

INFOCUS



It is illegal to deploy your helper to work for other households or perform non-domestic chores

Dear Employer,

Your Migrant Domestic Worker (MDW) can only perform domestic chores for you at the residential address stated on her work permit card. You cannot deploy her to work at another residential address or to perform non-domestic chores, such as cleaning of office, helping out at a shop, or for your home-based business. Do [notify MOM](#) if you need your MDW to take care of your child or parent at a relative's home.

Case Studies

Case Study 1: MOM investigated a case where an employer illegally deployed her MDW to clean other apartments.

What happened

Mrs Rose employed Ms Thanda (not their real names) to help with domestic chores in her household. She also deployed Ms Thanda to clean two other apartments every one to two weeks. The two apartments were rented out by Mrs Rose.



Case Study 2: MOM investigated a case of an employer who deployed his MDW to assist him in his home-based business.

What happened

Ms Leticia spent 9 to 10 hours daily helping Mr Soh (not their real names) brew Kombucha tea for his home-based business. This included tasks such as sterilising and labelling bottles; cutting and blending fruits etc.

Consequences

Mrs Rose and Mr Soh were issued a fine of \$7,500 each, for failing to ensure that their MDWs only performed domestic chores at their households.

Illegal deployment is an offence!

Under the Employment of Foreign Manpower Act, employers are not allowed to deploy their MDWs to:

- ✗ Work at another address other than the one stated in their work permit
- ✗ Work at the employer's business, shop or stall
- ✗ Work for the employer's home-based business

If caught, employers may be fined up to \$10,000, and also be banned from employing MDWs.

