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HIV man jailed for van theft and evading cops

KUALA TERENGGANU: A 33-year-old man, who is HIV-positive, was sentenced to 18 months' jail and fined RM2,000 by a magistrate's court here for stealing a van and fleeing from police custody.

Mohd Rizal Khalid pleaded guilty to stealing the vehicle from a parking lot near a restaurant in Kuala Terengganu at about 7pm on Oct 4.

The offence had been classified under Section 379A of the Penal Code for vehicle theft.

Magistrate Noradila Abdul Latif sentenced the accused to 18 months' imprisonment.

He was also charged with run-

ning from police custody while being treated at the Sultanah Nur Zahirah Hospital at about 9.15pm on Oct 13.

Mohd Rizal pleaded guilty to both charges.

The facts of the case stated that the suspect fled police custody but was promptly detained by police at about 2am at a condominium in Bukit Kecil.

Magistrate Noradila fined the accused RM2,000 in default four-months imprisonment.

Insp Mohd Zainudin Abdul Ghani prosecuted the case while the accused was not represented.