

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
before the
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934
Release No. 73254 / September 30, 2014

Admin. Proc. File No. 3-15932

In the Matter of

COWLITZ BANCORPORATION,
FIRST PLACE FINANCIAL CORP., and
KEDEM PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.

NOTICE THAT INITIAL DECISION HAS BECOME FINAL

The time for filing a petition for review of the initial decision in this proceeding has expired. No such petition has been filed by Cowlitz Bancorporation, First Place Financial Corp., and Kedem Pharmaceuticals, Inc., and the Commission has not chosen to review the decision on its own initiative.

Accordingly, notice is hereby given, pursuant to Rule 360(d) of the Commission's Rules of Practice,¹ that the initial decision of the administrative law judge² has become the final decision of the Commission with respect to Cowlitz Bancorporation, First Place Financial Corp., and Kedem Pharmaceuticals, Inc. The initial decision ordered that, pursuant to Section 12(j) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrations of each class of registered securities of Cowlitz Bancorporation, First Place Financial Corp., and Kedem Pharmaceuticals, Inc., are hereby revoked.

For the Commission, by the Office of the General Counsel, pursuant to delegated authority.

Brent J. Fields
Secretary

¹ 17 C.F.R. § 201.360(d).

² *Cowlitz Bancorp., First Place Fin. Corp., and Kedem Pharm., Inc.*, Initial Decision Rel. No. 639 (July 23, 2014), 109 SEC Docket 08, 2014 WL 3613230. The stock symbols and Central Key Index numbers are: CWLZ and 894267 for Cowlitz Bancorporation; FPFQ and 1068912 for First Place Financial Corp.; and KDMP and 1376228 for Kedem Pharmaceuticals, Inc.