

# Police official arrested for drink driving in Abu Dhabi

The official did not disclose whether the police official was arrested after being involved in a traffic accident or whether he was booked after being stopped by a patrol car for reckless driving. It is also not known whether he was driving his private vehicle at the time.

- By Rayeesa Absal, Staff Reporter
- Published: 00:00 June 9, 2010



Abu Dhabi: An Abu Dhabi traffic police official has been arrested for drink driving, *Gulf News* has learnt.

The incident happened a few days ago.

The 35-year-old Emirati, identified as K.A.S., was working at the traffic section at the city's police station in the Mina area, according to sources.

"K.A.S was arrested on charges of drink driving and has been jailed," a police official said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

"He will have to pay a fine of Dh22,000 for the offence before he can be released from prison," the official added.

The official did not disclose whether the police official was arrested after being involved in a traffic accident or whether he was booked after being stopped by a patrol car for reckless driving. It is also not known whether he was driving his private vehicle at the time.

## Vulnerable

When contacted, Abu Dhabi Police did not issue an official statement about the incident.

The Federal Traffic Law stipulates a minimum fine of Dh20,000, 24 black points, confiscation of the vehicle for two months, suspension of the driver's licence for three months and a jail term, based on the court ruling for anyone caught driving under the influence of alcohol, drugs or similar substances.

The jail term usually ranges from one month to three years, and the fine could even go up to Dh30,000, based on the case.

A senior traffic police official declined to comment about the specific case. But speaking in general, he said: "Policemen are human beings too, who are just as prone to committing mistakes as any other individual."

"Especially if a person is drunk and is not in his full mental ability, he is vulnerable to committing mistakes. It is no different," he said.

"However, it is very unfortunate if an official in charge of law enforcement does not abide by the law," he added.

Drink driving is considered one of the most serious traffic offences in the UAE, with authorities enforcing a zero-tolerance policy.

### **Drunk Driving**

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