners from different tables. The footage also showed that the restaurant staff did not take reasonable steps to prevent the intermingling between diners from different tables.

4 The restaurant had breached SMMs by accepting a large booking for this dinner and failing to take reasonable steps to prevent intermingling amongst the diners, SFA had then issued an order requiring Il Lido Pte Ltd to close the restaurant for a period of 20 days from 3 December to 22 December 2020.

5 During Phase Two of Singapore's reopening from the circuit breaker (19 June to 27 Dec 2020), social gatherings of groups of more than five outside an individual's residence were prohibited. F&B outlets were also prohibited from accepting bookings from groups larger than five, even if such groups were split across multiple tables. Intermingling between groups across different tables was also strictly prohibited.

6 Under section 34(7) of the COVID-19 (Temporary Measures) Act passed in Parliament on 7 April 2020, first-time offenders will be liable to a fine up to S\$10,000, imprisonment up to six months, or both. Repeat offenders will be liable to a fine up to S\$20,000, imprisonment up to twelve months, or both.

7 The Government holds a serious view of flagrant breaches of SMMs. While the majority has been adhering to the measures, it is regrettable that there remains a minority who continue to breach SMMs. SFA will not hesitate to take strong enforcement action against operators and individuals who treat SMMs with flagrant disregard.

8 COVID-19 remains a grave threat, as shown by the recent rise in community cases. We urge all members of the public to be socially responsible and observe the SMMs to protect the lives and livelihoods of all Singaporeans.

**Issued by Singapore Food Agency**

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