Home ▶ News & announcements ▶ News ▶ Enforcement news

SFC Reprimands Wing On Cheong Securities Company Limited for Failing to Properly Guard Against Unregistered Activities

29 Nov 2002

The SFC has reprimanded Wing On Cheong Securities Company Limited (WOC), a registered dealer under the Securities Ordinance.

The reprimand stems from an inquiry that revealed two former employees at WOC had engaged in unregistered dealings from October 1999 to November 2000 in contravention of the registration requirements of the Securities Ordinance. The inquiry further revealed that WOC failed to properly supervise its staff and monitor their activities so as to prevent unregistered activities from taking place.

As a result of the above findings, the SFC concludes that the fitness and properness of WOC as a registered person has been seriously impugned and decides to reprimand WOC.

Mr Alan Linning, SFC's Executive Director of Enforcement, said: "Adequate staff supervision is essential to ensure the proper functioning of a securities dealership to minimise the risk to clients as well as maintaining market integrity. Staff are registered to ensure that they are honest, competent, and financially sound so clients are protected. Brokers should take sufficient steps to ensure only their registered staff open client accounts, take client orders and give investment advice."

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