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## worker get fired without notice in UAE?

#### ABU DHABI

**BY ABDULLA RASHEED** Abu Dhabi Editor

n employer in the UAE can cancel the employment contract of an employee if the worker assumes a false identity or nationality, or submits forged certificates or documents. This is one of the circumstances outlined by the UAE Government in its latest update on conditions where an employer can terminate the service of an employee without notice.

The worker's contract can also be cancelled if he commits an error that results in a significant material loss to the employer, or if the worker intentionally damages the employer's property.

#### Violation of instructions

Other circumstances of service termination include violation of the instructions of the facility's internal regulations regarding the safety of work and workers or the workplace, provided that these instructions are written, posted in a "visible place", and the worker has been informed of them.

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# Democrats convene to crown Harris, Walz

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EVENT A CHANCE FOR VICE-PRESIDENT TO SET OUT POLICIES

**BY ALEX ABRAHAM** Senior Associate Editor

hen Kamala Harris is crowned by Democrats this week as their party candidate to take on Donald Trump in the US presidential polls, it will be a critical moment for the vicepresident to show her credentials.

As the first Black and South Asian woman to head a major US party ticket, the 59-yearold Harris and her running mate Tim Walz will be the stars of the Democratic National Convention that began yesterday where President Joe Biden will hand over the torch less than a month after his stunning withdrawal from the race.

Just a few weeks ago, the prospect of Harris leading Democrats into the four-day meeting would have seemed far-fetched, but the US political landscape has been completely upended since then.

Harris has wiped out Trump's lead in the polls, drawn huge crowds in battleground states and raised record funds while bringing what she calls a "joyful" message to the Democratic campaign.

### Chance to define herself

Her televised speech on the final night of the convention on Thursday will now be a chance to define herself to voters and sell her story as America's first Black woman vice-president. She will also finally be setting out her policies.



Kamala Harris speaks as Tim Walz looks on during a stop on their campaign bus tour in Pennsylvania on Sunday.

At the convention, Harris will be backed by three presidents -81-year-old Biden plus former presidents Barack Obama and Bill Clinton - along with former nominee Hillary Clinton.

With a little more than two months to go, the race for the White House has been tight, but Harris has seen a steady rise in her favourability ratings among Americans as a whole.

About 48 per cent of US adults have a very or somewhat favourable view of Harris, according to a new poll from The Associated Press-NORC Centre for Public Affairs Research. That is up from 39 per cent at

the beginning of the summer. It's better than the 38 per cent support that Biden had before he dropped out of the race, and the 41 per cent of adults who favour Trump.

There is heavy security in Chicago amid plans for mass protests against the Biden-Harris administration's continued support for Israel's devastating war in Gaza.

Meanwhile, Trump will attempt to undercut the Democratic celebration with a packed schedule that includes daily events in battleground states tied to subjects where Republicans think they hold an advantage. It's his busiest campaign week since the winter, when he faced challengers in the Republican primary.

# 'Last chance' for Gaza truce, US says

Ceasefire talks expected to resume in Egypt this week

#### DUBAI

BY STEPHEN N. R. Senior Associate Editor

The push to finalise a ceasefire and hostage deal in Gaza has reached a "decisive moment," top

US diplomat Antony Blinken said, urging Israel and Hamas not to derail negotiations that may be a "last opportunity" on the path to end the 10-month war. "This is a decisive moment probably the best, maybe

the last, opportunity to get the hostages home, to get a ceasefire (in Gaza) and to put everyone on a better path to enduring peace and security," Blinken said as he met Israeli leaders on his ninth trip to the region to calm simmering tensions.

#### Blame game

Blinken had meetings with Israel's President Isaac Herzog and later Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu a day after Israel and Hamas blamed each other for delays in reaching a truce accord that diplomats say could help avert a wider conflict in the region.

"We're working to make sure that there is no escalation, that there are no provocations, that there are no actions that in any way could move us away from getting this deal over the line, or, for that matter, escalating the conflict to other places, and to greater intensity," Blinken said in Tel Aviv. "It is time for it to get done. It's also time to make sure that no one takes any steps that could derail this process.'

#### Constructive meeting

Netanyahu's office said the meeting with Blinken "was positive and was held in a good atmosphere," adding that the prime minister "reiterated Israel's commitment to the current American proposal on the release of our hostages, which takes into account Israel's security needs."

A source familiar told CNN that the meeting was "constructive".

Months of on-off negotiations with US, Qatari and Egyptian mediators have failed to produce an agree-

Blinken is due to travel today to Egypt where ceasefire talks are expected to resume this week.

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