



Dear Assignment / News / Business Section Editor

Hong Kong Institute of CPAs takes disciplinary action Against a certified public accountant

(HONG KONG, 7 June 2010) — A Disciplinary Committee of the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants ordered on 27 April 2010 that the name of Lam Sing Keung (membership number A02490) be permanently removed from the register of certified public accountants, with effect from 12 June 2010, due to his conviction in Hong Kong of one offence involving dishonesty.

In addition, Lam was ordered to pay the costs of the disciplinary proceedings amounting to HK\$42,102.

Lam was the finance director of a company listed on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange. He was found to have conspired with another person to defraud the company and in June 2008, he was convicted of conspiracy to defraud under section 159C(6) of the Crimes Ordinance (Cap. 200). Lam was sentenced to imprisonment for eighteen months.

After considering the information available, the Institute lodged a complaint against Lam under section 34(1A) of the Professional Accountants Ordinance.

The Disciplinary Committee found the complaint against Lam proven. Having taken into account the circumstances of the case, the Disciplinary Committee made the order as stated above against Lam.

Findings of the Disciplinary Committee are available at the Institute's website under the "Compliance" section at www.hkicpa.org.hk.

Disciplinary proceedings of the Institute are conducted in accordance with Part V of the Professional Accountants Ordinance by a five-member Disciplinary Committee. The majority (three members) of each committee, including the chair, are non-accountants chosen from a panel of lay persons appointed by the Chief Executive of the HKSAR, and the other two members are CPAs.

Disciplinary hearings are held in public unless the Disciplinary Committee directs otherwise in the interests of justice. A hearing schedule is available at the Institute's website. A CPA who is aggrieved by an order made by a Disciplinary Committee may appeal to the Court of Appeal, which may confirm, vary or reverse the order.

The Disciplinary Committees have the power to sanction members, member practices and registered students. Sanctions may include temporary or permanent removal from membership or cancellation of a practising certificate, a reprimand, a penalty of no more than \$500,000, and payment of costs and expenses of the proceedings.

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About the Hong Kong Institute of CPAs

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 30,000 members and 14,000 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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