

Man charged over bid to bribe nurse to make false record of Covid-19 jab



Kelvin Tan Li Ming allegedly offered \$50 to a part-time vaccination nurse on Oct 26 last year at an inoculation centre.

ST PHOTO: KELVIN CHNG

A 34-year-old man was yesterday charged in a district court with attempting to bribe a nurse to falsely record that he had received his second dose of Covid-19 vaccination.

Kelvin Tan Li Ming, who faces one graft charge, is accused of offering \$50 to the part-time vaccination nurse on Oct 26 last year at an inoculation centre in Choa Chu Kang.

The Singaporean is said to have tried to induce the nurse to indicate in the healthcare system that he had been inoculated with a second dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine.

The Corrupt Practices Investigation Bureau said the nurse rejected the offer and informed her manager of what had taken place. The police were alerted and the case was referred to the bureau.

Tan told the court yesterday that he intends to contest the corruption charge. His pre-trial conference will be held on Feb 17.

If convicted, he could be fined up to \$100,000 and jailed for up to five years.

Earlier this month, the Ministry of Health announced that from Feb 14, those aged 18 and above will have to take a booster shot within nine months of completing their primary vaccination series to maintain their fully vaccinated status.

Two jabs of an mRNA vaccine – either that of Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna – are required to complete the primary series, while the requirement for the Sinovac vaccine or the Sino-pharm one is three jabs.

Wong Shiying