



Hong Kong Institute of
Certified Public Accountants
香港會計師公會

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

(HONG KONG, 11 June 2021) The Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants has taken regulatory action against Mr. Chan Chi Kwong, Dickson, a certified public accountant (practising) (F05388) and CF Partners Limited (M0366) for their failure or neglect to observe, maintain or otherwise apply professional standards issued by the Institute.

The respondents issued an accountant's report for a solicitors' firm ("Firm") under the Accountant's Report Rules (Cap. 159A). In conducting the reporting engagement, the respondents failed to comply with the Accountant's Report Rules and the Institute's Practice Note 840 (Revised) *Reporting on Solicitors' Accounts under the Solicitors' Accounts Rules and the Accountant's Report Rules*. They did not perform adequate procedures to identify (i) overdrawing of client money from client bank accounts by the Firm; and (ii) drawing of money from client bank accounts by the Firm for disbursements not yet expended. Furthermore, they did not adequately perform checks to identify an overpayment into the client bank accounts by the Firm.

The Institute concluded that the respondents failed or neglected to observe, maintain or otherwise apply the fundamental principle of professional competence and due care in sections 110.1 A1(c) and R113.1 under Chapter A of the Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants.

Regulatory action

Based on the foregoing and in lieu of further proceedings, the Council of the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants concluded that the following should resolve the complaint:

1. the respondents acknowledge the facts of the case and areas of non-compliance with professional standards;
2. the respondents be reprimanded; and
3. the respondents jointly pay an administrative penalty of HK\$15,000 and costs of the Institute of HK\$15,000.

About Resolution by Agreement

In order to better serve the interests of the public and the profession, the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants ("HKICPA") ensures complaints are dealt with in an effective and transparent manner. In accordance with Council powers outlined in the

Professional Accountants Ordinance, a Resolution by Agreement ("RBA") may be offered in uncontested cases considered to be moderate after taking into account the nature and gravity of the complaint, past disciplinary records of the respondent and any aggravating or mitigating circumstances. An RBA will not be offered in cases involving complaints of dishonesty, which are handled through a separate disciplinary process.

The RBA includes a mandatory public censure which entails publication of the name of the respondent, facts of the case and areas of non-compliance with professional standards. Information on the Institute's complaint handling process and guidelines for Resolutions by Agreement are available at the Institute website under the "Compliance" section at www.hkicpa.org.hk.

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About HKICPA

The Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants ("HKICPA") is the statutory body established by the Professional Accountants Ordinance responsible for the professional training, development and regulation of certified public accountants in Hong Kong. The Institute has over 46,000 members and 16,000 registered students.

Our qualification programme assures the quality of entry into the profession, and we promulgate financial reporting, auditing and ethical standards that safeguard Hong Kong's leadership as an international financial centre.

The CPA designation is a top qualification recognised globally. The Institute is a member of and actively contributes to the work of the Global Accounting Alliance and International Federation of Accountants.

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香港會計師公會對一名執業會計師及一間執業法團作出監管行動

(香港，二零二一年六月十一日) 香港會計師公會就執業會計師陳智光先生(會員編號：F05388)及闊範會計師事務所有限公司(執業法團編號：M0366)沒有或忽略遵守、維持或以其他方式應用公會頒佈的專業準則，對他們作出監管行動。

答辯人按照香港法例第 159A 章《會計師報告規則》為一間律師事務所發出會計師報告。答辯人在進行該報告項目時，沒有遵從《會計師報告規則》及公會的 Practice Note 第 840 號(經修訂)「Reporting on Solicitors' Accounts under the Solicitors' Accounts Rules and the Accountant's Report Rules」。他們沒有執行充分程序以發現(i)該律師事務所從客戶的銀行賬戶透支客戶款項；及(ii)該律師事務所從客戶的銀行賬戶提取尚未墊支的款項。此外，他們沒有執行充分調查以發現該律師事務所曾向客戶銀行賬戶存入超額款項。

公會認為答辯人沒有或忽略遵守、維持或以其他方式應用 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants 第 A 章第 110.1 A1(c)及 R113.1 條有關「Professional Competence and Due Care」的基本原則。

監管行動

基於上文所述及為省卻進一步程序，香港會計師公會理事會決定以下列的方案解決這宗投訴：

1. 答辯人承認此個案中的事實及違反專業準則之處；
2. 答辯人被譴責；及
3. 答辯人須共同繳交行政罰款 15,000 港元及公會費用 15,000 港元。

有關解決方案

為保障公眾及會計界的利益，香港會計師公會以有效及具透明度的方式處理投訴個案。根據《專業會計師條例》概述的公會理事會權力，公會在考慮投訴個案的性質與嚴重性、答辯人的過往處分紀錄，以及加重與寬減等因素後，若認為個案屬中度嚴重，便可在答辯人不抗辯的情況下藉解決方案處理。然而，如個案涉及不誠實行為的投訴，則不可藉解決方案處理，而須另按紀律處分程序處理。

對於所有解決方案，公會均作出強制性的公開譴責及公佈答辯人的姓名、個案涉及的事實和所違反的專業準則。公會投訴處理程序及解決方案的指引，可於公會網頁 (www.hkicpa.org.hk) 內「Compliance」部份查閱。

關於香港會計師公會

香港會計師公會是根據《專業會計師條例》成立的法定機構，負責培訓、發展和監管本港的會計專業。公會會員逾 46,000 名，學生人數逾 16,000。

公會開辦專業資格課程，確保會計師的入職質素，同時頒佈財務報告、審計及專業操守的準則，以鞏固香港作為國際金融中心的領導地位。

CPA 會計師是一個獲國際認可的頂尖專業資格。公會是全球會計聯盟及國際會計師聯合會的成員之一，積極推動國際專業發展。

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