



MARITIME AND PORT AUTHORITY OF SINGAPORE

PORT MARINE NOTICE
NO. 59 OF 2026

10 Apr 2026

Shipping Community
Harbour Craft Community
Pleasure Craft Community

NOTICE ON PENALTIES FOR NON-COMPLIANCE OF PREVAILING IMMIGRATION PROCEDURES

Please be informed that the Immigration & Checkpoints Authority (ICA) has issued a notice on penalties for non-compliance of prevailing immigration procedures.

2 For further details, please refer to ICA's notice dated 6 April 2026 in **ANNEX**. You may submit a general enquiry in FormSG via the link (<https://go.gov.sg/vesselandcrewatters>) or the QR code below on immigration matters relating to sea crew and passengers.



CAPT CHONG JIA CHYUAN
PORT MASTER
MARITIME AND PORT AUTHORITY OF SINGAPORE



**ICA Building
10, Kallang Road #08-00
Singapore 208718
(Next to Lavender MRT Station)
<https://www.ica.gov.sg>**

Date: 6 April 2026

NOTICE TO SHIPPING COMMUNITY/ HARBOUR CRAFT/ PLEASURE CRAFT COMMUNITY ON PENALTIES FOR NON-COMPLIANCE OF PREVAILING IMMIGRATION PROCEDURES

Background

Since January 2026, ICA has detected five instances in which shipping agents failed to submit departure applications (including crew manifests) via digitalPORT@SG™ before vessels left Singapore waters, and one instance of sea crew exiting the port premises without an arrival entry record from ICA.

2. Failure to submit a complete and accurate manifest before a vessel's arrival or departure contravenes Section 22 of the Immigration Act 1959. Likewise, any sea crew or passenger – including Singapore-resident travellers arriving on vessels from outside Singapore's territorial waters – who fail to obtain arrival or departure immigration clearance at an ICA sea checkpoint or gazetted marina breaches Section 5 of the Immigration Act 1959.

3. Under the Immigration Act 1959, any master, operator, owner, agent or charterer who fails to provide a complete and accurate crew or passenger list commits a strict liability offence, punishable by a fine of up to \$10,000. Likewise, any person convicted of illegal entry or departure is liable to a fine of up to \$2,000, imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months, or both.

4. ICA takes a serious stance against any contravention of the Immigration Act 1959 and its subsidiary legislation. Enforcement actions are being taken against the sea crew and errant shipping agents. The errant shipping agents' CREW accounts were terminated immediately to prevent them from carrying out any vessel/manifest related transactions with ICA.

5. Enclosed are the details of two such recent violation case.

Case Sharing #1

6. On 9 January 2026, ICA detected that a bulk carrier vessel had departed Singapore Territorial Waters (STW) on 8 January 2026, without first submitting a Departure Application (AD) to ICA via DigitalPort@SG. The shipping agent was referred to ICA Enforcement Division. ICA also terminated the CREW account of the shipping agent.

Case Sharing #2

7. On 12 March 2026, a sea crew was detected at West Coast Pier (WCP) with no arrival entry records. The sea crew had originally arrived on 6 March 2026 at PSA Port but failed to present himself at the ICA Crew Office located within the ports premises for arrival clearance. Instead, he boarded the transport vehicle arranged by his agent and left the port premises using his PSA pass. Both the sea crew and shipping agent were referred to ICA Enforcement Division. PSA has suspended the sea crew's PSA pass. ICA has also terminated the shipping agent's CREW account.

8. ICA strongly encourages shipping companies (including agents), ship owners, charterers and masters to ensure timely submission of complete and accurate Arrival and Departure Applications (AA or AD) prior to vessels' arrival or departure from Singapore Waters, establish robust internal procedures to ensure oversight of sea crew and passengers' movement under their charge, and conduct regular training for staff on current immigration procedures.

9. Please refer to **Annex A** for a list of reminders on the prevailing immigration procedures for crew clearance.

Thank you.



Yours sincerely,

PHUA CHIEW HUA
COMMANDER (COASTAL)
INTEGRATED CHECKPOINTS COMMAND (SEA)
IMMIGRATION & CHECKPOINTS AUTHORITY

ANNEX A – KEY REMINDERS**1. Immigration Clearance Requirements (Non-Exhaustive)**

- 1.1. Under Sections 5(2) and 5(4) of the Immigration Act 1959, it is an offence to enter, leave, or attempt to enter or leave Singapore at any place other than an authorised landing/departing place, unless compelled by accident or other reasonable cause. All sea crew and passengers, including residents¹ arriving on vessels from outside Singapore Territorial Waters, must seek arrival immigration clearance and travel via sea route through ICA sea checkpoints² or gazetted marinas³ for their entry into Singapore. Shipping companies, including agents, ship owners, charterers and masters, must ensure all sea crew and passengers are fully informed of the immigration procedures, including but not limited to the location of the specific checkpoint, crew office or gazetted marina they are required to report to, and have completed their arrival immigration clearance before exiting from the coastal installations. Any person guilty of an offence under these sections, shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$2,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months or to both.
- 1.2. Under Section 22 of the Immigration Act 1959, masters, operators, owners, agents or charterers of vessels arriving at or departing from Singapore are required to provide complete and accurate passenger and crew information to ICA. This includes furnishing lists of all crew members and passengers who are or will be on board the vessel at the time of arrival or departure, within prescribed timeframes and in specified formats. For passenger vessels, additional requirements include providing lists of passengers disembarking in or embarking from Singapore and producing crew and passengers for inspection and interrogation as directed by ICA. The master, operator, owner, agent or charterer must also report the presence of any stowaways, unauthorised persons, or individuals being removed from other countries prior to vessel's arrival or departure. Failure to provide complete and accurate crew or passenger lists constitutes a strict liability offence⁴ punishable by a fine not exceeding \$10,000. Other contraventions under this section, including failure to produce crew or passengers for inspection or hindering vessel searches are punishable by fines not exceeding \$2,000 or imprisonment for up to six months, or both. If unreported persons are discovered on board, each responsible party (master, operator, owner, agent and charterer) shall be liable to fines ranging from \$5,000 to \$10,000 per unreported individual.
- 1.3. Sea Crew members who have been issued Not to Land (NTL) status are not to disembark from their vessel without prior permission from ICA while it is in port, in accordance with Section 24 of the Immigration Act 1959. Shipping companies (including

¹ Residents refer to any Singapore Citizen, Singapore Permanent Resident or Long-Term Pass Holder (including Work Pass Holder).

² Sea Checkpoints include Marina South Pier, West Coast Pier, Singapore Cruise Centre, Marina Bay Cruise Centre, Tanah Merah Ferry Terminal, Keppel Entrance Crew Clearance Office, Pasir Panjang Crew Clearance Office, Sembawang Gate, Jurong Fishery Port, Tuas Port Crew Office, and Jurong Port Main Gate Crew Clearance Office.

³ Gazetted marinas for immigration clearance are One Degree Fifteen Marina and Raffles Marina.

⁴ As per Section 26H of the Penal Code 1871, Strict liability offence refers to offences where the prosecution only needs to prove that the prohibited act occurred, without having to prove any intention, knowledge, or negligence on the part of the defendant.

agents), ship owners, charterers and masters are required to notify the sea crew of their NTL status and implement suitable measures to prevent them from disembarking. Any person guilty of an offence under this section, shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$4,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 12 months or to both.

- 1.4. All land transfer requests must be submitted to ICA for consideration with sufficient advance notice. Shipping agents must ensure that ICA has **approved** the request prior to making any land transport arrangements and proceeding with the land transfer. Agents are reminded to adhere strictly to the terms and conditions laid out in the Letter of Undertaking (LOU). Land transfer requests are subject to approval on a case-by-case basis and approval is not guaranteed.
- 1.5. In medical emergencies involving sea crew members/passengers, whilst immediate medical attention takes priority, ICA must be promptly informed to regularise the entry of the affected persons and ensure compliance with the law.

2. Verification of Immigration Status

- 2.1. For resident sea crew members/passengers arriving by vessel from outside Singapore Territorial Waters (“STW”) who need to exit from these coastal installations, shipping agents/owners must submit a request to ICA via FormSG at least six hours before their intended exit date and time. The shipping agent/owner must then provide the verification letter to the relevant personnel at the coastal installation for security verification prior to the individual’s exit at the coastal installation. They shall not be allowed to exit from the coastal installation unless a valid letter issued by ICA is provided.
- 2.2. For foreign sea crew members/passengers, shipping companies (including agents), ship owners, charterers and masters may verify the crew member/passenger’s electronic Pass (“e-Pass”) validity that was sent to their email address as declared in their SG Arrival Card (“SGAC”) submission. Alternatively, shipping companies (including agents), ship owners, charterers and masters may verify their foreign sea crew members’/passengers’ validity of stay through ICA’s ePass Enquiry Portal.