

**Inspection of
Reuben E. Price & Co. Public Accountancy Corp.**

Issued by the

Public Company Accounting Oversight Board

July 25, 2005

THIS IS A PUBLIC VERSION OF A PCAOB INSPECTION REPORT

**PORTIONS OF THE COMPLETE REPORT ARE OMITTED
FROM THIS DOCUMENT IN ORDER TO COMPLY WITH
SECTIONS 104(g)(2) AND 105(b)(5)(A)
OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002**

Notes Concerning this Report

1. Portions of this report may describe deficiencies or potential deficiencies in the systems, policies, procedures, practices, or conduct of the firm that is the subject of this report. The express inclusion of certain deficiencies and potential deficiencies, however, should not be construed to support any negative inference that any other aspect of the firm's systems, policies, procedures, practices, or conduct is approved or condoned by the Board or judged by the Board to comply with laws, rules, and professional standards.
2. Any references in this report to violations or potential violations of law, rules, or professional standards should be understood in the supervisory context in which this report was prepared. Any such references are not a result of an adversarial adjudicative process and do not constitute conclusive findings of fact or of violations for purposes of imposing legal liability. Similarly, any description herein of a firm's cooperation in addressing issues constructively should not be construed, and is not construed by the Board, as an admission, for purposes of potential legal liability, of any violation.
3. Board inspections encompass, among other things, whether the firm has failed to identify departures from Generally Accepted Accounting Principles ("GAAP") in its audits of financial statements. This report's descriptions of any such auditing failures necessarily involve descriptions of the related GAAP departures. The Board, however, has no authority to prescribe the form or content of an issuer's financial statements. That authority, and the authority to make binding determinations concerning an issuer's compliance with GAAP, rests with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC" or "Commission"). Any description, in this report, of perceived departures from GAAP should not be understood as an indication that the Commission has considered or made any determination regarding these GAAP issues unless otherwise expressly stated.

INSPECTION OF REUBEN E. PRICE & CO. PUBLIC ACCOUNTANCY CORP.

The Public Company Accounting Oversight Board ("PCAOB" or "the Board") has conducted an inspection of the registered public accounting firm Reuben E. Price & Co. Public Accountancy Corp. ("the Firm"). The Board is issuing this report of that inspection in accordance with the requirements of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 ("the Act").

The Board is making portions of the report publicly available. Specifically, the Board is releasing to the public Part I of the report and portions of Part IV of the report. Part IV of the report consists of the Firm's comments, if any, on a draft of the report.^{1/}

The Board has elsewhere described in detail its approach to making inspection-related information publicly available consistent with legal restrictions.^{2/} A substantial portion of the Board's criticisms of a firm (specifically criticisms of the firm's quality control system), and the Board's dialogue with the firm about those criticisms, occurs out of public view, unless the firm fails to make progress to the Board's satisfaction in addressing those criticisms. In addition, the Board generally does not disclose otherwise nonpublic information, learned through inspections, about the firm or its clients. Accordingly, information in those categories generally does not appear in the publicly available portion of an inspection report.

^{1/} The Board does not make public any of a firm's comments that address a nonpublic portion of the report. In addition, pursuant to section 104(f) of the Act, 15 U.S.C. § 7214(f), and PCAOB Rule 4007(b), if a firm requests, and the Board grants, confidential treatment for any of the firm's comments on a draft report, the Board does not include those comments in the final report at all. The Board notes that it routinely grants confidential treatment, if requested, for any of a firm's comments that identify factually inaccurate statements in the draft that the Board corrects in the final report.

^{2/} See Statement Concerning the Issuance of Inspection Reports, PCAOB Release No. 104-2004-001 (August 26, 2004).

PART I

INSPECTION PROCEDURES AND CERTAIN OBSERVATIONS

Members of the Board's inspection staff ("the inspection team") conducted fieldwork for the inspection from May 3, 2004 to May 7, 2004. The fieldwork included procedures tailored to the nature of the Firm, certain aspects of which the inspection team understood at the outset of the inspection to be as follows:

Number of offices	1 (San Francisco, CA)
Ownership structure	California corporation
Number of partners	1
Number of professional staff ^{3/}	8
Number of issuer audit clients ^{4/}	1

Board inspections are designed to identify and address weaknesses and deficiencies related to how a firm conducts audits. To achieve that goal, Board inspections include reviews of certain aspects of selected audits performed by the firm and reviews of other matters related to the firm's quality control system.

In the course of reviewing aspects of selected audits, an inspection may identify ways in which a particular audit is deficient, including failures by the firm to identify, or to address appropriately, respects in which an issuer's financial statements do not present

^{3/} "Professional staff" includes all personnel of the Firm, except partners or shareholders and administrative support personnel. The number of partners and professional staff is provided here as an indication of the size of the Firm, and does not necessarily represent the number of the Firm's professionals who participate in audits of issuers or are "associated persons" (as defined in the Act) of the Firm.

^{4/} The number of issuer audit clients shown here is based on the Firm's self-reporting and the inspection team's review of certain information for inspection planning purposes. It does not reflect any Board determination concerning which, or how many, of the Firm's audit clients are "issuers" as defined in the Act.

fairly the financial position, results of operations, or cash flows of the issuer in conformity with GAAP.^{5/} It is not the purpose of an inspection, however, to review all of a firm's audits or to identify every respect in which a reviewed audit is deficient. Accordingly, a Board inspection report should not be understood to provide any assurance that the firm's audits, or its issuer clients' financial statements, are free of any deficiencies not specifically described in an inspection report.

A. Review of Audit Engagements

The scope of the inspection procedures performed included review of aspects of the performance of the Firm's audit of the financial statements of its issuer audit client (which was not yet completed at the time of the inspection team's review) and aspects of the performance of the Firm's audit of the separate financial statements of a company acquired by that issuer audit client, which were filed with the SEC on a Form 8-K/A. Those aspects were selected according to the Board's criteria, and the Firm was not allowed an opportunity to limit or influence the selection process.

The inspection team identified matters that it considered to be audit deficiencies.^{6/} The deficiencies identified included a deficiency of such significance that it appeared to the inspection team that the Firm did not obtain sufficient competent evidential matter to support its opinion on the financial statements. That deficiency was the inappropriate reliance on the work of another auditor to perform substantially all of the audit procedures that served as the basis for the Firm's opinion.

^{5/} When it comes to the Board's attention that an issuer's financial statements appear not to present fairly, in a material respect, the financial position, results of operations or cash flows of the issuer in conformity with GAAP, the Board reports that information to the SEC, which has jurisdiction to determine proper accounting in issuers' financial statements.

^{6/} PCAOB standards require a firm to take appropriate actions to assess the importance of audit deficiencies identified after the date of the audit report to the firm's present ability to support its previously expressed opinions. *See* AU 390, *Consideration of Omitted Procedures After the Report Date*, and AU 561, *Subsequent Discovery of Facts Existing at the Date of the Auditor's Report* (both included among the PCAOB's interim auditing standards, pursuant to PCAOB Rule 3200T). Failure to comply with these PCAOB standards could be a basis for Board disciplinary sanctions.

B. Review of Quality Control System

In addition to evaluating the quality of the audit work performed on specific audits, the inspection included review of certain of the Firm's practices, policies and procedures related to audit quality. This review addressed practices, policies, and procedures concerning audit performance, training, compliance with independence standards, client acceptance and retention, and the establishment of policies and procedures. As described above, any defects in, or criticisms of, the Firm's quality control system are discussed in the nonpublic portion of this report and will remain nonpublic unless the Firm fails to address them to the Board's satisfaction within 12 months of the date of this report.

END OF PART I

PARTS II AND III OF THIS REPORT ARE NONPUBLIC
AND ARE OMITTED FROM THIS PUBLIC DOCUMENT

PART IV

RESPONSE OF THE FIRM TO DRAFT INSPECTION REPORT

Pursuant to section 104(f) of the Act, 15 U.S.C. § 7214(f), and PCAOB Rule 4007(a), the Board provided the Firm an opportunity to review and comment on a draft of this report. The Firm provided a written response.

Pursuant to section 104(f) of the Act and PCAOB Rule 4007(b), if a firm requests, and the Board grants, confidential treatment for any of the firm's comments on a draft report, the Board does not include those comments in the final report. The Board routinely grants confidential treatment, if requested, for any of a firm's comments that identify factually inaccurate statements in the draft that the Board corrects in the final report.

Pursuant to section 104(f) of the Act and PCAOB Rule 4007(b), the Firm's response, minus any portion granted confidential treatment, is attached hereto and made part of this final inspection report. In any version of this report that the Board makes publicly available, any portions of the Firm's response that address nonpublic portions of the report are omitted.

END OF PART IV

REUBEN E. PRICE, C.P.A. (1904-1986)

RICHARD A PRICE, C.P.A.

REUBEN E. PRICE & CO.
PUBLIC ACCOUNTANCY CORPORATION
FOUNDED 1942

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OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF
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CALIFORNIA SOCIETY OF
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

January 10, 2005

George H. Diacont, Director
Division of Registration and Inspections
Public Company Accounting Oversight Board
1666 K Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20006

Re: Response to Draft Report of Inspection of
Reuben E. Price & Company Public Accountancy Corp.

Dear Mr. Diacont:

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board's ("PCAOB") draft report of its inspection of Reuben E. Price & Company Public Accountancy Corp. ("the Firm").

As a small independent firm, we appreciate the PCAOB's inspection, and strongly support the PCAOB's mission and goals, as defined in the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 ("the Act").

We appreciate the opportunity to comment, pursuant to PCAOB Rule 4009, on the criticisms and comments in the draft inspection report.

Redacted
Comments on Non-public Aspects of Report

We believe it is important to note that during the course of the inspection, both the principals and associates of the Firm were forthright and candid with the inspection team, and intended to promptly respond to requests for documents, and other factual inquiries. We believe that this responsiveness is strong evidence of our

commitment to the PCAOB and its goals of restoring investor confidence and public trust in our profession.

As a Firm, which has been in existence since 1942, we are well aware of the increased importance and public expectations regarding the role of an auditor. Throughout our history, we have been committed to the independence and integrity of the accounting profession and the auditing function.

We believe our comments are responsive to the draft report, and look forward to working with the PCAOB, and its staff, in implementing a detailed action plan to address the PCAOB's observations. We understand the importance of strengthening our firm and the profession, and working with PCAOB in restoring the public's trust and the capability and integrity of the accounting and auditing professions.

Very truly yours,

Reuben E. Price & Co.

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January 10, 2005

George H. Diacont, Director
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Public Company Accounting Oversight Board
1666 K Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20006

Re: Firm Response to the Draft Report of Inspection of
Reuben E. Price and Company Public Accountancy Corp.

Dear Mr. Diacont:

This letter is in response to the Draft Report of Inspection of Reuben E. Price and Company Public Accountancy Corp. ("the Firm"). The Firm hereby requests that the portions of our response related to Parts II and III be kept non-public.

PART I

FACTUAL MATTERS

While the Board properly notes that the Firm's ownership structure is a corporation, the correct reference should be to "Sole Shareholder" rather than "Sole Proprietor".

ALLEGED DEFICIENCIES

Redacted
Comments on Non-public Aspects of Report

(2) The Firm believes that the Board has underestimated the Firm's planning and oversight over the other firm's audit procedures, which served in part as the basis for our opinion on the acquired company's financial statements.

Redacted
Comments on Non-public Aspects of Report

The Firm appreciates the opportunity to comment on the draft Inspection Report, and looks forward to working with the PCAOB and its staff in implementing revised policies, procedures and practices to improve the quality of the Firm's audit services for the benefit of public investors.

Very truly yours,

Reuben E. Price & Co.