

Mr Ong Kian Meng (Mr Ong), a public accountant (Registration No.: 01612), practising in the accounting firm of UHY Lee Seng Chan & Co., located at 6001 Beach Road, #14-01 Golden Mile Tower, Singapore 199589, has obtained a “not satisfactory”¹ outcome on his practice review. The Public Accountants Oversight Committee ordered on 4 November 2024, among others, that:

- a. Mr Ong be restricted from performing the audit and reporting on financial statements of any entity, for which the audit is required to be done by written law² for a period of 15 months commencing from 19 November 2024 to 18 February 2026.
- b. Mr Ong be restricted from performing the audit and reporting on financial statements of all public interest entities³ for a period of 24 months commencing from 19 November 2024 to 18 November 2026.
- c. Mr Ong be required to undergo a review⁴ (commonly known as “hot review”) by a hot reviewer⁵ approved by ACRA, for 10 audit engagements signed off by Mr Ong, each involving annual turnover greater than S\$10 million, within a period of 12 months commencing from 19 February 2026 to 18 February 2027.

Arising from the above order, Mr Ong shall not be an audit principal⁶ with effect from 19 November 2024 and during the currency of both the restriction and hot review orders.

The information contained herein is accurate as of the date of publication, and ACRA may not issue a revised notice even if there are subsequent changes.

19 November 2024

¹ A ‘not satisfactory’ outcome arises where there are extensive number and/or significant/severe and/or repeated non-compliances with relevant professional standards/pronouncements.

² The definition of written law can be found in section 2(1) of the Interpretation Act 1965.

³ The phrase “public interest entities” as used here has the same meaning as defined in the *Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics for Public Accountants and Accounting Entities*.

⁴ A hot review aims to uphold audit quality and improve the public accountant’s work through supervision and mentorship. Please refer to Practice Direction No. 2 of 2024: Practice Monitoring Programme – “Hot Review” Order for information on hot reviews.

⁵ A suitably qualified hot reviewer can be a public accountant or a former public accountant who has passed ACRA’s practice review. Please refer to Clarifications to Questions on Hot Review of Practice Direction No. 2 of 2024 for more details.

⁶ An audit principal is a public accountant who directly supervises or undertakes the overall oversight of a pupil’s acquisition of qualifying audit experience. The public accountant must have at least 5 years’ experience in public practice and must not be subject to any of the following PAOC orders:

- (i) An order prohibiting the public accountant from being an audit principal;
- (ii) A hot review order;
- (iii) A restriction order;
- (iv) A suspension order.