

紀律研訊個案 Disciplinary hearing case

在社交平台上披露客戶的個人資料 Disclosing a client's personal data on social media

引言

持牌人應遵守《個人資料(私隱)條例》以 及由監管局發出有關收集、使用和處理個人 資料的指引。否則,有可能被監管局紀律處 分。

Introduction

Licensees should comply with the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance and the relevant guidelines issued by the EAA in respect of the collection, use and handling of personal data. Otherwise, they may be subject to disciplinary action by the EAA.

事件經過

Incident

A salesperson obtained personal data from a tenant, including her ID number and a copy of her staff card, as proof of employment to provide to the landlord. The tenancy term was for two years but after a few months the tenant requested an early termination which was rejected by the landlord. After the rejection the tenant stopped paying rent. Being authorised by the landlord to handle the tenancy matter, the salesperson decided to post on a social media platform the tenant's name, mobile number, ID number and a copy of her staff card with partial details redacted. The tenant discovered the post and lodged a complaint with the Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data ("PCPD") and the EAA. During the EAA investigation, the salesperson admitted that he had uploaded the post to pressure the tenant into paying rent on behalf of the landlord. A PCPD investigation also found that the behaviour of the salesperson contravened the Data Protection Principle 3 in Schedule 1 of the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance.

研訊結果

監管局紀律委員會認為該營業員沒有遵守監管局發出的執業通告(編號13-05(CR)),在沒有取得租客的同意下,在社交平台上披露租客的個人資料。因此,該營業員違反了監管局發出的《操守守則》第3.2.1段:「地產代理和營業員應熟悉並必須在執業時遵守《地產代理條例》、其附屬法例、本操守守則,以及由監管局不時發布的所有其他指引。」

考慮到個案的性質及該營業員的違規紀錄,委員會決定譴責他,罰款共12,000港元,暫時吊銷其牌照一個月,並要求他在12個月內取得持續進修計劃下的12個學分。

Result

The EAA Disciplinary Committee was of the view that the salesperson failed to comply with the Practice Circular (No. 13-05(CR)) issued by the EAA, disclosing the personal data of the tenant on social media without obtaining her consent. Hence, the salesperson was in breach of paragraph 3.2.1 of the Code of Ethics, which states that, "Estate agents and salespersons should be fully conversant with the EAO, its subsidiary legislation, this Code of Ethics, and other guidelines issued by the EAA from time to time and shall observe and comply with them in the course of their practice."

Having considered the nature and gravity of the case, as well as the disciplinary record of the salesperson, the disciplinary committee decided to reprimand him, impose a fine of HK\$12,000, suspend his licence for one month and required him to obtain 12 points under the CPD Scheme in 12 months.



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● 業界意見 Comment from trade

地產代理應該尊重客戶的私隱,在處理客戶個人資料時要小心,不可利 用客戶的個人資料作其他用途,更不應在網上發布客戶的個人資料。損 害客戶的私隱是非常嚴重的違規行為,業界應引以為戒。即使租客與業 主發生租務糾紛,身為代理亦不應用違法的手段代表業主追討租金

Estate agents must respect clients' privacy and exercise care when handling clients' personal data. They must not use their clients' personal data for other purposes or post their clients' personal data online. Infringing upon client's privacy is a serious non-compliance and every practitioner should be vigilant against such behaviour. Even in the case of a tenancy dispute between the tenant and landlord, estate agents must not use any illegal means to recover the rent for the landlord.

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發布虛假或具誤導性的網上物業廣告 Issuing a false or misleading online advertisement

引言

地產代理公司切勿發布含有虛假或誤導性陳 述或詳情的物業廣告,亦不得在未獲准許便 擅自使用屬於其他人士或公司的相片作廣告 宣傳。否則,有可能被監管局紀律處分。

Introduction

Estate agency companies must not include any false or misleading statements or particulars in property advertisements and must not use photos belonging to other people or company without permission. Otherwise, they may be subject to disciplinary action by the EAA.