

# Family taking bribes from fishing boat owners arrested

By MAZWIN NIK ANIS  
mazwin@thestar.com.my

**PUTRAJAYA:** Three members of a family, including the father who is a director in a government department, are believed to have received more than RM70,000 by approving appeal by owners of fishing boats to have their compounds reduced.

It is learnt that the director had involved his daughter and son-in-law in the scheme, believed to have started early this year.

Sources said the suspects were believed to have received bribes from fishing boat owners who had committed offences under the Fisheries Act.

They are believed to have received between RM500 and RM2,000 as a reward to expedite investigations and reduce the compound issued to them.

Sources said the “assistance” given to the errant boat owners include ensuring that boats seized by the authorities were also released.

“Once a lower compound has been issued and boats released, the owners would bank in the money into the (director) daughter’s account,” said a source.

It is learnt that investigators from the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) had also seized more than RM21,000 in cash, jewellery and luxury watches.

The three, aged between 32 and 59, were arrested at the MACC headquarters on Monday when they were summoned to give their statements.

They were brought before Magistrate Shah Wira Abdul Halim yesterday, who allowed the MACC to remand the suspects for four days until Sept 18.

Putrajaya MACC director Hasbilah Mohamad Salleh confirmed the arrests.

Watch the video  
[thestartv.com](http://thestartv.com)

