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**STATE OF CALIFORNIA
BUSINESS, CONSUMER SERVICES AND HOUSING AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL PROTECTION AND INNOVATION**

To: Pacific Bank PLC
249 Fifth Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

**CEASE AND DESIST ORDER
(For violations of Financial Code sections 560 and 562)**

The Commissioner of Financial Protection and Innovation (Commissioner)¹ finds that:

1. At all relevant times, Pacific Bank PLC is and was a business entity of unknown type, with a purported address of 249 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15222.
2. At all relevant times, Pacific Bank PLC maintained websites at www.pacificbplc.com and www.pacificbankplc.com, and phone numbers of 606-263-0986 and 717-283-1617.
3. In October of 2024, Pacific Bank PLC’s websites offered services normally offered by banks, such as checking accounts and debit cards.
4. The above-named websites made the following statements to the California public as follows:
 - a. “Pacific Bank continues to serve the financial needs of individuals... by offering the traditional banking products, as well as online, mobile and telephone banking products.”
 - b. “Our Vision [is] [t]o be a leading bank in the World....”
 - c. “Our Ultimate Checking comes with interest rates that soar higher as your balance goes up, plus get free online banking and unlimited check writing.”

¹ The Department of Financial Protection and Innovation (DFPI) is responsible for enforcing provisions of the California Financial Code commencing at section 550, and is authorized to pursue administrative actions and remedies against persons who violate those provisions.

1 5. Financial Code section 560 provides, “No person who has not received a certificate
2 from the commissioner authorizing it to engage in the banking business shall solicit or receive
3 deposits, issue certificate of deposits with or without provision for interest, make payments on
4 checks, or transact business in the way or manner of a bank or trust company.”

5 6. Financial Code section 562 provides, “No person who has not received a certificate
6 from the commissioner authorizing it to engage in the banking business shall transact business
7 under any name or title that contains the word ‘bank’ ... or act or advertise in any manner that
8 indicates that the business is the business of a bank...”

9 7. The Commissioner has not issued Pacific Bank PLC a certificate authorizing them to
10 engage in the banking business in this State.

11 8. Pursuant to Financial Code section 567, “If the commissioner finds that a person has
12 conducted, or that there is reasonable cause to believe that a person is about to conduct, business
13 that requires a license issued by the commissioner and that person has not been issued the required
14 license, the commissioner may, without any prior notice or hearing, order the person to cease and
15 desist from conducting any unauthorized business unless and until the person is issued a license to
16 engage in appropriate license business.”

17 Based on the foregoing findings, the Commissioner is of the opinion that Pacific Bank PLC
18 is engaged in the business of soliciting or receiving deposits, without first obtaining a certificate
19 from the Commissioner authorizing it to engage in the banking business in this State, in violation of
20 Financial Code section 560.

21 The Commissioner is of the further opinion that Pacific Bank PLC acted or advertised in a
22 manner that indicates that their business is the business of a bank, without first obtaining a certificate
23 from the Commissioner authorizing it to engage in the banking business in this State, in violation of
24 Financial Code section 562.

25 Pursuant to Financial Code section 567, Pacific Bank PLC is hereby ordered to cease and
26 desist from engaging in the business of soliciting or receiving deposits or transact business in the
27 way or manner of a bank and/or making use of or circulating written words indicating that their
28 business is the business of a bank, and/or transacting business in a way or manner as to lead the

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public to believe that its business is that of a bank, without first obtaining a certificate from the Commissioner authorizing them to engage in the banking business in this State, or otherwise being exempt.

This Order is necessary, in the public interest, for the protection of consumers and consistent with the purposes, policies and provision of the California Financial Institutions Law.

Dated: December 9, 2024
Sacramento, California

CLOTHILDE V. HEWLETT
Commissioner of Financial Protection and Innovation



By _____
MARY ANN SMITH
Deputy Commissioner
Enforcement Division