

Jail for jilted lover who posted nude photos (The Standard, 04/03/2008)

By Damon Pang

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A magistrate who sentenced a 29-year-old man to perform community service for posting on the internet sex video clips and nude pictures of his former lover yesterday reversed his decision and imposed a two-month jail term.

Magistrate Albert Wong Sung-hau had sentenced Mr. L, a jewelry shop assistant, to 240 hours of community service last September after he admitted criminal intimidation, publishing an indecent article without required notice and publishing an obscene article.

But the secretary of justice ordered a review of Lee's sentence, which was described as too lenient.

In sentencing, Wong said in the District Court he was previously unaware Mr. L had posted a message on internet forums that said: ``You committed infidelity to me first," which showed an intention to take revenge on, and harm, the victim.

Wong also said he had since formed a bad impression of Mr. L, adding that the sentence of 240 hours of community service was already the maximum tolerance of the court. Therefore, any further disadvantageous factor towards Mr. L would result in a jail term.

Wong said the two months' imprisonment was given after considering factors such as Mr. L's guilty plea, which meant the victim to testify did not have to testify.

Wong also said Mr. L had a good progress report after serving over 160 hours of community service.

Wong said that many internet users had become confused over morals and character, personal rights and responsibility, and do things online that they would not normally do.

After his unsuccessful attempt on Valentine's Day last year to reconcile with his ex-girlfriend and on learning that she was to marry a rich man, Mr. L published six nude photos and eight sex video clips of her on at least two local internet forums.

He also included in the messages the victim's name in both Chinese and English and her work address.

The messages were found by the victim's friend, who reported the matter to the police.