

ADVISORY NOTE TO ALL ARCHITECTS

SUBJECT: UNAUTHORISED USE OF ARCHITECTS' CREDENTIALS ON THE BLUP (NEL) PLATFORM

1. The Professional Architects' Council (PAC) has received a series of complaints from Registered Professional Architects alleging that their names, credentials, and/or electronic signatures have been used without their knowledge or consent in applications for Building and Land Use Permit (BLUP) submitted through the online National Electronic Licensing (NEL) platform of the EDB.
2. As at end of May, twenty-three (23) Professional Architects have formally reported such unlawful practices. It is, however, suspected that additional cases may exist which have not yet been brought to the attention of the Council. Some of the affected Architects have already reported these matters to the Police, including the Criminal Investigation Division (CID) and Financial Crime Commission.
3. The Council is treating this matter with utmost seriousness. It is currently liaising with the relevant authorities and is seeking a meeting with the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Local Government with a view to identifying and implementing appropriate measures to prevent the recurrence of such fraudulent practices.

4. Action to be taken

Professional Architects who happen to be victims of such acts are advised to take the following actions once they become aware of the unlawful act:

(a) Notify the relevant Local Authority

- Send an email to the Chief Executive and Head Planner.
- Clearly state that you are not involved in the project and that your credentials have been fraudulently used.
- Request that the application be withheld from processing.

(b) Report the matter to law enforcement

- File a complaint with the Police and/or the Criminal Investigation Division (CID).

(c) Inform the Professional Architects' Council

- Provide details of the incident along with the Occurrence Book (OB) number issued by the Police.

5. The Council reiterates that the unauthorised use of an Architect's credentials constitutes a serious offence and may give rise to both criminal and civil liability.
6. Appropriate action will be pursued against anyone or entity found to be involved in such unlawful practices.

Registrar

Professional Architects' Council
10 June 2026