



Dear Assignment / News / Business Section Editor

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

(HONG KONG, 1 September 2014) — The Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants has undertaken regulatory action against a firm of certified public accountants (practising), Leslie Cheng & Co., as a just and proper resolution for the complaint lodged against the firm for non-compliance with professional standards.

The complaint concerned the firm's failure to act with sufficient diligence to identify material understatement of liabilities in the audits of financial statements for two consecutive years. During the course of the audits, the firm was provided with information indicating that the client entity had undertaken contract work which was completed with remaining unpaid contract amounts. The firm admitted that it had omitted to carry out further procedures to identify the unpaid contract amounts which represented material liabilities that should have been included in the financial statements. The Institute concluded that the firm was in breach of paragraphs 100.5(c) and 130.1 of the Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants – "*Professional Competence and Due Care*".

Regulatory action

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

1. The firm acknowledges the facts of the case and areas of its non-compliance with reference to the professional standards;
2. The firm be reprimanded; and
3. The firm is directed to pay an administrative penalty 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 complaint, a Resolution 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. A Resolution will not be offered in cases involving complaints of dishonesty.

Information on the Institute's complaint handling process and guidelines for Resolution is available at the Institute website under the "Compliance" section at 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 37,000 members and more than 17,000 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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致：編採主任／新聞／財經版編輯

香港會計師公會對一間會計師事務所作出監管行動

(香港，二零一四年九月一日) — 香港會計師公會就鄭志鵬會計師事務所沒有遵守專業準則的投訴，對事務所作出公正和恰當的監管行動。

是項投訴指該會計師事務所連續兩年在審核一個項目時，沒有足夠盡職識別出財務報表內的重重大少報負債。於審核過程中，客戶提供給該會計師事務所的資料顯示一項合約工程已完成，並須繳付餘下的合約款項。該會計師事務所承認沒有進行進一步的程序識別出該未付的合約款項是重大負債，並應該包括在財務報表中。公會的結論是該會計師事務所違反了Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants 中 paragraphs 100.5(c) 及 150.1的 - "*Professional Competence and Due Care*"。

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. 該會計師事務所承認此個案中的事實及所違反的專業準則；
2. 該會計師事務所被譴責；及
3. 該會計師事務所受命繳交行政罰款一萬港元。

根據《專業會計師條例》對公會理事會權力的概述，以及作為處理投訴的監管程序之一，如公會經考慮答辯人涉及投訴的性質及嚴重程度、答辯人過往的處分紀錄、各種加重和寬減的情況等等之後，認為個案屬於輕微的，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，網頁為<http://www.hkicpa.org.hk>。

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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，會員人數超過三萬七千，註冊學生人數逾一萬七千。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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