



**Another ex-aide turns on Anwar?
Malaysiakini.com
October 6, 2010**

A press conference believed to be linked to Anwar Ibrahim's ongoing sodomy trial by his former aide Rahimi Osman was cancelled following disruption by a rowdy group of six individuals.

The press conference was to be held at the Lotus restaurant in Klang at 4pm today, but was later cancelled following the appearance of the group.

Rahimi (*centre*) told reporters that he had lodged a police report at the Klang district police headquarters at 2pm today over two statutory declarations made in 2008.

"The police report is to say that the prior two statutory declarations are not accurate," said Rahimi's lawyer S Ravi Chandran.

The statutory declarations were related to the ongoing Anwar's sodomy trial, where he was alleged to have sodomised another aide, Saiful Bukhari Azlan.

'Force to sign SD'

According to the Klang police, Rahimi had lodged a report alleging that he was pressured by Anwar's men into making the two statutory declarations.

Klang district police chief Mohamad Mat Yusop confirmed receiving the report but refused to divulge details as the matter has been transferred to the Shah Alam district police.

"I was forced to sign two declarations in June 2008 about Anwar," Rahimi said.

Rahimi appeared unfazed by the tense atmosphere at the restaurant, which was packed with reporters and later joined by the group which tried to stop the press conference.

"Call off the press conference. How much were you paid? We know what happened between you and Saiful," yelled a member of the group, identified as M Jayabalan, repeatedly.

Group: We are defending Anwar

Rahimi calmly replied: "This has nothing to do with (the court case). How can I negotiate with you when you are shouting?"

Jayabalan was there with six others, led by PKR vice-president aspirant K Sureshkumar, who claimed to have campaigned with Rahimi during the 2008 general election.

Also spotted among the group was a member of Anwar's daughter Nurul Izzah's winning team in the Lembah Pantai division polls.

"We are here to stand up for Anwar. There is nothing to expose," said Sureshkumar, who is

also Anwar's special assistant in charge of Indian affairs.

After Rahimi decided to end the press conference, he shook hands with Jayabalan. Several police officers were also at the premises.

Rahimi is Saiful's former schoolmate. He was believed to have referred Saiful to Anwar in 2008. Saiful later replaced Rahimi who left sometime that year to pursue a career in business.

Why complain 3 years later?

Contacted for comments, Anwar's counsel N Sankara denied claims that the statutory declarations were made under duress.

"Initially he is being listed as part of Anwar's defence witnesses. He voluntarily approached us to testify for us in the case.

"I emphatically wish to state that Rahimi was not forced to sign the statutory declarations. He made the SDs voluntarily and the SDs were in Anwar's favour.

"By the way, why is he making an about turn only now after about three years? This clearly smells sinister," he said.

Sankara said he reserved further comment until he sees Rahimi's police report and statutory declarations which he will then reference with those in his possession.

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