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Forging death cert case: Hosp attendant called

KUALA LUMPUR: A Kuala Lumpur Hospital (HKL) attendant and two others have been called to make their defence against a charge of forging the death certificate of criminal Michael Soosai.

Sessions Court judge Mohamad Sekeri Mamat said Friday, the prosecution had established a prima facie case against the three accused.

He said the court had to consider three elements; whether the death and burial certificates had been forged to cheat, the HKL mortuary procedure was not followed, and whether Soosai was still

alive.

Mohamad Sekeri said the testimony of 23 prosecution witnesses had proven the three elements.

KLH attendant K Subramaniam, 33, scrap metal trader V Sanjeev Kumar, 34, and J Kumaresan, 28, are charged with forging the death and burial certificates of Michael Soosai for the purpose of cheating and abetment.

Subramaniam and another still at large are alleged to have duped Dr Wan Mohamed Zamri Wan Nawawi, 42, into issuing death certificate C 836454 at

KLH mortuary between 11am and 3pm on Sept 12, 2003.

If convicted, they can be jailed up to five years or fined, or both, under section 415 of the Penal Code.

Mohamad Sekeri said Subramaniam who was on duty at the mortuary on Sept 13, 2003 had received the body of a man who died of HIV positive labelled 'unknown'.

He then replaced the personal details with that of Soosai causing a doctor to issue the death and burial certificates.

Kumaresan had used the documents to claim 'Soosai's

body the next day and arrangement for cremation while Sanjeev abetted them.

They face three other charges of forging the three documents at the KLH mortuary between 11am and 3pm on Sept 12, 2003.

Mohamad Sekeri fixed May 17, 18 and 27 to hear the defence.

Deputy public prosecutor Syed Faisal Syed Amir prosecuted while Kumaresan was represented by defence counsel Hasnal Rizua Merican.

Sanjeev and Subramaniam were represented by Naran Singh. — Bernama