

Dear Assignment / News / Business Section Editor

Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants takes regulatory action against a certified public accountant (practising)

(HONG KONG, 9 October 2017) — The Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants has taken regulatory action against Lee Ping Kai, certified public accountant (practising) (membership number F03719) for his failure or neglect to observe, maintain or otherwise apply professional standards issued by the Institute.

Lee was a director of a corporate practice. The practice was appointed as auditor of a Hong Kong listed group and Lee was the engagement director. The practice issued an unmodified auditor's opinion on the group's financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2014 and an unqualified review opinion on the group's interim financial statements for the six months ended 30 June 2015.

The 2014 annual financial statements and 2015 interim financial statements misstated the earnings per share of the holding company. The misstatements were caused by wrongly calculated adjustments made for the company's share consolidation and rights issue. The errors represented a breach of Hong Kong Accounting Standard 33 *Earnings Per Share*. The company issued announcements in August and December 2015 about the misstated earnings per share disclosed in the financial statements.

The Institute concluded that Lee was in breach of Hong Kong Standard on Auditing 500 *Audit Evidence* in the audit of the 2014 annual financial statements. In addition, Lee was in breach of Hong Kong Standard on Review Engagements 2410 *Review of Interim Financial Information Performed by the Independent Auditor of the Entity* in the review of the 2015 interim financial statements.

Regulatory action

Based on the foregoing and in lieu of further proceedings, the Council concluded that the following should resolve the complaint:

- 1. Lee acknowledges the facts of the case and his non-compliance with the relevant professional standards;
- 2. he be reprimanded; and
- 3. he pays an administrative penalty of HK\$30,000 and costs of HK\$10,000.

In accordance with Council powers outlined in the Professional Accountants Ordinance and as a part of the regulatory process to handle complaints, a Resolution by Agreement (RBA) may be offered to respondents in cases considered to be moderate after taking into account factors including, but not limited to, the nature and seriousness of a complaint, past disciplinary records of the respondents and any aggravating or mitigating circumstances. An RBA will not be offered in cases involving complaints of dishonesty.

Information on the Institute's complaint handling process and guidelines for Resolution are available at the Institute website under the "Compliance" section at http://www.hkicpa.org.hk.

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About the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants

The Hong Kong Institute of CPAs is the only body authorized by law to register and grant practising certificates to certified public accountants in Hong Kong. The Institute has more than 41,000 members and 18,000 registered students. Members of the Institute are entitled to the description *certified public accountant* and to the designation CPA.

The Hong Kong Institute of CPAs evolved from the Hong Kong Society of Accountants, which was established on 1 January 1973.

The Institute operates under the Professional Accountants Ordinance and works in the public interest. The Institute has wide-ranging responsibilities, including assuring the quality of entry into the profession through its postgraduate qualification programme and promulgating financial reporting, auditing and ethical standards in Hong Kong. The Institute has responsibility for regulating and promoting efficient accounting practices in Hong Kong to safeguard its leadership as an international financial centre.

The Hong Kong Institute of CPAs is a member of the Global Accounting Alliance – an alliance of the world's leading professional accountancy bodies, which was formed in 2005. The GAA promotes quality services, collaborates on important international issues and works with national regulators, governments and stakeholders.

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Press Release 新聞稿



致:編採主任/新聞/財經版編輯

香港會計師公會對一名執業會計師作出監管行動

(香港,二零一七年十月九日) — 香港會計師公會就一名執業會計師李炳佳(會員編號: F03719)沒有或忽略遵守、維持或以其他方式應用公會頒布的專業準則,對他作出監管行動。

李先生是一間執業法團的董事。該執業法團受聘為一個香港上市集團的核數師,而李先生是審計項目的執業董事。執業法團對集團截至 2014 年 12 月 31 日止年度的財務報表發表了無保留的核數師意見,及對集團截至 2015 年 6 月 30 日止六個月的中期財務報表發表了無保留的審閱意見。

有關的 2014 年度財務報表及 2015 年中期財務報表內錯誤陳述了母公司每股盈利,這源於錯誤計算就公司的股份合併及供股所須作出的調整。這些錯誤違反了 Hong Kong Accounting Standard 33 *Earnings Per Share*。公司在 2015 年 8 月及 12 月對財務報表內披露的不正確每股盈利發出公告。

公會認為李先生在審計 2014 年度財務報表的過程中違反了 Hong Kong Standard on Auditing 500 Audit Evidence。另外,李先生在審閱 2015 年中期財務報表的過程中違反了 Hong Kong Standard on Review Engagements 2410 Review of Interim Financial Information Performed by the Independent Auditor of the Entity。

監管行動 (Regulatory action)

基於上文所述及為省卻進一步的程序,公會理事會決定以下列的方案解決這宗投訴:

- 1. 李先生承認此個案中的事實及違反了相關專業準則;
- 2. 他被譴責;及
- 3. 他須繳交行政罰款港幣三萬元及費用港幣一萬元。

根據《專業會計師條例》所列公會理事會的權力,以及作為處理投訴的監管程序的一部分,如公會經考慮投訴的性質及嚴重程度、答辯人過往的處分紀錄、各種加重和寬減等因素之後,認為個案屬輕微的,便可藉解決方案處理。如個案涉及不誠實行為的投訴,則不可藉解決方案處理。

有關公會投訴處理程序及解決方案的指引,可於公會網頁內 Compliance 部份查閱,網址為 http://www.hkicpa.org.hk。

關於香港會計師公會

香港會計師公會是香港唯一獲法例授權負責專業會計師註冊兼頒授執業證書的組織,會員人數超過 41,000, 註冊學生人數逾 18,000。公會會員可採用「會計師」稱銜 (英文為 certified public accountant, 簡稱 CPA)。

公會(Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants)於一九七三年一月一日成立,當時的英文名稱為 Hong Kong Society of Accountants。

公會根據《專業會計師條例》履行職責,以公眾利益為依歸。其職能廣泛,包括開辦專業資格課程(Qualification Programme)以確保會計師的入職質素,以及頒布香港的財務報告、審計及專業操守準則。此外,公會亦負責在香港監管和推動優良而有效的會計實務,以鞏固香港作為國際金融中心的領導地位。

香港會計師公會是全球會計聯盟(Global Accounting Alliance, GAA)的成員之一。 全球會計聯盟於二零零五年成立,聯合了全球頂尖的專業會計團體,推動優質服務, 並積極與各地監管機構、政府及關連人士就國際重要議題共同合作。

香港會計師公會聯絡資料

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