

Keeping in touch



In Focus

Mothers' Days



By: Susana Batalha

real terms, what rights can mothers-to-be working in the private sector expect from the Macau Labour Law?

As stated in Article 54 and 55 of the Macau Labour Law, female employees in the private sector who have worked for the same employer for one year or more are entitled to have 56 days of paid maternity leave. If the employment relationship is less than a year long, the 56 days of leave are granted, but remain unpaid unless otherwise agreed between parties. In case the employment relationship reaches one year during the maternity leave, then the Employee is entitled to receive the basic remuneration corresponding to the remaining period of maternity leave after the completion of that 1st year.

Out of the 56 days, 49 must necessarily be enjoyed immediately after the delivery date and the reaming 7 can be taken – depending on the Employee's choice – either before or after that. If the Employee decides to enjoy part of the maternity leave before the delivery date, she must inform the Employer at least 5 days in advance. The Employer also needs to be informed as soon as the big date arrives and, in the shortest period possible, be presented with a certificate issued by a medical doctor licensed by the Macau Government or accepted by the Employer.

In the unfortunate cases of stillborns or involuntary abortions after the third pregnancy trimester, the law also foresees the right to enjoy, respectively, 56 days and between 21 and 56 days of leave.

During pregnancy and the three months after childbirth, employers are prohibited from requesting the employee to perform work deemed inappropriate to the woman's physical condition.

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recently in Madrid, participating in the 10th edition of "Encuentros en Madrid", organised by the Ilustre Colegio de Abogados de Madrid. Dr. <u>Rui Cunha</u>, has been selected to integrate the panel of judges in the upcoming G2E Asia Awards, to be held on 15 May 2018 in the new MGM Cotai.

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