



HKICPA takes disciplinary action against a certified public accountant

(HONG KONG, 9 March 2018) — On 30 January 2018, a Disciplinary Committee of the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants ordered that the name of Mak Wai Man (membership number A37354) be removed from the register of CPAs for five years with effect from 11 March 2018. In addition, Mak was ordered to pay costs of the disciplinary proceedings of HK\$72,446.

Mak was convicted of three counts of offences under section 9 of the Theft Ordinance (Cap 210) after she forged the signature of one of her employer's directors and drew a cheque in her own favour. As a result, the company dismissed her.

Subsequently, Mak provided false information about her professional qualifications and work experience to another employer. That employer unknowingly submitted the false information in an Application Proof to the Hong Kong Stock Exchange for listing purposes.

Mak failed to declare to the Institute that she had criminal convictions in the Institute's annual membership renewal.

After considering the information available, the Institute lodged a complaint against Mak under sections 34(1)(a)(ii) and 34(1)(a)(vi) of the Professional Accountants Ordinance (Cap 50).

Mak admitted the complaint against her. The Disciplinary Committee found that Mak was in breach of section 34(1)(a)(ii) of the PAO because she had been convicted of offences involving dishonesty. Mak was also in breach of the fundamental principle of Integrity under sections 100.5(a) and 110.2 of the Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants.

Having taken into account the circumstances of the case, the Disciplinary Committee made the above order against Mak under section 35(1) of the Ordinance.

About HKICPA Disciplinary Process

The Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants (HKICPA) enforces the highest professional and ethical standards in the accounting profession. Governed by the Professional Accountants Ordinance (Cap. 50) and the Disciplinary Committee Proceedings Rules, an independent Disciplinary Committee is convened to deal with a complaint referred by Council. If the charges against a member, member practice or registered student are proven, the Committee will make disciplinary orders setting out the sanctions it considers appropriate. Subject to any appeal by the respondent, the order and findings of the Disciplinary Committee will be published.

For more information, please see:

<http://www.hkicpa.org.hk/en/standards-and-regulations/compliance/disciplinary/>

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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 more than 42,000 members and 18,000 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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