

Dear Assignment / News / Business Section Editor

Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants takes regulatory action against two certified public accountants (practising) and a corporate practice

(HONG KONG, 15 August 2017) — The Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants has undertaken regulatory action against Yip Kai Yin, certified public accountant (practising) (membership number A23951), Edmund Siu, certified public accountant (practising) (membership number A15356) and Elite Partners CPA Limited (corporate practice number M0269) for their failure or neglect to observe, maintain or otherwise apply professional standards issued by the Institute.

Elite audited the consolidated financial statements of a Hong Kong listed company and its subsidiaries for each of the five years ended 30 June 2011 to 2015. Yip was the engagement director and Siu was the engagement quality control reviewer.

Elite issued modified auditor's opinions on the financial statements for each of the two years ended 30 June 2013 and 2014 due to a limitation of audit scope resulting from the auditor's inability to attend the physical count of inventory and asset inspection at 30 June 2013 and its consequential effect. The effect of the audit scope limitation remained unresolved in the year ended 30 June 2015, but Elite issued an unmodified auditor's opinion on the financial statements for that year. The Institute concluded that Yip, Siu and Elite were in breach of Hong Kong Standard on Auditing 710 *Comparative Information – Corresponding Figures and Comparative Financial Statements* in reporting on the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2015.

Regulatory action

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

- 1. Yip, Siu and Elite acknowledge the facts of the case and their non-compliance with the relevant professional standards;
- 2. they be reprimanded;
- 3. each of Yip and Elite pay an administrative penalty of HK\$50,000 and Siu pay an administrative penalty of HK\$10,000; and
- 4. the three respondents jointly pay 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 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 40,000 members and 20,000 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

香港會計師公會對兩名執業會計師及一間執業法團作出監管行動

(香港,二零一七年八月十五日) — 香港會計師公會就兩名執業會計師葉啟賢(會員編號: A23951)與蕭俊文(會員編號: A15356)及開元信德會計師事務所有限公司(執業法團編號: M0269)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,對他們作出監管行動。

開元信德就一間香港上市公司及其附屬公司截至 2011 至 2015 年 6 月 30 日這五個年度的綜合財務報表進行審計。葉先生為項目的執業董事,而蕭先生為項目的質量控制覆核人員。

開元信德對截至 2013 及 2014 年 6 月 30 日兩個年度的財務報表發表了具保留意見的核數師報告,原因是核數師無法在 2013 年 6 月 30 日出席存貨盤點及資產檢查而令審計範圍受到限制,及其帶來的相關影響。該審計範圍受到限制的影響在截至 2015 年 6 月 30 日的年度仍未得到解決,然而,開元信德卻對該年度的財務報表發出無保留意見的核數師報告。公會認為葉先生、蕭先生及開元信德就截至 2015 年 6 月 30 日的財務報表所發出的報告違反了 Hong Kong Standard on Auditing 710 Comparative Information – Corresponding Figures and Comparative Financial Statements。

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. 葉先生、蕭先生及開元信德承認此個案中的事實及他們違反了相關專業準則;
- 2. 他們均被譴責;
- 3. 葉先生和開元信德須各繳交行政罰款港幣五萬元,蕭先生須繳交行政罰款港幣一萬元;及
- 4. 三名答辯人須合共繳交費用港幣一萬元。

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之一,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、各種加重和寬減的情況等等之後,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 www.hkicpa.org.hk。

一完一

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, 會員人數超過四萬,註冊學生人數逾二萬。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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