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2024

Global Law Experts (GLE) Handbook 2024





Welcome to the Global Law Experts (GLE) Handbook

2024

This handbook is designed to serve as a valuable reference tool – allowing CEOs, business owners, funders and corporate finance professionals to source some of the foremost legal experts from around the world.

For ease of reference, we have separated the handbook into four regional sections: Europe, The Americas, Asia & Oceania, and Africa & The Middle East.

At the back of the publication, you will find an alphabetical Index of the firms involved.

We hope that the 2024 GLE Handbook proves useful, and helps our readers gain access to global legal advisers in a number of specialist practice areas.

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EUROPE

According to the IMF in October, Europe is now at a turning point. The continent is grappling with defeating inflation and also needs to secure strong and green growth over the longer term.

Europe's economies have slowed in 2023, as expected, reflecting tighter macroeconomic policies combined with high energy costs. So far, labour markets have remained strong, but high frequency indicators also suggest a slowdown in services and a weakening in hiring. Headline inflation is declining rapidly, but core inflation, which is used as a measure of the underlying inflation pressures, remains persistently high. In several countries, wage growth has now caught up to inflation or is even exceeding it. In the IMF's growth forecast for 2023, advanced European economies are slowing to 0.7%. The slowdown in emerging

Europe – excluding Belarus, Russia, Turkey and Ukraine because of the high volatility of data in these countries – is expected to bottom out at 1.1%.

Europe's outlook for 2024 is one of gradual recovery. As prices decline and wages rise, Europe's consumers are beginning to recoup purchasing power, and that will lift domestic demand. The strength of this rebound will differ across countries. Specifically, manufacturing and energy intensive countries will be slower to recover than others. Meanwhile, in advanced European economies, economic growth is forecast to fall to 0.7 in 2023's final data before some pick up to 1.2% in 2024. In emerging market European economies – again excluding Russia, Ukraine, Turkey and Belarus – it is expected, after the drop from 4.5% from 2022 to 1.1% for 2023, to recover to 2.9% in 2024. Headline inflation is projected to decline, and



that is owed to lower energy prices and easing supply chain bottlenecks. The IMF projected at 5.8% on average in the advanced European economy in 2023, and 11.9% in emerging market European economies – again, excluding the aforementioned four countries. Most countries will not reach their inflation targets before 2025.

The medium-term growth outlook is also not without its challenges. Europe has grappled with low productivity growth for some time, and the effects of population ageing and labour supply constraints are beginning to bite. Geoeconomic fragmentation and the effects of climate change will add to these problems. In emerging market economies, a failure to raise growth could further delay income convergence with the continent's advanced economies.

So, what can policymakers do to address these issues? Price and fiscal stability are paramount for countries to prosper. Governments also need to tackle longstanding growth problems by creating a more flexible and adaptable economy.

First, we need to end inflation. Experience from past inflation episodes caution against easing too early. A central risk to the forecast is higher and more persistent inflation, and wage growth could prove to be faster than assumed in baseline projections. This would push up labour costs and result in higher prices. As a consequence, the IMF recommends that central banks maintain a restrictive monetary policy stance for as long as necessary. In economies where the current monetary policy stance is loose, policy rates may need to be raised or kept high for longer.



Second, governments need to rebuild or maintain fiscal buffers. In the first instance, this means that extraordinary fiscal support should be unbound – this is in reference to the cost-of-living packages that were in place to deal with the energy crisis. However, for many countries, more ambitious fiscal consolidation is required. This is especially true where debt ratios are high or rising. This will require cuts in spending in noncritical areas, better spending targeting, as well as an elimination of tax inefficiencies.

Third, financial policies should pre-emptively address pockets of financial strain. Bank profits were boosted by cyclically rising net interest margins, and these should be maintained by increasing capital buffers. In this way, banks build resilience against cyclical and structural risks to their real estate credit portfolio, especially where housing and commercial real estate prices have fallen. In addition, bank windfall taxes should be avoided, as they distort the allocation of credit.

Finally, structural policies need to address the scars left by the recent crisis and tackle long-standing growth problems. A core problem is Europe’s weak productivity growth. Accordingly, reforms should focus on removing barriers that stand in the way of economic innovation and dynamism. State aid rules should not be softened, while the integrity of the EU single market is to be maintained. Improving worker training and skills matching will be particularly important to facilitate the green transition; meanwhile, the countries in Central Europe and Southeastern Europe need to focus on closing investment gaps in infrastructure and in human capital. This will help attract inward investment but will also boost growth.

In summary – European policymakers need to remain focused on defeating inflation. Restoring price and fiscal stability are paramount for countries to prosper. However, Europe also needs to tackle well-known structural reform agendas in order to secure strong and green growth over the longer term.



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ShukeLaw



Shuke Law is a full-service multi-disciplinary law firm formed on July 2009 by Founding & Managing Partner Adv. Enyal Shuke, an experienced Albanian Attorney (22 years' post-qualification experience). Adv. Enyal Shuke, in the years prior to founding Shuke Law (1998 – June 2009), has acquired significant international experience and has been working as head office of reputable foreign and international law firms, such as Brosio, Casati e Associati; Allen & Overy and Wolf Theiss. During these years Adv. Enyal Shuke has proven her professionalism and integrity by earning her clients' full trust and loyalty, therefore ensuring a solid base for the start of her own law firm, Shuke Law.

The areas of activity of Shuke Law include but are not limited to: Commercial and Corporate Law; Mergers & Acquisitions; Contract Law; Administrative Law; Public Procurement; Concessions; Real Estate; Energy; Employment; Project Finance; Commercial Dispute Resolution.

You can rely on Shuke Law firm to be particularly adept at providing you and your business with local insights and support in managing any international legal aspects of your business. The Partner, Enyal Shuke, is awarded by Chambers & Partners Europe 2009, as Band 1 Leading Lawyer, in the Corporate/Commercial & Dispute Resolution practice areas. She is particularly in tune to the needs of the clients and has provided extensive legal counsel with a wide range of international business endeavors. Her experience and guidance can help the business establish itself and grow in today's highly competitive environment. Chambers & Partners quotes a client who reported that they: "feel totally confident in her, as she is an incredibly perceptive and accomplished lawyer".

Recent Transactions:

- Coca-Cola Bottling Shqipëria, relation to different legal matters (corporate, real estate issues, regulatory and related litigation) pertaining to their activity in Albania.
- In collaboration with PwC Albania (Tax Department), assisted and represented in court different foreign investors in Albania regarding their disputes that derive from tax authorities' acts or audits contrary to applicable legislation.
- Acted as legal expert (i.e. ICSID Arbitration Case No. ARB/15/28 and ICC Arbitration Case No. 20564/EMT/GR) and counsel (ICC 20919/GR) regarding Albanian law matters in international arbitrations related to the protection of foreign investment.

Publications:

- Author of Albanian Chapter – Joint Ventures, Second Edition 2015 – Thomson Reuters
- Author of "Albanian Chapter" – International Arbitration 2013 – Global Legal Group
- Author of "Albanian Chapter – Corporate Governance Guide 2013" – Global Legal Group

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Frashëri Law Firm | SFAI Albania was established with a strong international dimension, well known in Albania and abroad for its practice in professional legal services in domestic cases, and as a Corporate Services Provider. Its core focus is on rendering comprehensive services in litigation and dispute resolution, serving as a one-stop office for easy national or foreign company incorporation.

The firm has a successful track record in corporate, finance and capital markets law, as well as tax, business formation, real estate and litigation, including consulting and mediation.

The firm's legal team offers services in several foreign languages and reflects the importance it places on personalized service, tailored to clients' needs.

The Frashëri Law Firm is a Recommended Firm in Albania by Global Law Experts, which has awarded them the position of exclusive representation of Corporate and Commercial Litigation in Albania.

Frashëri Law Firm | SFAI Albania has often attracted the attention of interested parties inside and outside Albania as a partner to be relied on for its expertise.

Today, the firm is part of SFAI Global, an international network of legal professionals with more than 14,000 people in 115 countries, offering professional services in tax law, audit and accounting – to ISA and IAASB standards.

The firm is also the first and only law office in Albania to offer services through AI in the handling of client documentation. As the sole custodian of an AI platform for the legal profession by Luminance, its clients save 85% of the standard operational time, as well as 80% of the financial burden.

Meanwhile, the Honourable Lawyer Kastriot Frashëri has been a member of the British-Albanian Lawyers Association, London, UK for several years, and cooperates with numerous well-known international firms in the EU, the UK, the UAE, the US and other regions around the world.

Furthermore, Mr Frashëri, has been authorized by the Royal Court of Justice – Queen's Bench Division to serve outside the jurisdiction of the Court Order (SOL – Service Outsider of Jurisdiction) in Albania.

The Honourable Kastriot Frashëri is an experienced commercial, corporate, governance and regulatory lawyer, as well as a Recommended Attorney by Global Law Experts in the UK. He is the Founder and CEO of the firm, and leads its established and growing practice with an international network providing a full range of legal services to corporations, financial institutions and high-net-worth individuals in such industries as insurance, finance, luxury assets, energy and technology.

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About Emiel Haesbrouck:

- Started at the Bar of Kortrijk as an Intern Lawyer in 1970;
- Elected as a Town Councillor in Kortrijk (West Flanders) in 1970 (until end 1982);
- Employee of the Department of Foreign Affairs / Development Cooperation (1982–1983);
- Employee of the Services of the Prime Minister (1983–1985);
- Appointed Clerk Rapporteur of the Dutch-speaking Council of Appeal in the office of the Prime Minister, by decision of the Prime Minister dated April 6th 1984;
- Member of the Council of State of Belgium – Auditors’ Office – (1985–2008);
- Researcher at the study department at the ministry of the Secretary for the Reform of the State Ferrdinand De Bondt (September 1977 – April 1979): preparing laws concerning the reform of the State: first texts concerning the “Arbitragehof”, current Constitutional Court;
- Member of the National Board of the CVP (political party, 1973–1986);
- Representative for Belgium at the first UN Congress on International Law in New York (13th–17th of March 1995);
- Grand Officer in the Order of the Crown (Royal Decree of 29th of April 2008);
- Commandeur in the Order of Leopold (Royal Decree of 11th of April 2000);
- Honorary Lieutenant in the Reserve (2nd June 1992);
- Outright winner of a 2021 Lawyer Monthly Legal Award.

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Dedicated to Navigating the Ever-Evolving Business Landscape

Established in 1958, DALDEWOLF stands as a testament to the dynamic evolution of the legal sphere. Specializing in business law, our lawyers have seamlessly adapted to the changing needs of our clients, maintaining a legacy of excellence in sync with the evolving global landscape.

Expertise Tailored to Your Success

Renowned for our agility and adept handling of intricate cases, our team of 50 lawyers, with 40 stationed in our Brussels office and 10 in Kinshasa, excels in comprehending the intricacies of diverse businesses. We pride ourselves on delivering tangible value through practical, innovative solutions.

The Pinnacle of Legal Proficiency

Highly skilled and committed, our team embodies technical prowess, versatility, and an unwavering commitment to excellence. With several lawyers registered across multiple international bar associations, including New York, Paris, and Geneva, our global perspective enhances the quality of our service.

Global Reach, Local Expertise

Recognizing the importance of seamless cross-border legal support, we have forged robust partnerships with law firms worldwide, notably through our membership in the GENEVA GROUP INTERNATIONAL (GGI) network. This alliance, spanning the five continents, reflects our dedication to independence and exceptional service quality.

Championing Innovation

We stand as stalwart supporters of initiative and innovation, offering tailored guidance for startups, fostering their growth and legal stability in the competitive business landscape.

Excellence Acknowledged

Revered by both clients and peers, our firm's excellence is consistently acknowledged in industry-leading legal guides, such as Chambers, Legal 500, Best Lawyers, and Leaders League, affirming our lawyers as leaders in their respective specializations.

Brussels Office

Our Brussels office thrives on international arbitration, complex dispute resolution, corporate and financial law (including M&A), economic law, tax law, competition law, European Union law, restructuring, real estate, and administrative law. With dedicated teams in regulated sectors, such as energy, TMT, transportation, and the food industry, our excellence remains unrivalled.

Kinshasa Office

In the heart of the Democratic Republic of Congo, our Kinshasa office advises both local and international investors across regulated sectors, including energy, mining, telecommunications, and finance, as well as unregulated sectors, such as cement, maritime transport, logistics, agriculture, and real estate.

PAVLOV & CO
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND LAW OFFICE



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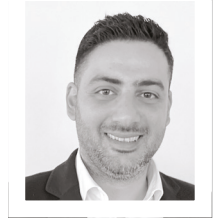
Pavlov & Co is a boutique law firm specialized in Intellectual Property protection. Its team of professionals covers the entire process from intellectual property rights acquisition to enforcement, litigation and intellectual property evaluation services. Pavlov & Co provides consultations on the enforcement of the national and EU legal provisions and representation before the Bulgarian Patent Office, Customs authorities, Commission for Protection of the Competition, Bulgarian Courts in civil, administrative and criminal cases related to intellectual property protection and also representation before the EUIPO, WIPO and CJEU, in registration and enforcement procedures outside Bulgaria.

The team of professionals at Pavlov & Co has long and extensive experience in the field of Intellectual Property protection, which they continue to develop on a daily basis. Only a few years after its establishment in 2012, the firm gains respect among competitors in the field and is also recognized by clients and independent research editions as a high-profile player on the market.

Pavlov & Co has experience with clients in various industry sectors – food and beverages, fashion and apparel industry, pharmaceutical sector, entertainment industry. Some of the main companies/organisations in their client portfolio are companies in the fashion and apparel industry, where there are a lot of counterfeiting cases to deal with on the market. Another important sector is also the food and beverages industry, where the most challenges they face and give advice for are in competition issues between companies in the sector. Further, in this sector they also have experience in negotiations in trademark registration conflicts or infringement cases. Last, but not least, Pavlov & Co has extensive experience in recent years for negotiations and reaching out-of-court agreements between competitors, which is a beneficial and cost-effective strategy for both parties in the conflict.

The Managing Partner Vasil Pavlov – Attorney-at-Law, Patent & Trademark Attorney, has more than 20 years of experience in Intellectual Property protection and enforcement and a strong reputation of a leading litigator in the country. A practitioner with vast courtroom experience, who always gives everything for his clients, in recent years Mr. Pavlov is devoted to solving complex trademark and patent issues, combining expertise from different areas of IP.

THE GREY ARROW | LEGAL & FINANCIAL ADVISORS



Our boutique firm is based in Nicosia, Cyprus. Our firm's core values are based on the following four principles and fundamental beliefs: Integrity, Honesty, Commitment and Quality of Service.

We are made up of professionally qualified lawyers and financial advisors with reputable experience in the sectors of Legal, Corporate and Financial Services. We love and value our clients, but we also love and value our team; together they make who we are and who we are destined to become.

As a boutique firm, we strive with passion and commitment to achieve excellence throughout each project. Our tailor-made services are rendered in a diligent and proactive manner, thus producing tailored-fit solutions to support our clients' business and/or personal growth.

Our primary services include:

- Incorporation & Administration of Cyprus companies
- Corporate Governance
- Setup of Trusts, Wills & Probates
- Cyprus Permanent Visa Applications
- Real Estate Law
- Business Redomiciliation Services
- Mergers & Acquisitions
- Drafting of legal opinions and commercial agreements
- Licensing and advisory support of Alternative Investment Fund Managers, Alternative Investment Funds, Administrative Service Providers, Cyprus Investment Firms, and Crypto Asset Services Providers.

Our firm is also engaged in the professional education sector; our team of professional experts shares its knowledge on the AML directive implementation as well as on regulatory compliance matters through seminars performed either via the web or on-site.

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LEGAL CONSULTANTS



Constantinos Clerides is a Partner and lawyer at Phoebus, Christos Clerides & Associates LLC, a leading law firm in Cyprus, where he specialises in commercial litigation and dispute resolution. He is also a Barrister-at-Law, having been called to the England and Wales Bar by the Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn in 2017. He has more than seven years of experience in representing clients in complex and high-value commercial cases.

With an LLM in International Business & Commercial Law from King's College London, Constantinos specialises in dispute resolution arising from international and domestic commercial disputes, including agency and distribution agreements, contract and property disputes, complex corporate and shareholder disputes, winding-up and bankruptcy proceedings, jurisdictional battles, stay of court proceedings and petitions for anti-suit or anti-arbitration injunctions. He has also handled several other kinds of commercial injunctions, including worldwide freezing orders, gagging and disclosure orders. He has handled cases both in the District Court and in the Supreme Court of Cyprus. Out of court, in corporate and commercial matters, he advises clients regarding partnership agreements, company incorporations and corporate structures, shareholders' rights and director obligations, M&A, trusts and investor protection. He has handled various high-profile and multimillion-euro acquisitions in Cyprus.

In addition, he is a legal trainer at the European Legal Training Centre, where he delivers courses and workshops on various legal and commercial matters to legal professionals in their continuing professional development, including a course on the resolution of shareholder disputes under Cyprus Law, and has published several articles on topical legal issues in reputable media and online outlets. He is passionate about resolving disputes for clients in a cost-effective manner. He is fluent in Greek and English. Between 2020 and 2023, he was an active member of two Cyprus Bar Association committees regarding arbitration and alternative methods of dispute resolution, as well as on the committee for ethics and lawyer-judges relations.

- LLB, University of Leicester
- LLM, King's College London
- Barrister-at-Law, The Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn, London
- Bar Professional Training Course (BPTC), University of Law
- Member of CIArb
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Constantina is the Managing Partner of Constantina Mitsingas & Associates LLC.

Constantina specializes in the area of EU & National Competition Law, State Aid and Merger Control. Over the years, Constantina has been active in advising corporations on the competition law implications of their commercial agreements, with experience over a wide range of industries, such as financial services, telecommunications, petroleum and oil & gas.

Constantina has extensive experience in Merger Control, particularly in navigating the merger review and approval process, and has successfully represented clients before the Cyprus Commission for the Protection of Competition in a number of Phase I and Phase II merger control reviews.

Constantina Mitsingas & Associates LLC

Constantina Mitsingas & Associates LLC is a small boutique firm based in Limassol.

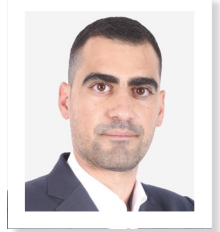
Constantina Mitsingas & Associates LLC's competition law practice is widely acknowledged for its Merger Control and its leading expertise in matters of competition litigation, having successfully represented clients before the Cyprus Competition Commission on various occasions, both on behalf of complainants as well as in relation to rebuttal of allegations made against clients for anti-competitive agreements / concerted practices and abuse of dominance. Competition Law compliance is at the forefront of the firm's client offering.

In addition to its competition law practice, the firm is well placed to provide complete advice across all practice areas of business and commerce, including, but not limited to, corporate acquisitions, financial regulation and joint venture formations – and advises its client base on all legal and regulatory aspects of establishing operations in Cyprus.

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Marinos D. Marinou is the Managing Director of MariCorp Cyprus Consultancy Ltd.

With more than 10 years' experience and a proven record of delivering exceptional solutions, MariCorp Cyprus Consultancy brings specialized expertise to clients' business needs. The company offers a comprehensive range of professional services, including corporate fiduciary services, tax planning and corporate restructuring, VAT, as well as advanced business consulting. MariCorp also offers a full range of corporate and trust services, company formation, company secretarial, trustee service, banking, and substance-related services.

Our strategic partners all over the world and in Cyprus allow us to promptly satisfy our clients' corporate needs to the fullest – we truly offer a one-stop shop corporate service package. MariCorp also specializes in online gaming consulting, licensing, and IP box, which offers as low as 2.5% tax for software companies.

360-Degree Corporate Services:

Having worked in the accounting, audit, and legal profession, we are in a position to offer the full spectrum of corporate services, including dedicated and specialized guidance. Whether you are looking for complicated share capital issuance, class A and B rights, M&A transactions with immediate tax saving, we can certainly assist.

Company Formation:

We provide Cyprus company formation and representation services. Prior to incorporation, we advise clients on the most suitable corporate structure, having first analyzed their objectives from a legal and tax perspective.

Our team is fully equipped to take on board the entire process of registering your international business company in Cyprus, from start to finish. This encompasses shelf companies, branches, trusts, as well as partnerships.

Aside from Cyprus, we offer the same fully managed service in a variety of other jurisdictions, such as the UK, the BVI, Marshall Islands and Dubai. We are able to form a Dubai company in only five business days, following simple steps entailing the requisite documentation, residence application, company license and Power of Attorney (the signature of whom can be validated online by a public notary). The Dubai mainland or freezone company can be represented by its shareholder and manager, either of which positions can be held by the client.

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PAUL VICK ARCHITECTS

P A U L V I C K
ARCHITECTS



**Paul Vick
Founder**

Paul Vick is a professional architect (RIBA, ARB) and Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts who has lectured on architecture at University College London, MIT and the National Building Museum. His work has been published in Building Magazine, Architect's Journal and World Architecture News. He trained at Cambridge University and Oxford Brookes University, with extended periods in Washington DC and Beijing, and was a juror on the International Property Awards 2016–2021.

Paul Vick Architects recently won Best Commercial Architecture Firm, London 2023 and previously; Property and Construction Business of the Year, West London 2022; Most Innovative Architecture Firm London 2018–2020; Best Cultural Architecture Practice UK 2019; as well as Best Construction Adviser UK 2017.

Unusually, the practice has a 100% planning permission record, including with listed buildings, conservation areas and new builds. "This gives clients confidence that their vision can succeed and be profitable. Planning also allows you to be able to do your project at all. It is a definition of viability and the basis for securing serious funding."

Projects with The City Corporation of London include Innovation Warehouse at Smithfield Market, believed to be the first co-working space in the UK, and at the Grade 1 listed Keats House Museum. The practice has undertaken a Vision for the Diocese of London, as well as completing a glass bridge and fit out for a global telecoms company in West London. Meanwhile, the practice undertook commercial work in Leicester Square and Haymarket in the West End, as well as further afield in mixed uses, including designs for a ten-storey tower on the south side of the Thames.

In addition, the practice has undertaken the site-wide plan and design of a 60-room hotel and restaurant, 35 low-energy homes, 18 independent living, a change of use to office and retail, as well as an 80-bed care home for the 24-acre The Royal Ordnance Depot, Northampton. It is Grade 2 listed, the only one of its kind, and the proposals are for regenerative design combined with new build.

Prior to setting up Paul Vick Architects, Paul drafted the British Museum Masterplan for the next 50–100 years, was project-managing architect for White City shopping complex and transport at Shepherd's Bush, wrote a zero-carbon strategy and plan for 8000 homes in North London, as well as co-writing a vision for the public realm from the British Library forecourt to King's Cross Station.

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THREE RAYMOND BUILDINGS

BARRISTERS



Michael Borrelli KC defends in high-profile, serious and complex crime, and in other areas of quasi-criminal work, including Inquests and Disciplinary work, where his advocacy skills can be fully utilised.

He is instructed to review and advise on appellate work and to conduct cases in the Court of Appeal, both here and in Northern Ireland, where he also has experience in non-jury trials with a terrorist or paramilitary link. He has developed a reputation for his ability in cases requiring both tactical acumen, and careful handling of witnesses. He has considerable skills as a robust cross-examiner, and is well known for the commanding presence he makes in Court, and his abilities in the examination and testing of experts' evidence. He has defended in numerous well-publicised trials involving murder, money laundering, drugs and hijacking.

Michael's expertise in fraud includes banking, duty evasion, phishing fraud, mortgage and land banking fraud. He has defended in prosecutions brought by the SFO and the FCA.

Crime Overview:

The majority of his practice since taking Silk has been at the Central Criminal Court, in matters of armed robbery, corruption, drugs trafficking and homicide.

Notable Crime Cases:

- R v L & Ors – Brutal killing of rival gang member, hacked to death with machete on the Blackbird Leys Estate. Subsequent appeal saw the Court of Appeal set Guidelines for Judges confronted with extended periods of holiday during Jury retirement;
- R v P & Ors – Victim of attempted murder, rival drug dealer shot in face during County Lines reprisal shooting. Subsequent appeal considered identification witnesses' evidence being impugned by Prosecution;
- R v P – Misconduct in public office;
- R v A – A cold-case review, following quashing of the murder conviction, after a BBC Rough Justice investigation;
- R v C – Defended the head of the family of travellers prosecuted for allegations of keeping vulnerable men in servitude or requiring them to perform forced labour, and it was one of the first cases under new anti-slavery legislation;
- R v A – The law undergraduate who murdered his 80-year-old father and buried the body under concrete;
- R v P – Millionaire property developer extradited from US to face murder allegation of tenant who impeded property development;
- R v M – The shooting in nightclub of British ex-heavyweight boxing champion;
- R v C – Murder and kidnap of 15-year-old missing Essex schoolgirl Danielle Jones.

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NEWBOULDS SOLICITORS



NEWBOULDS
SOLICITORS



Sophie Newbould is the Founder and Managing Director of Newboulds Solicitors.

She created Newboulds to help companies win business and deliver technology products – as well as services – to the public sector and other regulated markets, by ensuring adherence to the relevant laws, regulations and other legal frameworks.

Sophie's background spans corporate, commercial and government legal work at the highest levels. Her decisive approach to business means clients receive clarity and simplicity, as well as rapid execution.

A UK-licensed solicitor, Sophie holds a Master of Laws (LLM) in Law, Technology & Global Governance from the University of London; a Master of Laws degree in International Business Law from King's College London; and a Bachelor of Laws (LLB) from London's City University.

Aside from her academic achievements, Sophie's stellar career has seen her work as a business lawyer for private companies, law firms, county councils, the UK police and central government.

As a commercial lawyer at The Police ICT Company, Sophie has advised on ICT procurements, business opportunity risk strategy and commercial terms, as well as data handling.

In addition, she has served as a Commercial Contracts Advisor for the UK Home Office, as an EU Exit Contracts Advisor with the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office, and has acted in a legal advisory capacity on a number of significant projects, including the Department for Transport (DfT) Rail Projects Team, and as a Major Project Lawyer for the UK Gambling Commission.

While still advising national public sector clients – and utilising her public sector technology experience – in 2019, Sophie co-founded automation software provider, Athensys, which helps suppliers and authorities work together more effectively.

Today, as well as shaping a bright future for Newboulds Solicitors and its ever-growing client roster, Sophie acts as a consultant to the Bank of England, advising on strategic commercial policies and procedures. She is also busy with her own new company, a groundbreaking legal and regulatory sustainability project – innov8law. innov8law is the first technology platform of its kind to provide states, institutions and corporations with international sustainability compliance integrity.

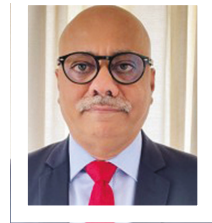
When not resolving complex commercial legal issues for some of the UK's most innovative technology companies and public sector organisations, Sophie can be found serving as a Local Public Services Committee Member for TechUK, helping shape government policy and transform local public service provision.

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WINSPIRE SOLUTIONS UK LIMITED



The perspectives of IT consultants and end users running a business are quite different. Technology can be learned quickly, but domain expertise takes years to develop. Winspire brings these two perspectives together to provide the best to its customers. Today, the firm specializes in providing industry vertical ERP solutions to distribution, equipment rental as well as project management industries.

Along with ERP, Winspire also provides CRM, business intelligence, e-commerce, cloud infrastructure and productivity solutions based on Microsoft technologies. Its unique offering lies in its high level of domain expertise in its chosen industry verticals, with team members who have actually worked in those industries.

End-to-end Solutions

Winspire provides end-to-end solutions, including Microsoft Dynamics NAV, AX, Dynamics 365 Business Central, Dynamics 365 Finance and Operations, Dynamics 365 sales and Marketing, LS Retail, Power BI, Jet reports, Azure, as well as O365 for the industry verticals mentioned above. In addition, the company is home to its own e-commerce solution and industry vertical add-ons. It also has its own IP for distribution and international trade, which has several unique features, including in-depth functionality to manage large-scale and complex distribution business.

Proven Leadership

Winspire is the brainchild of Jitendra Kulkarni, Founder & CEO, who started Winspire in 2006 after leaving his job as a CEO of a billion-dollar distribution company. The company was initially started with a clear focus on cost-effective ERP solutions for the distribution industry, which was mainly due to Jitendra’s personal expertise and long experience of running a large distribution company. He evaluated various options and found Microsoft solutions the most suitable, since they are easy to use and customize. Presently, Jitendra focuses on keeping abreast of what is happening in the industry in terms of new technology and business models. He believes that continuous learning and transformation is the key to remaining relevant.

Effects of Technological Change

With the fast pace of technological innovation, Winspire always faces the challenge of adapting to new technology, keeping its team well versed, and rolling out new solutions to the market. There are always some teething problems when something new is introduced; likewise, getting the right talent for a particular solution/technology is always a challenge.

Source: The 10 Most Valuable Microsoft Solution Providers

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FABIAN KROUGMAN – ADVOCACY

Fabian Krougman - Advocacy



In the ever-evolving professional arena, maintaining a pristine record is vital for every practitioner; however, there are moments when even the most ethically driven professionals find themselves in the crosshairs of disciplinary proceedings. When faced with such challenging circumstances, you need a trusted ally who understands the nuances of your field and will fight passionately to protect your reputation.

In the realm of professional discipline, the stakes could not be higher. A simple misunderstanding or an unfortunate mistake can cast a shadow over your entire career. That's where Fabian Krougman steps in, ready to provide you with the legal backbone and support you require to emerge from this daunting situation unscathed.

With an impressive track record and profound knowledge, Fabian leaves no stone unturned when it comes to fighting for justice and defending your professional integrity. His vast experience spans a wide range of sectors, including medicine, accounting, law, engineering and many more. Rest assured, he understands the intricacies of your profession and possesses the legal acumen to navigate the complex landscape of professional disciplinary cases.

What truly sets Fabian apart is his unwavering dedication to his clients. He recognizes that a disciplinary matter can be distressing, potentially impacting your livelihood and reputation. That's why he approaches every case with empathy, providing you with the support and guidance you demand during this challenging time. You can trust that your voice will be heard and your interests prioritized at every step of the legal process.

Teaming up with Fabian means gaining a formidable ally. He is renowned for his meticulous preparation, mastering the art of dissecting complex evidence and crafting compelling arguments that leave no room for doubt. His persuasive advocacy skills, coupled with his unwavering determination to secure the best possible outcome, make him the ultimate defender of your professional reputation.

In addition to his exceptional legal expertise, Fabian values open and transparent communication. He understands that you must be well-informed throughout the entire proceedings. That is why he provides clear explanations and regular updates to ensure you are actively involved in the decision-making process. Your peace of mind is his top priority.

When your professional reputation hangs in the balance, don't settle for anything less than the best. Trust Fabian to fight tirelessly on your behalf. With him, you will navigate the stormy waters of professional discipline and emerge stronger, with your reputation intact. Don't let a disciplinary issue define you – reclaim your professional integrity with the guidance of Fabian.

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John Hooper



John Hooper qualified with an LLB from Otago University in New Zealand in 1980.

He spent three years as a young barrister and developed a speciality in Family Law. He practised mainly in the Family Courts and was involved in financial claims and children's cases, including a successful contested Custody Appeal to the High Court.

He was admitted as an English solicitor in 1987 and worked for six years in London as a Specialist Divorce and Family Lawyer. He worked initially in East London and then moved to the City. The emphasis was on high-net-worth cases involving both UK and non-UK nationals.

In 1992, he moved to Nottingham and worked as a Specialist Family Lawyer and practised in the Family Courts of Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire, Lincolnshire, Leicestershire and Northamptonshire. He prepared and presented cases principally involving financial disputes between divorcing spouses and separating cohabitants. He is a member of Resolution (formerly the Solicitors Family Law Association).

John Hooper was established in May 1995. The firm, which specialises in Family Law, operates from offices in central Nottingham and has clients throughout the Midlands. We have particular expertise in the financial aspects of the breakdown of a relationship.

The firm's Principal, John Hooper, together with his colleagues, Dominic Lee, Yasmine Roff and Stephanie Clifton, have many years of specialist family law experience between them.

The firm has close contacts with specialist divorce Counsel, in London and the Provinces, along with forensic accountants and valuers.

We act for clients of varying means. Our charge out rates are geared towards assisting people from a wide variety of circumstances. The aim of the firm is to provide a genuinely efficient and professional service for our clients.

We have specialist expertise in:

- Financial Settlements – The negotiation and finalisation of complex financial settlements involving substantial assets and pensions, including offshore trusts and private and public companies;
- Children's Issues – The negotiation and settlement of applications for maintenance and lump sums in respect of children pursuant to Schedule 1 of the Children Act 1989;
- Cohabitation – The negotiation and settlement of cohabitee disputes in respect of both property and businesses.

We also have a growing expertise in international family law, especially in relation to cases involving a European or Australasian context.

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MCDONNELL ELLIS LLP



Brian is a Founder Partner of McDonnell Ellis LLP, a specialist financial services law firm working with a range of financial services firms as well as other law firms without sufficient FS regulatory expertise.

Brian's practice covers all aspects of financial services law and regulation, including banking, wholesale financial services, funds and payments.

Brian also assists on corporate transactions, including due diligence, warranties and FCA change of control.

He is the author of Thomson Reuters' "A Practitioner's Guide to Inside Information" (2nd edition).

Highlights:

INVESTMENT FIRMS / BROKERS

- Advising on the MiFID2 perimeter in the context of foreign exchange business;
- Negotiating and drafting arrangements for a leading UK wealth manager to enter into a sub-IMA with a fund manager to provide liability-driven investment management for its pension fund clients;
- Advising a firm on the client money rules (CASS) impact of a savings account marketplace service.

ASSET MANAGERS / FUNDS

- Advising on whether an international investment firm had an "investment firm group" subject to the Investment Firms Prudential Regime in the UK (and assistance in drafting an ICARA);
- Advising a placement agent on its post-Brexit arrangements for structuring its fund marketing business in the EU;
- Drafting various investment management agreements, assisting with ISDAs and brokerage arrangements, as well as supporting managers with their outsourcing arrangements.

FINTECHS / PAYMENTS / CRYPTO

- Advising an e-money institution on its crypto exchange and custody offering;
- Assisting a large US tech company on its FCA authorisation application to become an e-money institution;
- Drafting client terms for payment / e-money services;
- Working with a large e-commerce platform on its strategy and business model in the context of the Payment Services Regulations.

BANKS / INSURERS

- Advising a bank on the compliance of a proposed transaction with the UK's ring-fencing regulations, and on how to migrate clients and business assets;
- Supporting a small bank on its continued implementation of EMIR and the replacement of LIBOR;
- Analysis for an unregulated firm as to whether arrangements would constitute a "contract of insurance".

COLLABORATIONS

- Undertaking regulatory and commercial due diligence for a law firm in connection with the purchase of a payments and e-money group of companies;
- Undertaking regulatory due diligence for a law firm in connection with the purchase of a group comprising FCA-authorised firms;
- Assisting a law firm with crypto regulatory perimeter analysis to support its clients.

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CONSTANTINE LAW LIMITED



Constantine Law was founded by John Hayes, one of London's leading employment lawyers. John advises UK corporates in the financial services, employment agencies, retail and construction sectors.

He is also one of London's leading solicitors in restrictive covenant disputes and an experienced High Court practitioner. He has obtained injunctions for a range of leading corporate clients in the High Court in recent years. John has a very solutions-orientated and commercial approach.

John qualified as a solicitor in 2001 and as a barrister in 1993. He is a skilled advocate and has years of experience litigating in the Employment Tribunal and the Employment Appeal Tribunal in unfair dismissal, whistleblowing and equal opportunities cases.

John is a member of the American Bar Association and works regularly with American clients.

John's client base is entrepreneurial and this prompted him to set up Constantine Law in 2015. The firm is ranked in the Legal 500. Prior to this, John headed the London employment team of a large, national law firm.

John has particular expertise in business protection and works closely with some of the leading barristers in the field to protect his clients' commercial interests. He has great experience in the area of atypical working, including consultancy agreements, IR35, CIS, and the tax implications of each. He works closely with leading accountants to provide joined-up solutions for his clients.

John is a member of the Employment Lawyers Association (ELA) and the leading Irish entrepreneurial organisation, the Irish International Business Network (IIBN). He is also an active member of the Institute of Directors (IOD). John regularly appears across television and print media, contributing to, among other publications, the Huffington Post, and to leading trade magazines on employment matters.

John is married to Ceri, with whom he has three children. He is a member of the Hampstead Triathlon Club and raises money for charity through Olympic distance triathlons. His other main passions are public affairs (John has previously stood for Parliament) and the London cultural scene.

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NORTON ROSE FULBRIGHT LLP



Paul Griffin is an employment lawyer based in London, and is Head of Employment and Labour for Europe, Middle East and Asia. Paul specialises in all areas of employment and labour law, including employment litigation, both in a domestic and international setting.

Paul's practice has a particular focus on international employment and labour law issues, advising multinationals, governments and principalities on strategic HR issues affecting their global workforces.

Paul also has many technology clients (particularly from the US) and acts for a variety of businesses investing in the UK for the first time. He also has a keen interest in AI and the future of work and has lectured many times on the issue.

Paul is particularly well known in the finance sector as a result of the work he has undertaken representing leading financial institutions and leading discussion forums for the world's largest banks on strategically important employment and labour law issues.

Paul has a particular interest in boardroom disputes, restrictive covenant disputes, whistleblowing, discrimination, TUPE, outsourcing and data protection.

Paul has defended employees in the employment tribunals, High Court, County Court, Employment Appeal Tribunal and the Court of Appeal. He is also a qualified mediator (CEDR).

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Sackers



Michaela has many years' experience of a wide range of pensions issues. This has included scheme set-up and wind-up, mergers and advice to clients on the pension aspects of corporate acquisitions and disposals. She provides guidance to trustees and employers on compliance with legislation.

Michaela heads the firm's Public Sector team, where she advises both local authorities and private employers in relation to public sector outsourcing, including establishing passport schemes and providing advice on admission to the LGPS. Michaela also has experience in advising in relation to the new Fair Deal.

Michaela is a member of our international pensions team and has experience advising a multinational employer considering setting up a new trust-based international pension scheme. Michaela represents the firm at *Ius Laboris* events and conferences.

Michaela's recent work has involved advising clients facing significant change in their pension fund arrangements. This advice includes merging schemes, introducing CARE arrangements, raising member contributions and altering future service accrual and analysing the employer's contribution covenant.

Michaela's work highlights include advising:

- schemes in relation to PPF entry
- the trustees of the EMI Pension Fund in its £1.4bn buy-out in July 2013
- the trustee of Thorn Pension Fund on its £1.1bn buy-out in December 2008.

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LIBERTAS CHAMBERS, LONDON



LIBERTAS
CHAMBERS



Dr Felicity Gerry KC is an international senior defence counsel specialising in corporate/criminal law crossover, with chambers in London and Melbourne. She has acted in a multi-defendant alleged conspiracy to evade commodity-based tax in a large-scale transnational organised operation, and has a long history as leading counsel, advising or appearing in large-scale fraud, terrorist financing and money laundering, including on investment due diligence, corporate compliance, sanctions issues and the intersection between the international restraint of assets and international freeing orders.

Felicity is experienced in trial and appellate strategy, and has extensive experience in handling high-profile matters. Her financial law practice builds on her experience in homicide, terrorism and war crime trials. Prior to becoming a defence silk, she was a prosecutor for some 20 years.

Labelled “The International Dynamo”, Dr Gerry was recognised as one of the top five international lawyers you want on your side by Law and Crime Productions. Furthermore, she has been recognised for her work across jurisdictions on career-defining cases, including in the UK Supreme Court on #jointenterprise law, the Australian High Court on rights to second appeal, a due diligence memorandum on investment listing on SGX for Justice for Myanmar – which led to the \$82m divestment of the Golden City scheme – and for her role in saving a trafficked woman from death row in Indonesia. She is leading the legal petition for Christine Keeler to receive a posthumous pardon after the fallout of one of Britain’s biggest ever political scandals, the Profumo Affair, in the 1960s. Her successful petition for mercy for Zak Grieve, a young Indigenous man in Australia, has been described as “rock star lawyering”.

- Admitted in the International Criminal Court (ICC) & Kosovo Specialist Chambers (KSC) in The Hague, in England & Wales and Australia (Victoria & High Court Roll), and has had ad hoc admission in Hong Kong and Gibraltar;
- Currently defending at the International Criminal Court on the Al Hassan team;
- Felicity holds a PhD in technology and human trafficking;
- Felicity recently defended in a multi-defendant alleged conspiracy to evade commodity-based tax on a large-scale transnational organised operation;
- Felicity has significant experience in cases involving complex scientific evidence, including in the context of criminal cases involving product liability and biosecurity issues in product importation;
- She has advised on corporate responsibility for modern slavery in supply chains and logging importation;
- Felicity also has a niche practice area in art law, including the destruction of cultural heritage, restitution, repatriation and reparations;
- Felicity is also a well-known legal commentator on legal issues.

www.felicitygerry.com

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**ARMAND
TERRIEN
AVOCAT**



Armand Terrien is an independent counsel qualified in New York and Paris, acting as arbitrator and counsel in arbitration and arbitration-related court proceedings. Armand can also assist you in an advisory capacity related to any sort of commercial transaction or corporate matter, as well as in pre- and post-litigation matters.

Experience:

Having spent more than 10 years at major law firms (Cleary Gottlieb and Quinn Emanuel), Armand set up his Paris arbitration-focused boutique in 2020.

He is a current co-chair of the CFA40 (the French Arbitration Committee below-40 group) and former International Chamber of Commerce Young Arbitrators Forum (ICC YAF) representative for France.

In addition to his work as arbitrator, Armand has acted in various capacities in court, arbitration and mediation proceedings related to oil & gas, M&A, joint ventures, banking, taxation, art and construction under the rules of all major arbitral institutions, as well as in ad hoc proceedings. He regularly deals with matters under New York, England & Wales, French and OHADA law, among others.

Armand holds a Juris Doctor from Columbia Law School and a Master's Degree from Paris I Panthéon-Sorbonne University. He is an alumnus of the École normale supérieure. He regularly lectures on international law and arbitration, including at Sciences Po Paris, Paris-Saclay MACI and HEAD Law School.

Arbitration:

Whether you are a party to the dispute or party's counsel seeking co-counsel for purposes of arbitration, Armand can assist you at any stage of the arbitral proceeding:

- Drafting or negotiating an arbitration agreement, either at the time of negotiation of the contract or when a dispute has already arisen;
- Pre-arbitration advice, to ensure compliance with all pre-arbitration requirements (including any mediation or conciliation obligation) and claim preparation;
- Claim analysis, to provide a clear and comprehensive assessment of the situation, as well as the corresponding advice on litigation strategy and funding;
- Appointing arbitrators, selecting witnesses and experts;
- Conducting the arbitration as counsel or co-counsel (including the preparation of all briefs and advice on strategic decisions);
- Assisting with the document production process particular to arbitration;
- Preparing for and conducting an arbitral hearing (including logistics, advocacy, and team preparation).

Thought Leadership:

Armand regularly comments on legal issues, notably in the field of international arbitration. His commentaries have been published in the Paris Journal of International Arbitration, the ICC Dispute Resolution Bulletin and the International Bar Association Arbitration Committee newsletter, and he regularly contributes to the Kluwer Arbitration Blog.

Since 2017, he has been the exclusive French contributor to Practical Law Arbitration (Thomson Reuters), and he joined the Consultation Board in 2020.

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KENNEDYS

Kennedys



Aurélia Cadain is a Partner at Kennedys, whose Paris office she co-founded in October 2017. She is an insurance specialist with extensive expertise in complex and international litigation matters of transport law (aviation, marine, road); industrial risk; insurance, including political violence; and product liability, including health products.

Aurélia is regularly instructed in complex disputes, before both French courts and arbitration tribunals, where she acts for leading global insurers and manufacturers, including pharmaceutical companies. She also assists well-known airline companies in their day-to-day operations as well as in important litigation.

Aurélia's practice includes coverage disputes, defence work, subrogation claims. It spans several key industry sectors (aerospace, transport, tourism, political violence, manufacturing, health industry and medical malpractice) with a particular focus on product liability. She has developed particular experience in complex expert-appraisal proceedings, including in aviation and marine matters, healthcare and industrial risk.

Aurélia also has a daily practice in advising and litigating complex transport claims (in aviation, marine, road and rail) involving individuals and carried goods.

Aurélia holds regular seminars and webinars in insurance and medical liability.

She is recommended by leading legal directories for product liability and aviation, such as Best Lawyers, Legal 500 and WWL.

Aurélia is the current contributor to the French chapter for *GTDT: Aviation Liability*, co-contributor to the French chapter for *GTDT: Insurance*, in addition to the *Aviation Law Review* and the *Chambers – Medical Devices & Consumer Health Products Guide*. She is a member of AIDA (*Association Internationale de Droit des Assurances*), IAWA (*International Aviation Womens Association*), SFDAS as well as ISC France.

Aurélia speaks French, and she is also fluent in English and Spanish.

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Florent Loyseau de Grandmaison graduated from Sciences Po Paris (2001), holds a Master in Private Law (2001) and a Master in Public Litigation. He practised with FRESHFIELDS BRUCKHAUS DERINGER, THIEFFRY & Associés and CHATEL, before founding LDG Avocats in autumn 2010.

He has particularly deepened his skills in:

- Factoring
- Civil and Commercial Litigation
- Liability and Insurance Law
- Company Law
- Labour Law

Elected to the Competition of the Conference du Barreau de Paris, an eloquence tournament, in 2007, he acquired the practice of Criminal law and Criminal procedure.

After having been Vice-President of the French National Federation of Young Lawyers' Unions ("Fédération Nationale des Unions de Jeunes Avocats" or "FNUJA"), he was elected member of the French National Council of Bars ("Conseil National des Barreaux") for the 2015–2017 term of office, in particular as Vice-President of the Commission on Freedoms and Human Rights.

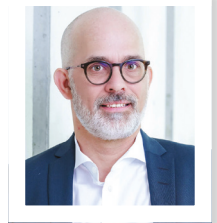
Florent Loyseau de Grandmaison was elected member of the Paris Bar Council for the 2018–2020 term.

He also teaches civil procedure at the Paris Bar School ("Ecole de Formation du Barreau" or "EFB"), and is a member of the Droit & Procédure Association (Law and Procedure Association) and the Société de Législation Comparée (Comparative Law Society).

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JBB LAWYERS



Sebastian Biere is Co-founder of the law firm JBB, and has been admitted to the bar in Berlin since 1999.

As a specialist lawyer for intellectual property rights, he works primarily in the area of unfair competition law, advising companies from diverse industries and sizes on the development of new forms of advertising and business models – as well as representing them nationwide in competition disputes, in injunctions and main proceedings.

Since 2014, he has been involved in optimizing legal work processes to cost-effectively conduct lawsuits with supposedly low amounts in dispute. Building on these work processes, he has, to date, carried out more than 100,000 legal proceedings.

Another focus of Sebastian's work is corporate law, supporting company startups, and advising on restructuring as well as buying and selling companies. For this, he draws upon personal business management knowledge.

In recent years, he has accompanied numerous transactions in the area of new media.

Languages: German, English.

Departments:

- Legal Tech
- Air Passenger Rights
- Competition Law
- Copyright

Focal Points:

- Advice in connection with innovative business models
- Optimization of legal work processes
- Litigation
- Corporate law

Publications:

- Co-author of: Nuthmann, Jaschinski et al., Law on the Internet
- SPC TEIA textbook publisher, 2002 – Co-author of: Nuthmann, Jaeger et al., Contracts for eBusiness
- SPC TEIA textbook publisher, 2002 – Co-author of: Guide to Online Law
- Guide to Online Law, Humboldt paperback publisher, Munich 1998

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Ingo Klaus Wamser founded the law firm Rechtsanwalt Wamser in 2005 as the youngest attorney in Germany at the time. Since this time, Rechtsanwalt Wamser has represented countless clients in both German and European criminal cases, as well as cross-border investigations in all fields of criminal law. Alongside delivering these tailored services, Rechtsanwalt Wamser also builds teams in different jurisdictions which are based on their network of proven experts in criminal law to handle cross-border investigations and the European Arrest Warrants and cases of international criminal law.

Ingo Klaus Wamser is a certified specialist in criminal law (Fachanwalt für Strafrecht) and a certified defence counsel for economic crimes (Zertifizierter Verteidiger für Wirtschaftsstrafrecht DSV). He is entitled to practice in criminal cases before all German courts, within certain limits in other EU member states, at the International Criminal Court, the Kosovo Specialist Chambers and the United Nations International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals at The Hague.

Beside the classical activity as a lawyer, Ingo works as a lecturer at Montanuniversität Leoben in Austria. He has been a member of a delegation at the International Maritime Organisation and is still a permanent legal advisor to military and private security forces in the field of maritime security and maritime law enforcement. He lectures on international criminal law and professional conduct at various entities on a domestic and international level.

Classic criminal cases are handled with experience as well as transnational investigations, cases of alleged terrorism financing and organised crimes. Ingo was involved in one of the very first cases of the European Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO) investigating crimes against the EU budget since June 2021. Within this capacity, Mr. Wamser handled a multi-jurisdiction defence team for ensuring a fair trial for his client who faced investigations in various European member states. Recent cases included organised crimes in the field of international trafficking of human beings and cross-border drug trafficking as well as cases with protected witnesses.

Mr. Wamser is an internationally respected defence counsel in contempt cases and disciplinary investigations against lawyers.

In 2020, he was appointed as a judge at the Bayerischer Anwaltsgerichtshof, the Court of Appeal for cases of counsel's misconduct and for deciding court cases on administrative issues in connection with bar admissions. In 2019, he co-drafted the Code of Conduct for Specialist Counsel at the Kosovo Specialist Chambers and was a member of the working group for the establishment of an independent representative body for counsel at this court.

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Andreas Oser has worked in the IP field since 1991. He became a German and European patent attorney in 1995, and since 2002 has been Managing Partner at Prüfer & Partner, an established and highly respected IP boutique serving Germany as well as other regions across Europe.

Prior to working in intellectual property, he studied chemistry at the University of Freiburg in Breisgau and conducted his PhD and postdoctorate studies at the Max Planck Institute for Biochemistry in Munich. He also holds an LL.M. degree in international IP laws from the University of Hagen.

Dr. Oser's primary areas of expertise include: chemistry, pharmaceuticals, life sciences and biotechnology – in particular, biological materials, DNA-related inventions and vaccines; therapeutic and diagnostic methods; medical products and devices, as well as targeted drug delivery; polymers and fiber materials; semiconductors, LEDs, OLEDs and other optical materials / optoelectronic devices; in addition to batteries and their components.

Meanwhile, his activities encompass: patent prosecution (drafting, examination); a high number of opposition and appeal proceedings at the European Patent Office; patent litigation (patent infringement proceedings before German courts, nullity proceedings up to the highest instance – the Federal Supreme Court, also covering coordinated and complex EU-wide litigation activities); infringement and validity opinions; freedom-to-operate analyses; as well as due diligence.

Dr. Oser is heavily involved in numerous litigation cases, among others related to medical devices and important drug products.

As a medium-sized law firm with a stable global partner network, Prüfer & Partner advises clients on the filing of IP rights, supports them in all IP matters and defends their IP rights in court. The strong and carefully selected community of attorneys-at-law, patent attorneys and technical specialists at the firm work strictly in accordance to German quality standards: thoroughly, on time, and cost-efficiently.

Today, Prüfer & Partner represents the interests of its clients at the highest level, and is familiar with complex and demanding cases – working with the utmost dedication at all times.

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LexDellmeier

intellectual property law firm



Experienced – Innovative – Client-orientated – LexDellmeier Intellectual Property Law Firm in Munich offers innovative and creative in-depth IP counselling in Germany, throughout Europe and with the support of a network of international associates on a worldwide basis. The attorneys at LexDellmeier offer first-class expertise in the fields of trademark, design and copyright law, as well as licensing and IP-related unfair competition law. Individuals, startups, universities, SMEs and large corporations need expert counselling in order to produce strong, successful and enforceable IP rights. LexDellmeier offers experienced, effective and proactive IP counselling, including evaluation, clearing and prosecution of trademarks and designs on a cost-effective basis. In addition, LexDellmeier is known for litigating complex cases before the European General Court (EGC) and the European Court of Justice (ECJ) in Luxembourg.

Besides offering legal advice, we offer counselling through one or more of our experts online via Teams, Zoom and Cisco, or on-site at our headquarters in Munich, Germany. We also advise on how to set up an IP department, implement necessary IP processes and respective IP software. Furthermore, we offer to review IP portfolios, give strategic advice on how to broaden and strengthen IP rights, and point out possible cost savings without losing protection. Through collaboration and sharing of know-how, we train our clients to be successful.

Our Vision:

We strive to be the best IP boutique law firm. Our national and international clients value our remarkable competence, flexibility as well as creativity, and have confidence and faith in us. Our highly qualified staff support clients and understand their needs and business. Due to the fact our attorneys have either overseas degrees or work experience, we can accommodate diverse requirements and cultural aspects according to the highest international standards on a worldwide basis.

Our Values:

PASSION: We love what we do;

EXCELLENCE: Our work reflects our best efforts, never less;

COMMUNICATION: Quick, clear and effective communication is what we provide;

INTEGRITY: Honesty and trustworthiness is what we stand for at LexDellmeier;

TEAMWORK: We believe the best client results are achieved through teamwork;

CREATIVITY: Thinking outside of the box – solving problems with creative, cost-effective solutions;

DIVERSITY: We treat everyone with respect, fairness and courtesy.

Our Mission:

“Coming together is a beginning. Staying together is progress. Working together is success.”
– Henry Ford

About Alexandra Dellmeier:

Prior to forming LexDellmeier in 2009, Alexandra Dellmeier was an Equity Partner at another renowned German IP firm. During those years, she had the opportunity to work on incredibly interesting and prestigious patent and utility model litigation cases. That is where she made the link between non-technical and technical protection, and became a “true” IP attorney.

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MFG PATENTANWÄLTE



As a physicist with many years of research and teaching experience in experimental particle physics, Dr. Meyer-Wildhagen's broad and deep technical knowledge extends well beyond the field of physics.

For more than two decades, he has been working in the intellectual property (IP) business in information and communication technology. Furthermore, he broadened his legal knowledge through a Master of Law (LL.M.).

Dr. Meyer-Wildhagen has extensive experience in litigation up to the Federal Court of Justice and will represent you innovatively in patent infringement and legal proceedings.

He is also a specialist in the development of enforceable and internationally compatible patent applications in German and in English.

MFG Patentanwälte

As an excellent patent law firm with experienced partners, qualified patent attorneys and experienced specialists, we will advise and represent you both critically and creatively. Solid academic education in physics, mechanical engineering, biochemistry, chemistry and life science and law, which we have consolidated over several years, form the basis of our work.

Teaming with experienced experts, reliable colleagues and veritable lawyers in Germany, Europe, USA, Canada, Japan, China, India, and beyond, we will handle difficult and complex issues and problems for you – even at short notice.

The fields in which we work include, but are not limited to, the following technical areas: information and communication technology, mobile telecommunications, electronic control systems, semiconductor components, applied physics, optics, mass spectrometers, particle detectors, mechanical and process engineering, medical engineering, robotics, vehicle and traffic engineering, propulsion technology (internal combustion, electric and hybrid), transport and conveyance technology, textile and printing engineering, surface technology, household appliances, ceramics, wind and solar energy, hydropower, biomass combustion, life science, batteries and chemistry.

We will advise you on all patent, utility model, design and trademark issues and will represent you before all relevant authorities and courts, such as the German Patent and Trade Mark Office (DPMA), the European Patent Office (EPO), the EUIPO (Office of the European Union Intellectual Property), WIPO (World Intellectual Property Organization) as well as the BPatG (Federal Patent Court), the BGH (Federal Court of Justice) and the Unified Patent Court (UPC).

Dr. Frank Meyer-Wildhagen
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On the evidence of the relevant ranking guides and business publications (JUVE, Legal 500, Chambers, Best Lawyers, Who's Who Legal etc.), Michael Kliemt is one of the leading employment lawyers in Germany. He advises international and national enterprises on all facets of employment law.

He has an enormous wealth of experience in consultancy on restructurings; transformation, outsourcing and integration projects; flexibilisation, simplification and optimisation of employment conditions (above all working hours, remuneration) and the implementation of IT systems. In this work, he undertakes both the strategic conceptual design and also the negotiations with trade unions and works councils on collective agreements (above all company wage agreement, membership without commitment to collective agreement, change in pay rates), reconciliation of interests, social compensation plan, transfer agreements and works agreements, and also the implementation of these measures and conducting proceedings before conciliation bodies. At the same time, he regularly accompanies complex compliance and whistleblower cases.

A further central interest of Michael Kliemt's is advising board members, directors and supervisory boards on entering into, renewing and terminating service contracts, including all questions of liability of company officers and representative bodies (for example, conducting and defending damages proceedings for officers' and directors' liability). He has acted as an arbitrator on a large number of important arbitration proceedings. The JUVE directory has for many years described Michael Kliemt as one of the "leading names in senior executive consultancy".

- Attorney since 1995, Certified Employment Law Specialist since 1999
- 2002 Founding Partner of KLIEMT.HR Lawyers
- 1997 Partner with Clifford Chance, one of the largest international law firms. Founded their Düsseldorf office and development and Head of the Employment Law Department
- Previously Partner with Wessing Berenberg-Gossler Zimmermann Lange (today: Taylor Wessing)
- Honorary professor for employment law, Saarland University, since 2006
- Doctorate on the topic of formal requirements in employment law 1995 under Prof. Dr Dr. h.c. mult. Peter Hanau in Cologne
- Academic research assistant at the chair of the well-known employment law specialists Prof. Dr Dr. h.c. mult. Peter Hanau in Cologne and Prof. Dr Dr h.c. Ulrich Preis in Hagen
- Law studies at Cologne University

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Dr. Rybak is Attorney at Law and Partner at Ehlers, Ehlers & Partner Rechtsanwalts-gesellschaft mbB. He is one of EEP's equity partners and (Co-)Head of the department.

He advises companies (national and international), physicians, professional associations and authorities in all relevant issues in the field of medical law / life sciences. Dr. Rybak is a competent specialist with respect to all issues regarding the (early) benefit assessment, market access strategies, eligibility for reimbursement or prescription of drugs and medical products as well as digital health applications.

He advises pharmaceutical companies and manufacturers of medical devices, but also food manufacturers, producers of cosmetics, service and homecare providers etc. on all essential aspects of commercial, medical and life science law. His area of practice comprises the fields of Market Access / Reimbursement and Regulatory Affairs, but also all aspects of Unfair Competition and Compliance, issues of health policy, as well as strategic counseling and Public Policy Advisory.

Through in-depth knowledge of the system, his network and access to all relevant decision-makers in politics, administration, self-government and payers, Dr. Rybak comprehensively advises on legal issues and beyond to allow or ensure an effective achievement of objectives.

In addition, he has a lectureship at the University of Bayreuth on the subject of health and life sciences law, and is a lecturer at the School of Tax & Business Law of the University of Münster.

Dr. Rybak is also the author of numerous publications.

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Mikrou – Klidas is a traditional boutique law firm, providing services in all sectors of any legal entity’s litigation issues, civil or criminal. The firm has comprehensive experience of the frameworks and practicalities involved, as well as thorough knowledge of the latest innovations and technologies considered instrumental in ensuring clients receive effective advice and security.

The firm’s considerable contribution in the area of urban planning extends to criminal litigation, dispute resolution and mediation.

Mikrou – Klidas was established in 2006 by Athens lawyers, Mr Dimitrios Klidas and Miss Xanthippi Mikrou, as a continuation of their individual law offices. Today, the firm is also active in the field of civil law as well as criminal/penal law (financial crime), with a large client base spanning a wide range of economic activity, including companies on the Athens Stock Market (in the banking sector as well as the sector of industrial and hydraulic equipment suppliers), but primarily a large range of commercial companies in Greece (including insurance companies, media and digital era companies, an electric and electronic appliances commercial company, construction companies, hotels and hotel management companies, a marble and granite commercial company, in addition to a wholesaler of school stationary and office supplies, among others).

For its valued clientele, the firm renders legal services covering the complete range of business operations (Greek and foreign), with specialization in the collection of claims – spanning out-of-court and/or judicial actions (settlements, security of claims, prenotifications, lawsuits, payment orders, forced execution, motion and participation in bankruptcy proceedings and special liquidations) – as well as real estate (constructions, transfers, distributions, inheritances and Cadaster and/or Land Registry), with its specialization in the construction sector and land registration process. To this end, Mikrou – Klidas engages more than 10 lawyers, in collaboration with external partners and lawyers based throughout the country.

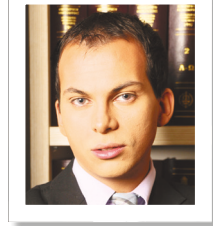
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THESIS LAW FIRM



THESIS
LAW FIRM



George Petrakos is a founding partner of Thesis Law Firm, where he heads the European and Competition-Antitrust Department.

George Petrakos, with extensive experience in EU and Competition Law, Distribution Law and Internal Market Law, has regularly advised Greek, French and international companies in relation to:

- Concession projects
- Setting-up of distribution networks
- M&As
- Concentrations

He has also filed several complaints before Greek and French Competition Authorities for violation of internal market rules.

George Petrakos has contributed to the public consultation on competition rules applicable to vertical agreements, organised by the European Commission (from 28.07.2009 to 28.09.2009).

He is a member of the Athens Bar Association, Cyprus Bar Association, Legal Skills International Business Lawyers Network and a Trademark Attorney at OHMI.

Prior to founding Thesis Law Firm, he has worked in the Competition Law and Commercial Law departments of leading law firms in Athens.

Following its evaluation at the Ecole de Formation du Barreau de Paris he has been at the Competition and Antitrust Department of the Paris Office of Orrick.

George Petrakos advised a global leading company in the aircraft and airports de-icing fluid in an antitrust case.

He advises a major Distribution Company in Electric Appliances, headquartered in France, among others, in connection with the following matters:

- Implementation of a selective distribution network
- Implementation of Distribution and Dealerships Agreements

He has acted as member of a board of an International Italian Manufacturer of Electric Appliances (Greek subsidiary).

He advised a Greek listed company in connection to the disruption of an established commercial relationship and the termination of a Distribution Agreement.

He advised a Japanese public-listed company in connection with its distribution implementation network in the EMEA and settled the disruption of the partnership with the previous Master Distributor for the region.

He advised the French Subsidiary of an American public-listed company in connection with its distribution agreements in Europe and the unfair competition suffered by the acts of a Distributor.

He advises a multinational game application publisher in a copyright and unfair competition matter in California with regards to a multinational dispute between competitors in the mobile application ecosystem.

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THESIS
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Kloy Tsiaga, founding partner of Thesis Law Firm, is currently the Managing Partner of the firm, where she heads the Commercial & Corporate Law and Public Works Department.

With more than 20 years' experience in Commercial & Corporate Law, Kloy Tsiaga has regularly advised listed and non-listed companies on compliance requirements, M&As, startups, sale and purchase of businesses, finance and taxation issues.

Her commercial law practice includes advising on business structuring and company establishment, drafting and negotiating a wide range of commercial and financial agreements, as well as participating in a number of due diligence reviews.

She has supported international companies in expanding their business in Greece, accompanied international companies active in multiple jurisdictions or companies with external orientation, and advised on M&As in Europe and Asia.

She also has substantial experience in Public Works, EU Public Procurement Law and Infrastructure Projects, and has been adviser to global engineering and design consultancies, as well as construction companies on several projects, including projects in the water and wastewater sector, in the rail, highways and transportation sector, in the ports sector, in the energy and health sectors, projects related to residential and commercial development of properties, concessions and PPP/PFI projects.

Kloy is admitted as a Lawyer in the Greek Supreme Court and is a member of the Athens Bar Association, the International Bar Association and the Legal Skills International Business Lawyers Network.

She has also worked as a special adviser to the Greek Ministry of Industry, Energy and Technology, and is co-author of "The Greek Legislation on Public Works" (compilation of legislation in English).

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VIZAS – KATRINAKIS AND ASSOCIATES LAW FIRM
(MEMBER FIRM OF THE PwC GLOBAL LEGAL NETWORK)



Georgios Katrinakis is a licensed lawyer registered with the Athens Bar Association. He joined PwC Greece in 2014 to lead its tax litigation practice as one of the named partners of “Vizas – Katrinakis and Associates Law Firm”, which is a dynamic licensed Greek law firm with an international orientation, being part of the PwC Global Legal Network.

Georgios has 23 years of professional experience as a lawyer and is specialised in the conduct of complex litigation in virtually all areas of taxation, including corporate taxation, PE and TP disputes, indirect taxes (VAT, stamp duties, customs and excise duties), individual and wealth taxation, either defending clients against tax and penalty assessments after the conduct of audits or reclaiming the refund of taxes unduly paid by clients. In addition, Georgios assists criminal defense lawyers in cases of alleged criminal tax evasion. Leveraging from his experience in handling tax audit and tax controversy files, Georgios also advises clients on tax compliance issues.

During the first four years of his career, he conducted civil/commercial litigation as a member of a reputable Athens-based law firm specializing in company and commercial, capital markets, banking and financial law (Tsibanoulis & Partners). Subsequently, he focused on tax litigation and became one of the leading tax litigators in another reputable Athens-based law firm (Zepos & Yannopoulos), where he stayed 11 years before joining PwC. Georgios has, over the years, represented a multitude of multinational and Greek companies, as well as individual taxpayers, in administrative procedures before the Greek tax authorities and in court proceedings before the Greek administrative courts (including the Greek Supreme Administrative Court) and before the Court of Justice of the European Union.

His academic qualifications include: LL.B. (Law School of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens), LL.M. in European & International Law (Durham University, UK), post-graduate diploma in Tax Law (Athens University of Economics and Business) and post-graduate diploma in Accounting (Athens University of Economics and Business). He has been a regular author and contributor of technical and thought-leadership articles to several tax and business law reviews. He speaks Greek (native), English (fluently) and French (fluently).

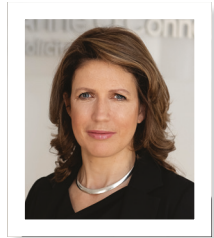
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ANNE O'CONNELL SOLICITORS



Anne O'Connell
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Anne O'Connell Solicitors (AOC Solicitors) is a leading and award-winning specialist employment law firm.

Employment law is a complicated arena of relationships and contracts, so it is important for anyone entering that arena to have the backing of trusted and intelligent legal minds. At AOC Solicitors, our clients get just that.

The firm offers a full suite of employment law services, including advice and representation in respect of all contentious and non-contentious employment-related issues. AOC Solicitors is renowned for providing its clients with a strategic approach on employment issues, advising clients on the best solution to achieve their objectives while meeting their commercial needs and business requirements.

AOC Solicitors was elevated in ranking by Legal 500 to a Tier 2 Employment Law Firm in Ireland in 2022, and we have retained this ranking in 2023.

The firm advises a range of employers, including large multinational companies, semi-state companies and startup businesses. It also advises individual high-level employees facing employment disputes, particularly executives and directors. Our client base continues to expand and diversify to include significant new clients across a variety of sectors, such as technology, healthcare, transport, finance, fashion, logistics, energy, construction, consultancy, security, hospitality, media and charitable organisations.

AOC Solicitors places a high value on being available 24/7 to avoid claims, as we believe in being an accessible and dependable resource for our clients; therefore, we offer a hotline to assist as and when issues arise. AOC Solicitors prides itself on keeping its clients abreast of all employment law updates, producing a monthly e-newsletter with practical articles on important WRC / Labour Court and superior court decisions, as well as any relevant legislative developments.

Over the past two decades, our Principal, Anne O'Connell, has built up a well-earned reputation as a standout leader in the field of employment law in Ireland. Anne has been named as a Leading Individual in Employment Law by Legal 500, and is a ranked Employment Lawyer by Chambers Europe. In addition, she is an active member of the Law Society Employment Law Committee and the Employment Law Section of the International Bar Association, and lectures (and tutors) for the Law Society – also speaking extensively at HR and legal conferences on employment law-related issues.

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STUDIO AVVOCATO ANTICH

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Studio dell'Avvocato Antich
Facilita la Soluzione!



Federico Antich is a law graduate of the University of Firenze and holds an LLM in US and Global Business Law from Suffolk University Law School.

A seasoned attorney-at-law in Italy with more than 25 years' experience as a litigator, legal counsel and negotiator – successfully dealing with civil, business and corporate matters – he pioneered the practice of mediation in his country, having managed more than 5000 mediations since 1999.

He is currently accredited by several mediation organizations, including (internationally) CEDR ICMC-BRI and IMI.

He was the first Italian to be inducted as a Distinguished Fellow of the International Academy of Mediators, and currently serves as the President of the Italian Delegation of the Mediation Center for Europe, the Mediterranean and the Middle East, as well as Co-Chair of the IBA – Mediation Committee.

In 2022, he retained the status of Emeritus by the World Mediation Organization.

Furthermore, in his roles as an Affiliated Professional of the American Bar Association and a Member of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, he has taught the theory and practice of non-contentious dispute resolution since 2003 – also receiving certification as a Trainer of Trainers in mediation by CEDR, by Mediation Works Inc., and as a Trainer in higher education by the Derek Bok Center for Teaching and Learning at Harvard University.

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DG TWIN



Michela Costa
CEO & Founder

We are suppliers of solutions and services to support digital transformation – to guide technologies, processes and corporate culture towards new horizons and production assets linked to digitization and open innovation.

The synergy between our team and the IT structure of our customers allows us to obtain results in line with the established objectives. In this way, companies can respond more quickly to market demands and acquire a competitive advantage.

A more efficient production process, better performing solutions, combined with a multidisciplinary and inclusive approach – all foster innovation.

Digital Innovation of Energy Conversion Systems:

We all feel the urgency of limiting waste and rethinking industrial products and processes in the perspective of greater resilience as well as increased flexibility at all levels.

Digital tools can make it possible to combine economic profit with a sustainable operation of assets, extending their useful life cycle and mitigating environmental footprints in order to preserve high levels of competitiveness.

DG Twin is, therefore, a candidate for a proactive subject for the purpose of digital innovation of energy conversion systems, with activities focused on the inclusion of numerical simulation as an enabling technology – which is fundamental to development – in implementation of a solid know-how and the transfer of the results of research conducted at the CNR to industrial production.

DG Twin is Based on Three Pillars:

- Skills
- Creativity
- Ambition

The team at DG Twin is aware that passion for one's work reduces the difficulties that may be encountered along one's development paths, because the skills acquired, combined with a reasoned approach to problems and creativity, can lead to flexible solutions that are applicable to various contexts, for a tangible contribution to the value of industrial production.

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GRANT THORNTON LIMITED



Grant Thornton



Grant Thornton Channel Islands

As an owner-managed business with offices in Jersey and Guernsey, Grant Thornton Limited is one of the Channel Islands' leading accounting, tax and business advisory firms dedicated to serving the needs of privately held businesses, financial services and private clients.

We offer a full range of audit, assurance, tax, corporate recovery and advisory services.

As a member firm within Grant Thornton International, we have access to member and correspondent firms, offering our clients specialist local knowledge supported by international expertise and methodologies.

Alan Roberts

Alan, a Director, is a Chartered Accountant, a UK-Licensed Insolvency Practitioner and a Certified Fraud Examiner. He has specialised in insolvency and restructuring work for more than 30 years.

He is an approved liquidator at the DIFC, Dubai, UAE and a member of the Institute of Professional Investigators. Alan has worked in the UK, US, Caribbean, Europe, Far East and the Channel Islands. His vast experience includes Protected Cell winding ups, contentious insolvency issues, complex asset recovery, forensic accounting investigations and multi-jurisdictional insolvency litigation cases.

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Professional Background:

- Steef is a CEO, Managing Partner and Founder of TPA Global (Transfer Pricing Associates);
- Has more than 30 years' experience in the areas of value chain analysis, transfer pricing strategy, risk management, design, documentation and implementation. Recently, he has acted as an expert witness and is heavily involved in presentations to management boards;
- Previous experience includes positions at two of the Big Four, where he worked as a transfer pricing partner on global projects. He has worked in Washington DC, London, Frankfurt and Amsterdam (current location);
- Steef frequently lectures and publishes articles on value chain analysis as well as transfer pricing – see several of his publications at www.shuibregtseprofile.com;
- He is regularly consulted on policy matters by government officials in Asia, Europe and the Americas;
- Steef has a degree in fiscal economics from the University of Rotterdam.

Proven Track Record:

- Developed a Global Tax, Business and educational technology platform available to TPA Global clients;
- Involved in more than 5,000 value chain and transfer pricing analyses;
- Developed the “value chain analysis” practice at TPA Global;
- Has built TPA Global’s presence in more than 60 countries;
- Developed a Global Benchmark Platform;
- Has set up an e-learning knowledge platform named e-Bright.

Capabilities:

- Steef has worked in a wide variety of industries, including automotive, fast-moving consumer goods, financial services, pharma and biotech, medical devices, oil & gas, digital economy, publishing, toys & games, among other areas. His technical skills extend to value chain analysis, pricing and valuation of intangibles, transfer pricing aspects of business restructuring, APAs as well as dispute resolution;
- Project leader on global transfer pricing projects;
- Steef frequently acts as expert witness on global/regional transfer pricing / BEPS disputes, in addition to acting as a senior and experienced advisor on BEPS-related issues;
- Steef founded the aforementioned e-learning platform e-Bright, which is specialized in transfer pricing, value creation, valuation as well as governance and control. Please refer to the e-Bright catalogue for available online courses – www.e-bright.com.

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BANDEIRA, REIS LIMA & BRÁS DA CUNHA, SOCIEDADE DE ADVOGADOS, SP, RL (BRLC)



**Bandeira,
Reis Lima &
Brás da Cunha**
SOCIEDADE DE ADVOGADOS, SP, RL



Miguel Brás da Cunha:

- Member of the Portuguese Bar Association (since 1992)
- Law Degree from University of Católica Portuguesa (1990)
- Master's degree in Comparative Law from University of Coimbra (1996)
- Professor at Faculty of Economics of the University of Porto
- Professor at Porto Business School

The Firm:

“Bandeira, Reis Lima & Brás da Cunha, Sociedade de Advogados, SP, RL” (BRLC), founded in January 1995, results from a partnership between professionals with common experience as lawyers of the Porto Stock Exchange and the Porto Derivatives Market, in addition to similar academic experience. For this reason, BRLC has always had an important presence at the level of the Financial Law (securities/financial instruments), providing legal advice to financial intermediaries and professional and nonprofessional investors, as well as rendering legal counsel in fields spanning corporate, labor, contractual and tax.

BRLC is currently home to a highly qualified team of lawyers and jurists working in a wide range of practice areas, and providing legal advisory and assistance to national as well as foreign companies.

Main Areas of Practice:

BRLC is particularly engaged in matters of Financial Law – securities and financial instruments – in addition to Real Estate Law. Meanwhile, the firm has a long tradition of advising on a comprehensive range of business activities – providing a combination of consultancy and litigation – within such interrelated legal spheres as Corporate Law, Tax Law, Contract Law, Labor Law and Intellectual Property Law.

- Financial Law
- Corporate and Commercial Law (M&A)
- Intellectual Property Law
- Tax Law
- Capital Market Law
- Contract Law
- Real Estate & Construction Law
- Labor Law

Miguel Brás da Cunha
Partner – Lawyer
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ADRIANA-ANCA BOGHIU

ADRIANA-ANCA BOGHIU



Adriana-Anca Boghiu practices business criminal law, and her specialisation is white-collar crime.

She is a member of the Bucharest Bar Association (Romania) and has the right to practice throughout the European Union. She also has the right to practice as a Foreign Qualified Lawyer (Romanian law) in Israel and is registered and practices as a European lawyer in Cyprus.

She has extensive experience in tax evasion, money laundering, fraudulent banking, embezzlement, electronic fraud, breach of trust by defrauding creditors, insurance fraud and bid rigging, and currently pays particular attention to cryptocurrency criminality as well as cyber-criminality.

As for her future projects, she wants to set up a restorative justice association focusing on victims of human trafficking.

Having the ability to apply the perspective of restorative justice in criminal cases would be a great opportunity to improve the way that members of the community voluntarily interact with victims and perpetrators, enabling discussion of the damage that has been done and the consequences of such actions, along with identifying the appropriate reparations for the harm caused.

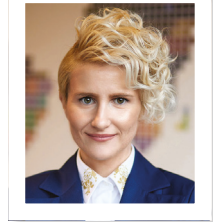
She is currently working on a research project that explores the possibility of using such restorative justice principles, and she hopes to publish her findings in the near future.

Source: Lawyer Monthly

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FIDASmart



Selena is a seasoned business consultant with more than 10 years of experience advising local and international clients. A summa cum laude law graduate, she followed the path from Magic Circle law firm to in-house counsel, to personal adviser to the shareholders, before setting up FIDASmart in 2016 together with Florin Dobre.

Selena offers clients an expertise that extends beyond the traditional legal realm. Having attended the specialized London Business School training on financial management, she was also involved as project manager in complex legal and tax projects, both at national and international levels.

A short selection of projects in which Selena was involved includes:

- Assistance with the due diligence activity, legal drafting and negotiations for the largest M&A transaction on the Romanian Pharma market – the sale of A&D Pharma group to DrMax group, an affiliate of Penta Investments Limited;
- Assistance with the due diligence activity, legal drafting and negotiations for the sale to Ascendis Group of the No. 1 food supplements company in Romania – Sunwave Pharma;
- Assisting an international client in the acquisition of convertible promissory notes from a US company during a private equity financing procedure, and in the subsequent conversion of the notes and subscription of shares in a related UK private company;
- Assisting an international client in the acquisition of a minority stake in a Japanese company, as well as the subsequent joint venture established to take over the international business of the company.

Despite her multifaceted expertise, M&A has been – and will remain – Selena's main focus and passion among legal areas.

Watch Selena discuss the M&A market at "Ziarul Financiar Live" in the early days of FIDASmart at:

www.zf.ro/companii/zf-live-selena-stan-fidasmart-sunt-multi-antreprenori-pregatiti-sufleteste-sa-vanda-un-business-dar-nu-sunt-bine-pregatiti-din-punct-de-vedere-juridic-financiar-16176395

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TURCAN CONNELL



While Turcan Connell has built its reputation on exceptional legal and tax planning expertise, the real secret of the firm's success is personal.

We act for individuals. They are businesspeople, entrepreneurs and landowners. We also work with charities, philanthropists as well as trustees. Their financial and legal affairs are both complex and intensely private. They require the dedication and discretion of trusted professional advisors, whose detailed understanding is built up over the years, and often spans generations within families.

To each of our clients, our work is vitally important. Each is provided with a tailor-made strategy to protect their wealth while navigating the inevitable challenges of ownership, control, succession and custody. Whatever you require, we are here to help.

Furthermore, Gillian Crandles is accredited as a specialist in Family Law by the Law Society of Scotland, and is the only family lawyer in Scotland to be recognised as an Eminent Practitioner by Chambers UK. Gillian has particular expertise in cases involving professionals, entrepreneurs, land and estate owners, and those in the public domain who require a highly proactive approach to sensitive and private matters. Typically, she deals with complex, high-value cases, which have given her a comprehensive understanding of business valuations, partnership issues and farming disputes. Many of her cases have an international element, including disputes regarding children, as well as those in respect to jurisdiction for financial claims.

Gillian is dual-qualified as a solicitor in Scotland and England & Wales, and has often instructed in cross-border cases – particularly in relation to asset protection, including pre- and post-nuptial agreements, in addition to living-together agreements.

At all times, she strives to offer a sense of reassurance to clients and wants them to know they have come to the right place, as Turcan Connell will take care of them – balancing kindness and empathy with the reassurance that the firm will do all it takes to protect and pursue their interests doggedly and fearlessly.

Pragmatism is important. The firm does not fight unnecessary battles, nor does it add costs without justification, but always tries to help clients see the bigger picture and steer them towards the resolution that works best for them. This means being readily available, responding quickly and, of course, offering the assurance and confidence that comes with really knowing both the law and each client's personal circumstances.

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Choclán

BUFETE



José Antonio Choclán Montalvo, magistrate by competitive examination, has served over the years in various judicial posts, always in the criminal courts, most recently as a magistrate of the Criminal Division of the National High Court, with extensive experience as an examining magistrate and court magistrate.

In 2004, he went on leave of absence from the judiciary, founding the law firm that bears his surname, and since then he has been practising as a lawyer, especially in the area of economic criminal law.

From July 2000 to July 2004, he worked as a lawyer for the General Council of the Judiciary. In this body, he has been Director of the Continuing Education Service for Judges and Magistrates and Director of the Studies and Reports Service.

In the academic field, he holds a Doctorate in Law and has taught on several postgraduate courses.

During his time as Director of the Studies and Reports Service of the CGPJ, he was Secretary of the "Revista del Poder Judicial" (Journal of the Judiciary).

He is Member of the Editorial Board of the magazine "Otrosí" (Magazine of the Bar Association of the Madrid Bar Association).

He is also a member of the Editorial Board of La Ley Penal (WoltersKluwer Group).

He is a member of the Illustrious Bar Association of Madrid.

Main Areas of Practice:

- **Criminal Law**
- **Corporate Defence and Compliance**
- **International Procedural Law:** José Antonio Choclán has extensive experience in extradition proceedings, European Arrest Warrants (EAWs) and in the transfer of criminal proceedings among jurisdictions, derived from the firm's managing partner background as a Judge of the Criminal Chamber of the Spanish National High Court, specialized body in charge of addressing these types of international proceedings in Spain.
- **Reports, Legal Opinions and Memorandums:** The managing partner has significant professional experience in the preparation of reports and the issuance of legal opinions resulting from having held the position of Director of Studies and Reports of the General Council of the Judiciary.
- **Tax Law:** José Antonio Choclán has renowned prestige on the resolution of the most serious and complex tax law cases and investigations involving natural persons and all forms of corporations. José Antonio Choclán provides services in all instances of the case, from prevention and commencement of public investigations to criminal and administrative proceedings, assessing every detail in each case to provide the best possible solution for the client.

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ECIJA ASOCIADOS ABOGADOS BARCELONA S.L.

ECIJA



Gabriel Nadal is a Managing Partner of the ECIJA office in Barcelona and has more than 20 years' experience and an extensive professional career at the national and international level, providing legal advice to companies.

One of the founding partners of one of the top firms in the Catalan market, and until he joined ECIJA, he led that firm's mergers and acquisitions, commercial law, insolvency and business restructuring areas.

Active member of the International Bar Association. Gabriel has been Chairman of its Insolvency and Creditors' Rights Committee.

He holds an LLB in Law (Licenciatura en Derecho) from the University of Barcelona and an LLM from Amsterdam University. Gabriel speaks Spanish, Catalan, English, Italian and French.

Related Practices: Corporate/Mergers and Acquisitions, Real Estate And Urban Planning.

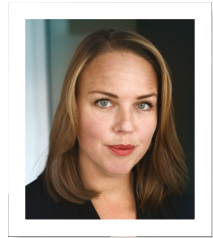
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WESTERBERG & PARTNERS ADVOKATBYRÅ AB



Westerberg



At Westerberg & Partners, I advise and represent States and private entities in matters pertaining to public international law, treaty-based dispute settlement and international human rights.

My expertise includes a wide range of public international law topics, including inter alia the law of treaties, the law on State responsibility, the law on State and diplomatic immunity, international investment law, the law of the sea and Business & Human Rights.

I have experience of protecting foreign investments through international arbitration, advising individuals and companies on claims against governments and on the enforcement of awards against sovereign entities. I have equally assisted States defending against claims before international courts and tribunals and safeguarding sovereign and diplomatic immunities before national courts. I have represented corporate as well as sovereign clients in international arbitration and litigation and have appeared as an advocate before the International Court of Justice in The Hague and the Swedish Supreme Court. I also practice in human rights, advising in particular on Business and Human Rights regulatory and guidance frameworks, corporate ESG responsibilities and human rights due diligence.

I hold a Master of Laws in Public International Law and Procedural Law and a Doctor of Laws (PhD) in Public International Law, both from Uppsala University.

Prior to joining Westerberg & Partners in 2020, I practiced for six years at the public international law firm Volterra Fietta in London, where I primarily worked on State-to-State disputes and high-profile investor-State arbitration cases.

Notable representations in the public domain include acting against Kazakhstan in enforcement proceedings raising issues of sovereign immunity from execution before the Swedish Supreme Court, for Ukraine in set aside proceedings before the Svea Court of Appeal, for the United Arab Emirates before the International Court of Justice, for the Federal Republic of Nigeria in ICSID proceedings in the oil and gas sector, for the Arab Republic of Egypt in ICSID proceedings related to broadcasting and for Owens-Illinois EG in ICSID annulment proceedings.

I have provided advice to a number of governments on public international law matters, including inter alia the legality of military intervention and the use of force, international humanitarian law, international human rights, reservations to treaties and State and diplomatic immunities.

I have furthermore advised private parties on investor claims and Business and Human Rights issues.

I am included on the EU Commission list of arbitrators for bilateral trade disputes.

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ZURKINDEN + PARTNER RECHTS- & WIRTSCHAFTSBERATUNG

ZURKINDEN  PARTNER
RECHTS- & WIRTSCHAFTSBERATUNG



Areas of Expertise:

Business Law, Corporate Law, Succession Planning, Foundations.

Areas of Focus:

- Contract and Commercial Law
- Civil Law
- Labor Law
- Corporate and Company Law
- Divorce Law
- Association and Foundation Law
- Procedural Law

Languages:

- German
- English
- French

Professional Career:

Self-employed lawyer in Berne (since 1997), voluntary work in various non-profit organizations; former head of the legal service of a major bank (1989–1996) and former Managing Director of SwissFoundations, association of grantmaking foundations in Switzerland (2001–2004) on a mandate basis. Various Board member mandates in foundations and companies.

Trained as a lawyer at the University of Berne, patented in 1987.

Memberships:

- Swiss Bar Association SAV
- Bern Bar Association BAV

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NIEDERER KRAFT FREY LTD

NIEDERER KRAFT FREY



Dr. Thomas A. Frick is a senior attorney with vast experience in supporting clients effectively in their business projects. He is recognized for both his deep knowledge of the law and his entrepreneurial approach to finding tailor-made solutions for his clients.

His experience as a business angel and an active board member in several banks makes him a trusted and responsive advisor for any companies seeking high-quality, hands-on, cost- and time-efficient – as well as goal-focused – legal support.

Dr. Frick specialized in counseling in particular banks, FinTech companies and other financial institutions in regulatory, legal and compliance issues with a focus on providing business-oriented solutions that help clients to achieve their goals and minimize their risks.

He devotes a substantial amount of time to advising banks, securities traders, brokers, asset managers, investment advisors, investment funds and other participants in the financial market both in Switzerland and abroad in a variety of legal issues involving business activities related to the Swiss market. His focus is on regulatory, contractual and trade finance matters. A focus of his practice is dedicated to FinTech projects, including ICOs, security token offerings, setting up of trading platforms, of crypto brokers, crypto funds and raising capital for crypto projects.

Thomas A. Frick is a board member of several Swiss banks and other companies and a member of various professional associations, including the CryptoValley Association, Capital Market and Technology Association, and others.

He is the editor of the FinTech Law Review and a regular publisher on FinTech, financial markets law and competition law issues, a lecturer at the LL.M. program of Zurich University and a regular speaker at the European Law Academy.

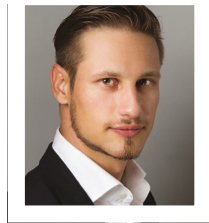
Thomas A. Frick graduated from Zurich University (1992) with a doctoral degree and was admitted to the Zurich Bar in 1992. He obtained an LL.M. from the London School of Economics (1994) and a FinTech Certificate of MIT in 2016. He worked in law firms in Cape Town, Brussels and with the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development and has been a Partner with Niederer Kraft Frey since 2001.

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CITIZEN LANE
CITIZENSHIP & RESIDENCE BY INVESTMENT



Founded in 2015 in Switzerland, Citizen Lane is a consulting firm working with entrepreneurs and investors from around the globe, assisting them to expand or relocate their business and/or personal life to Europe.

At Citizen Lane, we are dedicated to supporting investors and entrepreneurs in their endeavours to expand or relocate their businesses to Europe, as well as assisting them through setup in Austria, Germany, Slovakia, Slovenia, Malta and other European countries. We're not only specialized in business setup, but offer our clients a tailored path to residence and/or citizenship in selected European countries.

Citizen Lane has flourished thanks to its commitment to providing the highest standard of legal and consulting services to a wide range of clients. Since inception, the firm's philosophy has revolved around providing personal and customized services, not only in the areas of citizenship by investment and residence by investment, but rather supporting entrepreneurs through advice in areas that matter to businesspersons – such as general business development, with opening bank accounts and optimizing their individual and corporate tax situations.

Why Citizen Lane:

Citizen Lane provides individual advice to each client, depending on their personal and family situation. We will assist you with selecting the right residence or citizenship program – in addition to your best-possible investment category based on your needs and requirements – and will efficiently execute the application process from beginning to end. The choice of a citizenship program or a residency program should be well thought out, with consideration of several factors. Our sound knowledge of the various citizenship programs, along with our expertise in each country's situation, makes it possible for us to provide a personal and transparent high-quality service. In jurisdictions where we are not present with our own office, we work in collaboration with selected local affiliated partners in the respective countries.

Till Neumann:

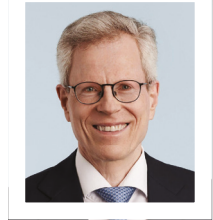
The Founder of Citizen Lane, Till Neumann, is a former department head for Caribbean citizenship programs with Henley & Partners, an internationally active consulting firm in Zurich. With his experience in business and investment management, combined with his passion for law, Till began his own consulting firm to assist individuals seeking to invest, relocate and live in a country where they can conduct business safely with a fair and reliable legal system – one that offers a peaceful, comfortable life with their families and loved ones.

Till Neumann
Founder

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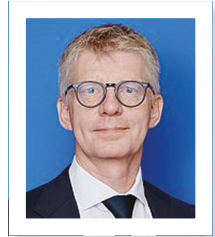
Thomas Sprecher is much appreciated for his expertise in Foundation Law, Association Law and Law of Succession.

He acts as counsel to national and international foundations, associations, and private clients. His broad legal knowledge and expertise enables him to tackle intricate factual and legal issues also involving difficult personal situations.

Dr. Sprecher is a member of the Legal Counsel of SwissFoundations and regularly takes the chair in foundations seminars. Due to his vast experience, Thomas Sprecher has been elected as co-editor of the Swiss Foundation Code 2021. He is a member of several boards of foundations as well as boards of directors. He has authored numerous books and articles on foundation law (Swiss Foundation Law, 2023).

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Jean-Blaise Eckert is a Partner based in Lenz & Staehelin Geneva, where he is Co-head of the Tax Group.

He is widely regarded as one of Switzerland's leading lawyers in tax and private client matters. He advises a number of multinational groups of companies, as well as HNWI's. Jean-Blaise is also Secretary General of the IFA and a frequent speaker at professional conferences on tax matters. He was ranked among the top tax lawyers in the Chambers and Partners 2022 Global Guide.

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KURT & PARTNERS



Özlem Kurt graduated from Marmara University Faculty of Law in 1999 and completed the Master Program in Comparative International Commercial Law at London Metropolitan University.

She worked firstly at REKAB, a Competition Law & EU Relations firm, with Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nurkut İnan, and actively participated in legal compliance processes, managed compliance programs, and provided services to domestic and international clients in their applications to the Competition Authority (“CA”). She conducted competition analysis in company M&A projects and managed the application processes.

Today, Özlem specializes in rendering legal compliance and regulatory consultancy across various sectors, offering legal services in the fields of technology and IT law, as well as providing strategic consultancy. She also offers legal compliance services in all areas subject to regulatory legislation, and provides support in the restructuring of acquired and merged companies’ management – in addition to participating in all negotiation processes. Meanwhile, she is active in the field of sustainability, including data protection, privacy and environmental law, and provides training and consultancy services to companies.

Kurt & Partners Law Firm:

Kurt & Partners has been in existence for more than 20 years, providing services locally and globally for companies as well as all types of legal entities. During this period, the firm has sustained long-term client relationships for up to 15 years, operating effectively through an institutional and partnership structure.

In its day-to-day work, the firm functions as a teammate, ensuring support that goes beyond legal services – understanding its clients’ corporate structures and cultures very well, and adding strategic value in a timely manner.

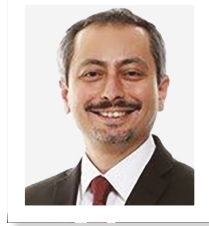
Kurt & Partners provides services for diverse areas, particularly: commercial law, specialized contract services, corporate law, M&A, competition, compliance and regulatory, labor law, IT law and data protection, dispute resolution, arbitration and litigation, among others. Its primary industry sectors are made up of: energy, software, gaming, technology, machinery manufacturing, automotive, spare parts, education, retail, telecommunications, chemistry, logistics, textiles, e-commerce, call centres, food, construction, startups, as well as various service sectors.

According to internal statistical data, the firm has rendered its services for more than 50 different sectors in the past three years. Nearly 60% of the sectors served by the firm reside in: automotive, automotive spare parts, manufacturing companies across different fields, IT, energy, telecommunications, as well as logistics.

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KURT & PARTNERS



Izzet Gürler graduated from Izmir 9 Eylül University Faculty of Law in 1999 and completed the Private Law Master Program at the same university in 2005.

Izzet Gürler's practice focuses on corporate, foreign investments, projects, energy, real estate as well as M&A. His expertise includes joint ventures, commercial and contract law, international trade law and IP law. He is further experienced in the structuring and negotiation of a variety of commercial transactions, including asset transfer agreements, and has wide-ranging experience in assisting and advising foreign companies on their acquisition transactions concluded in, or related to, Turkey.

In addition, his experience of foreign investments and projects extends to assisting clients with the determination of the form as well as the type of the companies to be established in Turkey – taking into account the structure of the company, and carrying out establishment procedures.

He has extensive experience in corporate governance, and is regularly queried on the implementation of corporate governance rules for international companies and Turkish subsidiaries. He is also knowledgeable in restructuring the management of acquired and merged companies.

Litigation, including alternative dispute resolution, is another of his specialist areas, and in this regard, he is well versed in representing clients before the local courts, the appeal court and arbitration tribunals, as well as representing them throughout mediation procedures.

Education:

- Istanbul University, PHD
- Dokuz Eylül University, Master Degree, 2005
- Anadolu University Banking and Insurance Associate Degree, 2004
- Dokuz Eylül University Faculty of Law, Undergraduate, 1999
- Bornova Anatolian High School – 1995

Languages:

Turkish, English.

Areas of Expertise:

- M&A
- Projects
- Negotiation & Dispute Resolution
- Intellectual Property

Kurt & Partners is a true pioneer in the scope and diversity of its legal services, widespread geographic differentiation, and its reaction to changes in key industries. In providing a full range of legal counseling and advocacy services across major fields, the firm blends up-to-date information and knowledge with industry insight and experience.

Corporate:

The firm provides key services to regional and international clients across every sector, advising on a broad spectrum of corporate matters, including transactional work, general corporate and governance advice, recommendations on company types, management structures, as well as shareholder relations in the form of shareholder agreements and the implementation of holding companies.

Kurt & Partners' service also incorporates matters of day-to-day business, M&A, spinoffs and public offerings, as well as setting up joint ventures in a corporate context.

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BIÇAK LAW FIRM

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Att. Prof. Dr. Vahit Biçak is widely recognized by his clients and peers as a leading “go-to” practitioner for challenging legislative and regulatory problems. Over the last three-plus decades, he has been involved in major legislative and regulatory initiatives involving white-collar crime, fraud, bribery money laundering, insider dealing, misleading the market, tax evasion, water management as well as domestic violence.

Biçak Law Firm is equipped with trusted advisors for the most complex domestic and cross-border business transactions and corporate governance, and has advised on drafting contracts, as well as civil and criminal liability of owners for acts of the company – and of the company for acts of its owners.

Meanwhile, Prof. Dr. Biçak, an internationally known lawyer, is an accredited and skilled mediator with more than a decade’s experience of handling civil, commercial, employment, consumer, health, energy and mine disputes. He has been involved in mediation since its infancy in Turkey in the 2010s.

He sits as arbitrator (sole arbitrator, co-arbitrator, president) in domestic and international arbitrations pursuant to institutional (ICC, SCIA, ISTAC) and ad hoc rules (UNCITRAL), pursuant to various applicable laws, and concerning various sectors and subjects, e.g., health, mining, construction, technology and corporate disputes (post-M&A, joint ventures).

Furthermore, Prof. Dr. Biçak has been a visiting scholar at many prestigious universities around the world, such as the City University of New York and the Fordham Law School in the US, as well as the Morbor University in Slovenia, the Police College of Hungary in Budapest, the Police College of the Czech Republic in Prague and the University of Lyon III Faculty of Law in France.

Prof. Dr. Biçak, who has also worked in a number of Turkish universities – including Bilkent University, Hacettepe University, Gazi University, Başkent University, Atılım University and HBV University – has been a lecturer in evidence law, commercial criminal law and criminal procedure law at the Police Academy, Faculty of Security Sciences, since 1990.

He has worked as a member of the Human Rights Consultative Committee within the scope of Prime Ministry of Turkey in 2002–2004, and was assigned as the President of Prime Ministry Human Rights Committee during the period spanning 2003–2005.

He served as one of the six members of the Reform Monitoring Group (foreign minister and deputy premier, minister of justice, interior minister, secretariat general for EU affairs, human rights chairman of the prime ministry, head of IHDK) around the same time.

He has also designed and managed 11 international projects.

Finally, he has published 12 books in Turkish and English in the field of law, and has written a great number of articles.

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Joseph Loggia co-founded Buxbaum, Loggia and Associates, Inc. in 2000 and Buxbaum Loggia Ltd., our British subsidiary, shortly thereafter, to provide a complete source of senior technical support to the insurance and reinsurance industry.

Mr. Loggia's experience of more than 50 years includes management of ceded and assumed reinsurance portfolios, audit assignments for major domestic and international reinsurers, and expert witness testimony. He has served in senior executive positions for such companies as Armco, Home Insurance, Liberty Mutual and Northwestern National.

At Buxbaum Loggia, Mr. Loggia leads casualty and accident/health inspections and settlement teams for both insurers and reinsurers. He is highly regarded for his expert opinions and testimony regarding a wide range of insurance and reinsurance issues. In civil litigation and reinsurance arbitrations, Mr. Loggia has been deposed as a fact and expert witness on more than 75 occasions.

Having recently provided expert services regarding a number of cases involving Workers' Compensation, Construction Defect litigation, Property Loss and EPLI issues, Mr. Loggia's decades of experience serve in evaluating and testifying on proper claims administration, including coverage analysis and good-faith claim decisions. Additionally, he has worked for and represented policyholders, primary and excess carriers on industry customs and practices.

Notably, Mr. Loggia has also been engaged on behalf of insurers and reinsurers to assist in numerous mediations and settlement conferences.

Buxbaum Loggia's staff, most of whom have held management positions with insurance and reinsurance companies, prove to be an invaluable resource.

Currently, Mr. Loggia is active as a member and Certified Arbitrator for ARIAS and several other industry organizations, including the American Bar Association (ABA), California Association of Independent Insurance Adjusters, Insurance & Reinsurance Legacy Association, and the International Association of Claims Professionals. He has been a featured speaker and panelist at ABA and Casualty Actuarial Society Conferences.

Who's Who Legal says "the 'experienced and well-regarded' Joe Loggia is an eminent figure in the market who has testified on dozens of occasions in insurance litigation over the course of his career," and also named him a Thought Leader. Mr. Loggia was also recognized by Lawyer Monthly with Expert Witness Awards in 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2021.

After graduating from the University of California, Los Angeles, he served as a captain in the US Army and attended the University of LaVerne, College of Law.


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THE AMERICAS



In a new flagship annual report, ECLAC indicates that the region's countries will continue to face an economic scenario of low growth. It is expected that regional Gross Domestic Product will grow 1.5% in 2024, slightly below the 1.7% estimated for 2023's final figures.

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean's (ECLAC) annual report is entitled "Economic Survey of Latin America and the Caribbean 2023 – Financing a sustainable transition: investment for growth and climate change action", in which it forecasts that the region's economies will maintain low levels of growth during 2023–2024, affected by a negative global and very complex regional economic outlook.

According to the document – one of the institution's main economic reports, which has been published since its beginnings in 1948 – average regional Gross Domestic Product is expected to grow by 1.7% in 2023. Meanwhile, a slight decline is projected in the growth rate for 2024, leading to an increase of 1.5% of the regional GDP growth.

According to the United Nations regional organisation, the global economy's dynamics remain on a path of low economic and international trade growth. Despite declines in the inflation rate, developed countries will likely continue with their contractive monetary policies, which means no significant cut to external interest rates is expected for 2023 final data, and financing costs for countries will remain high.

Although the public debt of the region's countries has fallen, it is still elevated as a proportion of GDP, which, coupled with the increase in external and internal interest rates and an expected decline in tax revenue due to lower growth, will result in limited fiscal space for the region as a whole. In addition, less dynamism in job creation is anticipated, along with growing social demands.

"Latin America and the Caribbean's low growth may be aggravated by the negative effects of an intensification of climate shocks, if the investments that countries need in climate



change adaptation and mitigation are not made,” stated ECLAC’s Executive Secretary, José Manuel Salazar-Xirinachs.

For 2023, ECLAC forecasts that all the sub-regions will have lower growth than in 2022. South America is seen growing by 1.2% (versus 3.7% in 2022); the group made up of Central America and Mexico by 3.0% (3.4% in 2022); and the Caribbean (excluding Guyana) by 4.2% (6.3% in 2022).

The projections for 2024 indicate that low economic dynamism will persist in the region. It is forecast that the international context will continue to be unfavourable, with growth in global GDP and trade far below the historical averages. At the same time, in the domestic arena, fiscal policy space will continue to be limited, although reduced inflation in the region

creates more room for countries’ monetary policies. In these circumstances, ECLAC forecasts average growth in 2024 of 1.2% for South America, 2.1% for Central America and Mexico, as well as 2.8% for the Caribbean (excluding Guyana).

The Economic Survey 2023 indicates that the low growth in economic activity in 2023 and 2024 will result in a deceleration of job growth, which is seen expanding by 1.9% in 2023 and 1.1% in 2024. Furthermore, there are concerns over employment quality in this context of low growth, since it is very likely that workers will become more vulnerable, have lower levels of social protection and be employed in less productive sectors.



“Given the challenges of boosting growth and tackling climate change, it is essential to enhance public and private investment. Public investment in the region is low in comparison with advanced economies, and even other developing regions. This low level of investment has translated into a stock of public capital – infrastructure – that is insufficient for boosting economic growth and promoting productive development,” ECLAC’s report emphasises.

The macroeconomic impacts of climate change could be very significant for the region’s countries. The estimates presented in the Economic Survey of Latin America and the Caribbean 2023 indicate that by 2050, the GDP of a group of six countries could be between 9% and 12% lower than what would correspond to a scenario of trend growth if investments are not made to offset climate shocks. The volume of additional investment required is exceptionally large, between 5.3% and 10.9% of GDP per year. This would represent a significant increase from current investment levels.

However, the ability to invest will depend both on access to financing as well as the cost of financing. “There must be a considerable increase in concessional financing that would allow for sustaining investment trajectories over time. These efforts must be accompanied by domestic macroeconomic policies that favour resource mobilisation,” José Manuel Salazar-Xirinachs asserted.

Finally, the report warns that in order to confront the macroeconomic effects of climate change, national, regional and global efforts will be needed in four main areas: 1) Fiscal space, through an increase in revenue and in the progressivity of the tax structure, green public spending and access to new financing mechanisms, such as thematic bonds; 2) Management of financial and foreign-exchange risks through macroprudential policy; 3) Mobilisation of concessional financing and development banking, to deepen climate finance, through multilateral, regional and national development banks and to foster Official Development Assistance (ODA) flows to fight climate change; and 4) Debt relief mechanisms, such as the establishment of institutional mechanisms for restructuring, as well as the inclusion of clauses linked to disasters and hurricanes, combined with achievement of climate targets.

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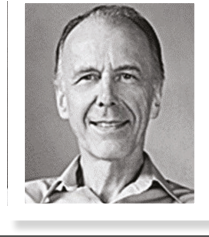
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Harry Wiggin has been associated with the firm since 1995.

He was born in England, United Kingdom. He was first admitted as a Solicitor in England and Wales. In 1995, he was admitted as a Solicitor in Anguilla and in 2010 he was admitted in St. Kitts & Nevis.

Professional Education:

Trinity College, Cambridge, England (B.A.(Hons), M.A; The Chartered Institute of Taxation, London, England.

Memberships:

Anguilla Bar Association, International Bar Association, International Fiscal Association, Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners, and Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Taxation.

Languages:

English

Practice Areas:

International Tax Law, International Trusts and Estate Planning, Family Offices, International Corporate Structuring and Commercial Law.

Harry has years of experience advising multi-national individuals, trustees, foundations and financial institutions on wealth structuring, asset protection, international corporate and trust structuring and family offices, seeking always to combine the clients' personal and corporate requirements with the maximum advantages offered by the tax legislation of various jurisdictions.

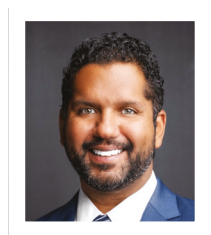
Further, he has worked on a broad range of transactions for both major and smaller companies, financial institutions, partnerships and private individuals. In addition to mergers and acquisitions, he advises clients on corporate financing, corporate reorganisations, joint ventures, the formation of investment funds and on all aspects of company law and anti-money laundering regulations. He is known for giving close attention to the underlying commercial objectives in addition to the purely legal issues.

In addition, Harry advises on company formation and management services and provides international clients with a convenient and cost-effective method of consolidating asset ownership under a corporate umbrella. He also advises on the protection of clients' assets in offshore accounts, continuity of professional management, offshore financing, a registered office facility and the flexibility of an Anguilla corporation.

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PARRISWHITTAKER LAW FIRM



For Jacy Whittaker, the key to winning cases is being abundantly overprepared. As an attorney, Jacy gears up for war on everything. The litigator never walks into a courtroom without more research, more evidence, and more potential angles than warranted. This over-preparation allows him to think on his feet, building confidence – and the court’s regard – through each winning application, writ, submission, and hearing. Rather than being exhausted by sheer volume, the youthful lawyer becomes even more invigorated. After all, he lives to argue – and win.

Jacy got his start in 2000, working as a legal assistant for Frederick R.M. Smith, QC, a legendary attorney in the Bahamas. Mr. Smith had been intrigued by a brand of intelligence that has since served Jacy well in the courtroom. Even then, a talent analysis showed Jacy’s strengths as a future litigator.

Jacy enrolled in law school (University of Buckingham, 2001 and later Inns of Court School of Law, 2005), then joined Callenders & Co., where he worked side-by-side with Mr. Smith on multiple matters – including one of the Bahamas’ most monumental matters. Six years later, he and partner Arthur K. Parris, Jr left to form ParrisWhittaker. Jacy has since added admiralty law, probate law, commercial transactions, corporate structuring, restructuring, and formation to his list of capabilities. He acts as local counsel for a handful of Fortune 500 companies and numerous international companies.

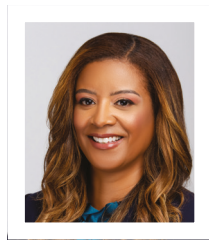
In addition to his legal practice, Jacy is one of the most active members of the Grand Bahama business community. He is/was a director, advisor, or committee chair for numerous boards, including the Bahamas Bar Council, Grand Bahama Chamber of Commerce, Rotary International, Freeport Law Society, and Salvation Army. He is also a member of the Bahamas Bar Association and a member of the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court Bar.

Practice Areas:

Litigation, Commercial Litigation, Trust Litigation, Asset Tracing, Enforcement of Foreign Judgments, Estate Disputes, Maritime.

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With nimble mastery and a crisp ability to navigate Bahamian maritime law, negligence claims, and alternate dispute resolution approaches, Kenra Parris-Whittaker, Esq. is an astute and effective lawyer for our times.

Kenra has litigated on both sides of the courtroom, and she leverages strengths in both discovery and research, formulating incisive inquiries and powerful positioning for resonating results. Her ability to clearly articulate a case's full scope translates from the courtroom to virtual or remote litigation platforms (if needed) – expediting prompt and fair resolutions. With her sound knowledge of both port and court admiralty law, Kenra is frequently sought as an arbitrator and mediator.

Kenra's legal skills have often led to the creation of case law, with modern contextual interpretation and new jurisdictional jurisprudence. She has provided a range of solutions for multi-national and regional shipping companies, cruise lines, protection & indemnity clubs (P&I), and UK-based law firms in need of Bahamas representation. She has successfully obtained hundreds of millions of dollars for clients from favorable judgments and settlements. Kenra also represents regulatory authorities in the interpretation of new statutes and the Hawksbill Creek Agreement.

Committed to due process throughout the legal landscape, Kenra's diverse client base also includes vessel repair shops, shipyard owners, crew members, injured plaintiffs, and executors/executrices for large estates.

Before becoming a partner at ParrisWhittaker, Kenra was a senior associate litigating commercial, probate and maritime cases at globally recognized Callenders & Co.

Nassau-born and Canadian and UK-educated, Kenra received her Bachelors of Law from the University of Buckingham, Law and attended the Inns of Court School of Law.

Practice Areas:

Maritime, Admiralty, Litigation, Commercial Litigation, Trust Litigation, Estate Disputes, Vessel Lease Agreements, Maritime Disputes and Litigation, Shipping and Aircraft, Commercial, Civil & Trust Litigation, Estates, Probates, Wills and Trusts Estate Litigation, Trusts Litigation, Shareholder Disputes, Fatal Accident Claims, Construction Disputes and Litigation, Property Disputes and Litigation, Commercial/ Contractual Disputes, Contentious Probate Issues, Insurance Litigation.

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CLARKE GITTENS FARMER



Honours degrees in both Law and Business Administration allow Ramon Alleyne to bring a commercial balance and understanding to his clients' complex business transactions. As Managing Partner of Clarke Gittens Farmer, the largest full-service commercial firm in Barbados, he has provided legal services to many multinational and regional corporations.

Clarke Gittens Farmer, the recognised Lex Mundi member for Barbados, advises the full cross section of the financial sector operating in the Caribbean, along with members of the "Big Four" accounting firms. Clients may draw on a full suite of commercial legal offerings, including corporate services, real estate, bankruptcy and insolvency, commercial litigation and secured lending.

Being an active commercial litigator for 30 years, Ramon Alleyne has been involved in many major commercial litigation trials, advised and acted on behalf of members in the energy sector in regulatory approval hearings, and acted across seven jurisdictions in the largest ever regional administrative proceedings related to the bankruptcy of an insurance company.

The team at Clarke Gittens Farmer stands ready to deliver a client-focused service, that is, service delivery aimed at providing clients with the desired objective in an efficient, professional manner.

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Danielle Bush is a Senior Counsel in our leading Business Law Group and Co-Lead of our firm’s national Gaming, Lottery and eSports Group, based in Toronto. Prior to rejoining McCarthy Tétrault, she was a partner at the firm for nearly 20 years.

Danielle has more than three decades of experience in all facets of the gaming industry. She is widely recognized as one of Canada’s foremost experts in the online gaming space and applicable Canadian law. A testament to her deep and extensive knowledge, Danielle is one of only four lawyers in Canada ranked Band 1 in Chambers for gaming law, and she was named one of Canada’s top gaming lawyers by Best Lawyers.

Highly sought-after for her astute and strategic counsel, Danielle regularly acts for a wide range of companies in the gaming industry and in sectors that intersect with gaming, including online sportsbooks; casinos and poker rooms; companies active in the eSports vertical; daily fantasy sports providers; casino operators; provincial lottery corporations; and gaming regulators. She represents many of the world’s largest online gaming companies, advising them on obtaining listings, ongoing regulatory and compliance issues, multi-jurisdictional regulatory issues; and much more. She also specializes in branding, marketing and regulated industries (including gaming, alcohol, cannabis, food and beverage and medical devices); as well as technology law, including development, licensing and joint venture agreements for tech owners and customers.

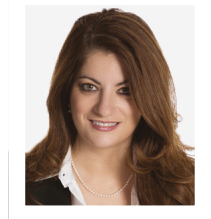
She is a consistent thought leadership contributor to various industry publications, including the Canadian chapter of the International Comparative Legal Guide (Gaming), and is the author of Chambers’ Gaming Law 2022 – Canada. Actively engaged in the gaming sector, Danielle regularly chairs panels on sports betting and online gaming at the Canadian Gaming Summit and other large international gaming conferences. She is a member of the Board of Directors of the Canadian Gaming Association, a member of the CGA Executive Committee in her function as the CGA’s Secretary and legal counsel, a member of the CGA Nominating Committee, and external legal counsel to the CGA.

Danielle is also actively engaged in gaming-related policy development, and has been involved in ongoing meetings with various levels of government on issues such as the privatization of Ontario’s online gaming industry, and on single-event sports betting amendments to the Criminal Code.

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Ms. Zineb Koudri is a partner at BTK Lawyers, which specialises in business, real estate and construction, family law, and civil and commercial litigation.

A committed professional, Ms. Koudri takes to heart the interests and presence of women in the business world.

She has more than 18 years' experience in the legal field and has been responsible for a number of large-scale projects both in Quebec and internationally.

For more than five years, she acted as legal counsel for an international engineering and construction company in Quebec.

She was an active member of the executive committee of the Regroupement des Jeunes Chambre de Commerce du Québec (RJCCQ) for several years.

Since 2012, she has been involved as a project evaluator and coach for entrepreneurs and start-ups with the Montréal Inc. association, founded by the Mayor of Montréal in 1996 to promote innovative projects by young entrepreneurs in the city.

Until 2021, she chaired the Centre de médiation du Québec CMedQ, where she worked as an accredited mediator in commercial and civil matters.

Ms. Koudri has served on a number of boards, including Business Professional Woman Montreal, where she worked as a director in 2019. She is currently a member of the board of directors of UniAction, an organization that promotes living together.

Recognised for her achievements in the legal field, Zineb Koudri has been named by several recognised organizations in Canada:

- "Lawyer of the Year" 2016 by the Canadian legal magazine Droit Inc.
- Finalist at the Gala du Maghrébin au Québec (CMQ) in the "Women Leaders" category in 2017.
- Best choice of the Montreal Lebanese community by the Notre Nouvelle newspaper.
- "Professional of the Year" by the AEAC in 2018.
- 1st best real estate lawyer in the Laurentians by Canadian web magazine ThreeBestRated 2022.
- TOP expert 2022 by the Canadian SME Strategy organization.

BTK Avocats offers its services for all real estate purchases (land, house, flat, business premises, etc.) – and also handles other matters, such as foreclosures, real estate mortgages and legal construction mortgages.

You can count on BTK Avocats for: private loans, right-of-way applications, building permits, co-ownership agreements, latent defects, rental investments, termination of contracts, statements of offence (RBQ/CCQ), claims, and more.

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APPLEBY



Peter Colegate is a Partner in the Appleby Cayman Corporate Group. His practice is focused on privacy, data protection and strategic corporate-commercial as well as regulatory work in the technology and innovation sectors.

Peter is admitted as an attorney-at-law in the Cayman Islands, as a solicitor in the British Virgin Islands, as a solicitor in England and Wales (non-practicing) and was a registered foreign lawyer in Hong Kong.

A privacy and data protection specialist, Peter is a member of the International Association of Privacy Professionals and sits on the Cayman Islands Government's Working Group on Data Protection.

He is a founding member of the Blockchain Association of the Cayman Islands, a member of the Financial Services Legislative Committee Fintech Sub-Committee, the Cayman Finance Fintech Innovation Lab and the Fintech Professionals Association.

Prior to joining Appleby in January 2017, Peter was a member of Hogan Lovells' technology, media and telecommunications group in Hong Kong and helped build the firm's privacy practice in Asia.

Since 2021, Chambers and Partners has ranked Peter as a Band 1 lawyer for Offshore Fintech. Legal 500 named Peter as a "Next Generation Partner" in 2023, and has noted him as a "subject matter expert, responsive and detail-oriented" for Regulatory and Compliance.

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Raisa is the kind of lawyer that commits to a case and follows through with a focus that is both multi-layered and single-minded.

She begins with not just the facts of the case, but the feelings and the people involved. Committed to strategy and compassion, Raisa started her days as a young lawyer with Human Rights and Social Justice organisations like Lawyers to the Rescue and Legal Aid. That left a profound appreciation for pursuing justice while preserving dignity and decency.

Even as an expert litigator today, Raisa remains bound to the precepts of fairness, justice and care.

Licensed to practice in several countries, Raisa began her law journey with a degree from University of South California in 2010. She then earned her Juris Doctor in 2014 from St. Thomas University School of Law in Florida, where she passed the bar the same year and subsequently became a Notary Public. She pursued further studies at the Norman Manley School, where she graduated in 2016, and was called to both the Jamaica Bar and the Barbados Bar that same year.

She joined ParrisWhittaker with a passion for continuing to build on their legacy of skilful litigation and legal counsel through a team both qualified and caring. She is also a proud upholder of the long-standing traditions of charitable work, pro bono cases and fundraising they proudly execute yearly.

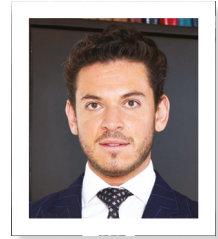
She is proud to be considered tenacious. Her unshakeable resolve and track record speak for themselves. She looks forward to starting another successful story with you. Please reach out today to get started on building your best case.

Practice Areas:

Trust and Shareholder Disputes, Litigation, Maritime, Shipping, Conveyance, Compliance, Corporate Finance, Commercial Matters, Intellectual Property, Personal Injury, Family Law, Probate.

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Fernando Córdoba is the Managing Partner of Lex Legal Mexico, a disruptive law firm in which young and extremely well-prepared lawyers studied the new trends of the time.

Fernando has been personally involved in the creation of the legal structure of two of the most relevant crowdsourcing platforms in Mexico, and one of the most robust super-apps (financial services through white labels) in the country.

He has represented one of the most promising companies in the oil & gas sector in Mexico. Fernando is also responsible for one of the biggest alcohol and spirits advertising campaigns in the country, by obtaining more than 200 permits for more than 30 different brands (just in 2022).

In 2021, Fernando received a Doctorate Honoris Causa from the IMELE (Mexico), as recognition for his outstanding career at an incredible young age. He has also been considered as one of the best corporate lawyers under 40, and a top 500 managing partner in all of Latin America. Fernando has also been listed in Corporate INTL and Who's Who Legal.

Fernando's entrepreneurial vision, mixed with international business experience, as well as MBA studies, constitutes a truly top-tier private practice, worthy of incredible national and international recognition. Eight years after, he has become one of the most desired lawyers for app developers, crowdsourcing entrepreneurs, FinTech visionaries, and more.

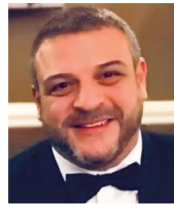
According to Fernando: "In order to be successful, young lawyers must know how to run a business; they need to become businessmen and understand how a businessman thinks, what he wants, what he considers to be important. This is the only way to truly understand what our clients' needs are, and what they really expect from us."

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G A B I N E T E J U R Í D I C O



FERNÁNDEZ ZACUR – GABINETE JURÍDICO provides counseling and litigation services in Paraguay. The Firm is specialised in Corporate Criminal Law and Corporate Law. However, we have developed a multidisciplinary project focused on the integral solution of legal problems.

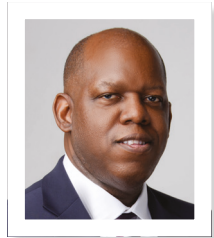
JOSÉ MIGUEL FERNÁNDEZ ZACUR is a Lawyer who graduated from the Catholic University Nuestra Señora de la Asunción (Asunción – Paraguay) with an **OUTSTANDING** grade point average and a Doctor in Law (**SUMMA CUM LAUDE**). Master in International Economic Criminal Law (**OUTSTANDING** Master's Thesis) at the University of Granada (Granada – Spain). Master in Prevention and Repression of Money Laundering, Tax Fraud and Compliance (**OUTSTANDING** Master's Thesis) at the University of Santiago de Compostela (Santiago de Compostela – Spain). Postgraduate in Economic Criminal Law at University of Nordeste (Corrientes – Argentina). Diplomaed in Economic Criminal Law from the Association of Judges of Paraguay. Specialist in Criminal Law at University of Belgrano (Buenos Aires – Argentina) with a **DISTINCTION** and at University of Pacífico (Asunción – Paraguay). Postgraduate in Deepened Criminal Law at University of Cuenca del Plata (Corrientes – Argentina). Diplomaed in Oral Litigation from American University (Asunción – Paraguay). Diplomaed in Legal Economics from La Ley Paraguaya (Asunción – Paraguay). Diplomaed in E-Sports Law from the School of Legal Practice of the Complutense University of Madrid (Madrid – Spain). Diplomaed in Compliance from Thompson Reuters Training (Santiago – Chile). Graduate from the School of Criminal Science and German Criminal Dogmatic at the University of Göttingen (Göttingen – Germany), from the Training Course in Prevention of Money Laundering, Criminal Liability of Legal Entities and Tax Fraud at the University of Santiago de Compostela (Santiago de Compostela – Spain), from the Spanish Trial Skills Academy at the California Western School of Law (San Diego – United States of America) and from the Extension Course in Corporate Criminal Law at the Pontifical Catholic University of Rio Grande do Sul (Porto Alegre – Brazil). Former professor of Forensic Linguistics and Legal Oratory. Author and co-author of several books, papers and articles in specialised publications. Guest professor in post-graduate courses and international conferences. Member of the Iberoamerican Association of Economic and Business Criminal Law and other associations of Criminal Law.

Despite our sustained growth, supported by an outstanding percentage of success, we maintain the style of a typical family firm, which guarantees a personalized treatment, discretion and the utmost diligence.

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PARRISWHITTAKER LAW FIRM



Every case is a challenge, and every courtroom is an arena. That's how George sees it, and that's how George prepares.

George knows that victory is not just about case law, but about how people make decisions and choose sides. Competitive by nature, George enjoys the challenge of taking all those elements to build a successful argument, navigating litigation to success after success. His courtroom track record speaks for itself.

For over 20 years, George has worked in prominent, prestigious firms in the region, such as Callendars, located in the Bahamas, and founded various law firms in Turks & Caicos.

Although his education has been global, and his experience international, his particular winning edge can be found in his roots. As a Notary Public for the Turks and Caicos and the Bahamas, and an attorney with the Supreme Court of both countries, he understands the local ways in the Bahamas and the Turks & Caicos Islands. This allows him to help his clients navigate what can seem like quaint or complicated systems faster. From start to finish, he untangles both standard legal bureaucracy and specific local challenges to walk them towards the win.

He is a Rotarian and Paul Harris Fellow, currently serving as Chairman of both the Medicine and Dentistry Professions Council of the Turks & Caicos and the Turks and Caicos National Insurance Appeals Tribunal. He is also the current Vice President of the Turks and Caicos Special Needs Alliance, having previously held the roles of Director, Hope Foundation Autism Awareness TCI and President, Turks & Caicos Bar Council.

Practice Areas:

Commercial Litigation, Trust and Probate Disputes, Administrative Law, Construction Law, Copyright/Trademark, Employment Law, Immigration, Shareholder Disputes, Professional Negligence, Real Estate and Property Law, Enforcement of Judgments.

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WHITE & ASSOCIATES, P.C.

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Kenneth White is the Founder of White & Associates and has more than 30 years of experience practicing business immigration. He has been repeatedly recognized as a top immigration lawyer, as noted by *Who's Who Legal*.

Mr. White was a pioneer in setting up the first U.S. immigration practice in Eastern Europe, and went on to open seven offices in countries of the former Soviet Union. He has represented clientele from more than 70 countries, handling visa and immigration matters before more than 40 U.S. embassies and consulates in Europe, Asia, Africa, Oceania and Latin America. Professional clients include investors, entrepreneurs, business executives, scientists, artists, engineers, athletes, and musicians.

Mr. White is a consular transparency leader, and has fostered changes in the processing of visas. For example, he gained one of the first visa mandamus judicial decisions in a business immigration case and filed the first class-action lawsuit against the U.S. Embassy in Moscow. He is also active in policy-related Freedom of Information Act filings and litigation.

Mr. White authored the Russian-language books *U.S. Nonimmigrant Visas* and *U.S. Immigration and Citizenship*, as well as dozens of articles on business immigration. He handled some of the first EB-5 investor immigration cases from Eastern Europe, and has authored articles for the preeminent guide on EB-5 immigration, *Immigration Options for Investors and Entrepreneurs*. Mr. White has given expert testimony in court, spoken at various immigration conferences, and been interviewed by the BBC, the *Wall Street Journal*, and the *Moscow Times*. He was also one of the founding members of the Rome Chapter of the American Immigration Lawyers Association, and has traveled to London, Istanbul, Kyiv, Minsk, Brussels, Warsaw, Valletta, Almaty, and Santiago on various professional matters.

Mr. White is an honors graduate of the George Washington University National Law Center in Washington, D.C. Prior to commencing his own practice, he worked in all three branches of Government: for the State Department and Commerce Department, U.S. Congress, and the District of Columbia Superior Court.

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BUXBAUM, LOGGIA & ASSOCIATES, INC.



BUXBAUMLOGGIA

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Joseph Loggia co-founded Buxbaum, Loggia and Associates, Inc. in 2000 and Buxbaum Loggia Ltd., our British subsidiary, shortly thereafter, to provide a complete source of senior technical support to the insurance and reinsurance industry.

Mr. Loggia's experience of more than 50 years includes management of ceded and assumed reinsurance portfolios, audit assignments for major domestic and international reinsurers, and expert witness testimony. He has served in senior executive positions for such companies as Armco, Home Insurance, Liberty Mutual and Northwestern National.

At Buxbaum Loggia, Mr. Loggia leads casualty and accident/health inspections and settlement teams for both insurers and reinsurers. He is highly regarded for his expert opinions and testimony regarding a wide range of insurance and reinsurance issues. In civil litigation and reinsurance arbitrations, Mr. Loggia has been deposed as a fact and expert witness on more than 75 occasions.

Having recently provided expert services regarding a number of cases involving Workers' Compensation, Construction Defect litigation, Property Loss and EPLI issues, Mr. Loggia's decades of experience serve in evaluating and testifying on proper claims administration, including coverage analysis and good-faith claim decisions. Additionally, he has worked for and represented policyholders, primary and excess carriers on industry customs and practices.

Notably, Mr. Loggia also has been engaged on behalf of insurers and reinsurers to assist in numerous mediations and settlement conferences.

Buxbaum Loggia's staff, most of whom have held management positions with insurance and reinsurance companies, prove to be an invaluable resource.

Currently, Mr. Loggia is active as a member and Certified Arbitrator for ARIAS and several other industry organizations, including the American Bar Association (ABA), California Association of Independent Insurance Adjusters, Insurance & Reinsurance Legacy Association, and the International Association of Claims Professionals. He has been a featured speaker and panelist at ABA and Casualty Actuarial Society Conferences.

Who's Who Legal says "the 'experienced and well-regarded' Joe Loggia is an eminent figure in the market who has testified on dozens of occasions in insurance litigation over the course of his career," and also named him a Thought Leader. Mr. Loggia was also recognized by Lawyer Monthly with Expert Witness Awards in 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2021.

After graduating from the University of California, Los Angeles, he served as a captain in the US Army and attended the University of LaVerne, College of Law.

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ABALLÍ MILNE KALIL, P.A.

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International Lawyers



Hendrik G. Milne (“Henk”) is a Founding Partner of Aballí Milne Kalil, P.A. (“AMK”) an international law boutique with its offices in Downtown Miami, Florida, US, focusing on international tax, trusts, transactions and the resolution of disputes worldwide. AMK’s lawyers are multilingual, multicultural, admitted in multiple jurisdictions, and highly experienced in working with lawyers from other states and countries, for the benefit of mutual clients around the globe. AMK is listed in The Bar Register of Preeminent Lawyers.

Henk is a top international advocate with over 40 years of experience in courts and arbitrations around the world. He is an English barrister and a Florida attorney, admitted to the bar of multiple federal courts across the US, including the US Supreme Court, and has dozens of reported cases to his credit, many of them creating new law. He is Board-Certified by the Florida Bar in International Litigation and Arbitration and peer-reviewed as “AV-Preeminent” by the USA’s premier rating organization, Martindale-Hubbell, denoting the highest possible level of skill and ethics.

Henk’s has arbitrated matters, tried cases to judges and juries, and briefed and argued appeals in many state and federal courts and tribunals across the United States, and abroad. He has strong academic skills and is a very quick study. He has had significant experience in an extremely broad array of civil cases with a heavy focus on international frauds, RICO and civil theft cases, Mareva injunctions and pre-judgment asset freezes, asset-tracing and recovery.

Henk routinely works with lawyers from all over the world in disputes involving the laws of multiple jurisdictions, often supervising parallel or complementary proceedings taking place in multiple countries, simultaneously. He speaks and reads French, German, Dutch and Spanish with varying levels of proficiency, and has been retained as an expert witness on English law in American proceedings and on American laws in connection with proceedings in the UK. In common with his partners, Mr. Milne has earned Martindale-Hubbell’s highest rating for his professional skills and his ethics: “AV-Preeminent.”

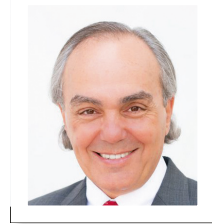
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Craig P. Kalil is the Managing Partner of Aballí Milne Kalil, P.A. (“AMK”), an international law boutique with its offices in Downtown Miami, Florida, US, focusing on international tax, trusts, transactions and the resolution of disputes worldwide. AMK’s lawyers are multilingual, multicultural, admitted in multiple jurisdictions, and highly experienced in working with lawyers from other states and countries, for the benefit of mutual clients around the globe. AMK is listed in The Bar Register of Preeminent Lawyers.

Craig has practiced complex commercial litigation for over three decades. In that time, he has represented clients in an extremely wide range of domestic and international matters. He has handled antitrust and RICO claims; vessel arrests and lien enforcements; mega-yacht and jet airplane disputes; and has represented clients in business disputes in industries ranging from art and textiles to international arms sales. Craig has also handled every aspect of Florida commercial real estate litigation. He has foreclosed commercial mortgages, stayed off demolition orders, negotiated or litigated with local zoning authorities and municipal governments, and prosecuted and defended commercial evictions. He is authorized to write title insurance in Florida.

A significant part of Craig’s practice involves the representation of large corporate clients joined as defendants in multi-state and multi-district litigation. He has served as lead coordinating defense counsel helping to plan and execute collaborative, nationwide defense strategies, and as local counsel, working with lead counsel from prominent law firms around the country. The industries involved have included worker’s compensation, health care and managed care insurance, to product defects. Craig has been co-counsel for plaintiffs in cases certified for class action treatment and has also successfully opposed efforts to certify class actions against AMK clients, both on a state-wide and a national basis.

Craig has routinely managed complex domestic and international commercial cases where hundreds of millions, or even billions, of dollars have been at stake. He has handled cases in the US District and Bankruptcy Courts in Florida and dozens of the State’s Circuit and County Courts, as well as appeals before many of the State’s appellate courts. He has handled cases in ten states across the US and been admitted to numerous federal courts including the US Supreme Court. In common with AMK’s other name partners, Craig is peer-reviewed as “AV – Preeminent” by the US’s premier rating organization, Martindale-Hubbell, denoting the highest possible level of skill and ethics.

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THE ENTREPRENEUR LAW CENTER, P.L.

THE ENTREPRENEUR LAW CENTER, P.L.



The Entrepreneur Law Center is a private boutique law firm offering a broad range of legal and advisory services to emerging enterprises, entrepreneurs, large and small established businesses, public and private entities, and individuals.

Our clients are local, national and international. We strive to provide services beyond your expectations for a law firm. Our broad business and financial experience helps our clients overcome today's obstacles to meet tomorrow's goals.

Mergers & Acquisitions

At the Entrepreneur Law Center, we provide a wide variety of M&A-related services. Our attorneys have wide experience, not only as attorneys, but also as advisors and financial executives, who have managed mergers and acquisitions processes as insiders. We provide the following services throughout the process, including:

Preparing for a Merger or Acquisition

- Developing strategic objectives for buyers and for companies who want to position themselves as targets;
- Helping sellers prepare for buyer due diligence and assisting sellers in managing the due diligence process;
- Conducting pre-acquisition due diligence planning for buyers; and
- Drafting initial communication and letters of intent.

Kenneth Hamner

For the past 25 years, Ken Hamner has accumulated a wide variety of experience in finance, accounting, consulting, and law. He has significant experience in structuring international and domestic transactions, equity and debt relationships, as well as negotiating contracts. Ken manages and directs all of the primary practice areas of the Entrepreneur Law Center, P.L., a boutique law firm with focused practice areas of business planning, international and domestic transactions, general counsel services, tax, due diligence, angel investor and venture capital services. Ken is also the Managing Member of Encompass Advisory Group, an investment banking and consulting firm that offers services in corporate strategy and exit planning, M&A, forensic accounting, fraud investigations, due diligence, outsourced CFO services, valuation, and real estate brokerage services.

Previously, Ken was the Managing Partner and Director of Corporate, International & Tax Services for a full-service law firm with partners in Orlando and West Palm Beach, Florida. Ken has also served as the Chief Financial Officer for three international companies, where he structured private equity transactions, mezzanine and convertible debt financing, as well as international transactions with suppliers, customers, and distributors. Ken also serves as an Adjunct Professor, teaching graduate courses in business plan development, M&A and IP at the University of South Florida Center for Entrepreneurship. The course is open to graduate students in entrepreneurship, business, engineering, and medicine.

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LAW OFFICES OF KENNETH R. ADAMO

Law Offices of Kenneth R. Adamo



Ken has extensive trial experience as lead counsel in jury and nonjury cases before state and federal courts and the United States International Trade Commission, as well as ex parte and post-grant PTAB experience in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. He has had substantial experience as lead counsel in arbitrations and other alternative dispute resolution proceedings, and actively practices before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, having appeared in more than 45 appeals to date.

In 2011, Ken was named to IAM Patent Litigation 250 – The World’s Leading Patent Litigators, ranked as a top attorney in the “Individuals – U.S. International Trade Commission,” and as a Band 1 lawyer in “Individuals – Illinois” and “Individuals – National” categories. He was recognized as a “true leader and luminary trial lawyer,” who is “sharp and extremely effective both in federal district court litigation and before the ITC.” In 2012, in IAM’s The World’s Leading Patent Practitioners 1000, he was again named a top attorney in Individuals – US International Trade Commission, and was named to Gold Band Individuals – Litigation in Illinois.

In 2013, he continued in the IAM 1000 publication as a Gold Band Individual – Litigation in Illinois, being described as “a ‘brash and bold winner’ who secures superb results for clients.” In 2014 and 2015, Ken maintained those rankings (as he did through 2019), with IAM stating he is a “Nationally renowned trial lawyer . . . [who] has a tremendous amount of energy and is a commanding presence in the courtroom”, and “is a polished trial lawyer with extensive district court, ITC, appellate, alternative forum and Patent Trial and Appeal Board (PTAB) experience.” In 2016, IAM noted: “You can’t be too dazzled by the depth and strength of the firm’s bench of first-chair trial lawyers. Ken Adamo is another big name in the group; he litigates high-stakes cases across the IP spectrum and excels at all levels and in all forums, including the ITC and PTAB.”

IAM 1000 – The World’s Leading Patent Professionals 2017 named Ken as a best-in-class advocate: “Ken practiced patent litigation well before it came into vogue, and has unrivalled experience and a rare depth of substantive patent law knowledge. He takes the time to get to know your business and goals, and will protect your interests zealously. He does a good job training and developing new talent for the next generation of representation for his clients – a lot of senior lawyers take their eye off that particular ball, but not Ken.”

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TCF LAW GROUP PLLC



TCF Law Group is a boutique transactional law firm of highly experienced and sophisticated lawyers, providing comprehensive legal guidance to public and private companies, private equity firms, and family offices on cross-border M&A, capital raises, and joint ventures. We counsel and represent our clients with personal, practical, and effective guidance from partners with decades of international experience from major law firms and as general counsels to public companies.

Today, we represent public companies, private companies and their founder-owners, in addition to private equity firms and their portfolio companies in mergers, acquisitions, and sales of businesses. Each of our M&A lawyers has practiced for more than 25 years and has regularly represented both buyers and sellers. As a result, we have extensive experience solving the challenges that can emerge in deals, and we understand the perspectives, motivations, and interests of parties on all sides of the transaction. This enables us to reduce deal friction and deliver high-quality legal services that support a collaborative and successful process designed to achieve a timely and efficient closing. We have partners who have lived and worked in Europe, and the firm regularly works on cross-border transactions between the US, Europe, and Asia.

Representative Clients & Engagements:

Our lawyers have represented a variety of leading businesses in important transactions, including:

- ADT Security (majority owned by Apollo Global) – in more than 12 acquisitions, including platform deal establishing its cyber-security division, and in multiple divestitures;
- Airxcel (portfolio company of L Catterton) – in an acquisition of Aqua-Hot, a leading provider of hydronic heating systems to the RV Industry;
- Artemis Capital Partners: in multiple portfolio company acquisitions (both platform and add-on deals);
- ATN International (Nasdaq) – in multiple acquisitions;
- Battery Ventures – in UK portfolio company’s acquisition of a US SaaS services business, and the German portfolio company’s acquisition of a US laboratory services business;
- Alegeus (portfolio company of Lightyear Capital) – in the sale of a subsidiary to Maestro Healthcare Technology;
- Apps Associates (global IT services company) – in the sale of a controlling interest of businesses in US, India, and Germany to BV Investment Partners;
- Au Bon Pain (portfolio company of JAB Holdings) – in the sale of Au Bon Pain to Ampex Brands;
- Cabot Corporation (NYSE) – in acquisition of leading North American producer of black masterbatches and compounds;
- GTY Holdings – special counsel for \$642 million offering and business combination and ongoing offerings.

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KING & SPALDING LLP



Matthew Biben brings an invaluable client-side approach to problem-solving, drawing on his own experience as a former Executive Vice President and General Counsel of two global banks and as a state and federal prosecutor in Manhattan.

Matthew focuses his practice on complex negotiation and litigation of disputes, including civil litigation, regulatory, and enforcement matters on behalf of both individuals and organizations.

He routinely acts as counsel in matters involving, among others, the Department of Justice (DOJ), Securities Exchange Commission (SEC), Federal Reserve Board (FRB), Office of Comptroller of the Currency (OCC), Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB), New York Department of Financial Services (NYDFS), state attorneys general and foreign regulators.

Matthew is nationally recognized, including by: Chambers for his “standout expertise”; by Benchmark Litigation as a “Litigation Star”; and by the Legal 500 as a “tenacious but balanced litigator.”

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WOHABE LAW OFFICES LLP



David Wohabe is a Partner with Wohabe Law Offices LLP, where he practices in a wide range of finance, commercial and investment matters, with particular emphasis on finance and investment transactions, including Islamic finance.

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Mr Wohabe maintains an active Islamic finance and investment practice advising Western and Islamic investors, fund sponsors and others with respect to investments and financings intended to comply with Islamic Shari'ah principles; assisting in the development of Islamically acceptable modes of investment and finance; engaging and working with Shari'ah advisers and advisory boards to obtain approval of investments and transactions; and working to harmonise the requirements of Shari'ah to the commercial, tax and regulatory environment of the United States and other jurisdictions throughout the world. This practice covers areas ranging from real estate to private equity, venture capital, leasing finance, commodities and trade finance, among others.

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Before joining Wohabe Law Offices, he was associated with the international law firm of Milbank LLP – representing numerous US and foreign banks as well as financial institutions, wherein he primarily advised on areas of business reorganisations and restructurings, in addition to workouts of troubled loans.

He is a graduate of Williams College and Cornell Law School (cum laude) and was an editor of the Cornell Law Review. He is admitted to practice in New York and before the US District Court for the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York, and the Second Circuit Court of Appeals.

Wohabe Law Offices LLP was established in 1971 to serve clients in the Arab Gulf States and in the United States. Since that time, the firm has represented private and public sector clients from the Gulf States with respect to their diverse domestic and international matters and activities, and American and other clients with respect to their business interests in the Gulf States. The firm serves as a bridge between the United States and the Gulf countries, frequently consulted on matters requiring a professional understanding of the laws and business practices of both regions. The firm was named **Islamic Finance Law Firm of the Year in New York** by Corporate INTL Global Awards for 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022.

WACHTELL, LIPTON, ROSEN & KATZ

WACHTELL
LIPTON
ROSEN &
KATZ



David A. Katz is a Partner at Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz in New York City, an adjunct professor at New York University School of Law, and Chair of the Board of Advisors of the NYU Law Institute for Corporate Governance and Finance.

Mr. Katz is a corporate attorney focusing on M&A, corporate governance, shareholder activism and complex securities transactions. He has been involved in many major domestic and international merger, acquisition and buyout transactions, strategic defense assignments and proxy contests, and has coordinated a number of complex public and private offerings as well as corporate restructurings. He frequently counsels boards of directors and board committees on corporate governance matters and crisis management.

He is Co-chair of the Tulane Corporate Law Institute, teaches M&A at New York University School of Law, and previously co-taught a joint law and business short course on M&A at Vanderbilt University Law School and Owen School of Management with former Delaware Chief Justice Leo Strine, who is now Of Counsel at the firm.

In addition to being chosen by *The American Lawyer* as one of the 45 highest performing members of the private bar under the age of 45, *The American Lawyer* has selected Mr. Katz as a Dealmaker of the Year three times. He has been named numerous times by the NACD Directorship as one of the 100 most influential players in corporate governance. He has also been named Lawyer of the Year by the Global M&A Network, *Who's Who Legal's* M&A Lawyer of the Year, *Who's Who Legal's* Corporate Governance Lawyer of the Year, and *Who's Who Legal's* Corporate Governance and M&A Lawyer of the Year for multiple years. Mr. Katz was elected by The American College of Governance Counsel as an Inaugural Class Fellow, and is a member of the American Law Institute, where he is an adviser on the Restatement of the Law, Corporate Governance Project.

Today, Mr. Katz serves as a member of the Board of Trustees at New York University (Executive Committee) and at New York University School of Law. He also writes a regular column on corporate governance for the *New York Law Journal* with his colleague Laura McIntosh.

Mr. Katz is a member of the American Bar Association, Section on Business Law, where he founded the Committee on M&A Task Force on the Dictionary of M&A Terms, and is a member of the Committee on M&A Subcommittee for Acquisitions of Public Companies.

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GLAVIN PLLC

GLAVIN PLLC



Glavin PLLC was founded in March 2021. The firm specializes in White-Collar Criminal Defense, Government Enforcement and Regulatory Issues, Internal Investigations, and General Litigation. Glavin PLLC represents corporate and individual clients in all aspects of governmental investigations, regulatory enforcement and compliance matters, as well as clients seeking internal investigations.

Rita Glavin, the firm's Principal, has represented multinational corporations and executives in a diverse variety of matters ranging from financial and banking crimes, securities fraud and insider trading to the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, an impeachment investigation, a state ethics investigation, antitrust and tax offenses. Her work has involved engagement with federal, state and international agencies, including the DOJ, SEC, CFTC, FTC, FINRA, NYS Attorney General, NYS Department of Financial Services, the NYS ethics commission, the Manhattan District Attorney's office, and the UK's Financial Conduct Authority. Ms. Glavin is also an experienced trial lawyer, having conducted more than 20 trials.

Ms. Glavin has been recognized in Chambers and Partners and Benchmark Litigation as a top litigator, one of the top 500 lawyers in America by Law Dragon, a white-collar "trailblazer" by the National Law Journal, and among the New York Law Power 100 and the Albany Power 100 by City & State NY.

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BELL LEGAL GROUP

M C M L X X X I I I



South Carolina attorney Ed Bell founded Bell Legal Group more than 40 years ago. With offices in Georgetown, SC and Raleigh, NC, he focuses his practice on a variety of cases that range from medical malpractice, personal injury, automobile safety and defects, product liability, environmental law, police misconduct, and prison abuse.

During his 40-year career as a South Carolina lawyer, Ed has distinguished himself as a top litigation attorney at local, state, and national levels through his ability to relate to jurors and explain the difficult aspects of complex litigation matters. His experience placed him at the forefront of jury research when he was involved in the initial founding of the Arvada Jury Project, a research project that analyzed the impact of trial lawyers and jury attitudes. This project drastically changed the way trial attorneys present their cases to juries.

Ed's unique approach to litigation also led him to establish a research center at his firm headquarters in Georgetown. Through his experience as a South Carolina trial attorney, Ed developed this center to assist Bell Legal Group attorneys with unraveling the technical intricacies in a case and transforming them into a story that can be easily told to jurors. At the center, engineers, researchers, and support staff follow cases from beginning to end, exploring a case's complex facts, researching medical topics, investigating defects in automobiles, building trial exhibits, and untangling the complex nature of each issue surrounding malpractice, personal injury, and accident cases.

Ed has been named as lead counsel in numerous complex civil litigation cases throughout the United States and brings a unique perspective along with strong litigation experience. He has tried more than 400 cases nationally as well as throughout the state.

Areas of Practice:

- Medical Malpractice
- Personal Injury
- Defective Products
- Nursing Home Abuse
- Mass Torts
- Camp Lejeune

Education:

- Wofford College, B.A., 1975
- University of South Carolina, J.D., 1978

Professional Associations & Memberships:

- American Bar Association
- American Association for Justice
- Federal Bar Association
- South Carolina Association for Justice (Former Board Member)
- South Carolina Bar Association
- Charleston School of Law, President, and Chairman of the Board (2015–present)

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BERUBE CONSULTING PLLC



Bonnie Berube is a Registered, Licensed Dietitian Nutritionist and the Owner of Berube Consulting PLLC. Her company has provided outstanding food service and nutrition management support to clients in premier healthcare, corporate, and education organizations for more than 30 years. Bonnie and her team provide expertise in a variety of areas, including clinical nutrition management, database nutrition analysis, meal planning and development, as well as food service management and regulations.

Bonnie has a Bachelor's degree from the University of Houston and a Master's degree from Texas Woman's University. She is a Certified Serv@Safe Trainer and Proctor.

Corporate Clients:

Our corporate clients include global oil companies, major food service companies, reputable corporate clients, large school districts, as well as international catering company guidelines.

Bonnie is passionate about nutrition education. She has served in site reviews for the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics, and has enjoyed speaking at continuing education classes, nutrition seminars, and corporate wellness programs, and mentors dietetic internships from approved programs of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics throughout the United States.

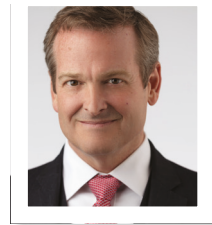
Bonnie's support for the culinary community is evident. She is past President of the Houston Area Professionals in the Culinary Arts, Texas Dietetic Association, Houston Area Dietetic Association, and Texas Executive Women. Bonnie is also a member of the Advisory Committee of the Culinary Arts Programs at San Jacinto College and KBI Dietetic Internship, as well as other internships throughout the country. She serves on the Board of Directors at Harmony House, Inc., providing housing for Houston's homeless.

Additional career highlights include her former role as Administrative Director of Dietetics & Food Service at Hermann Hospital in the Houston Medical Center. She taught at the University of Houston, University of Texas, and Houston Community College, and received recognition from the Federation of Houston Professional Women of Excellence. She held the position of Manager of Healthcare and Vice President of Healthcare for two major food service corporations.

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JETLAW, LLC



Jetlaw, LLC is a comprehensive, national and international aviation law firm headquartered in Washington, DC, with offices in Kansas City and Chicago. Jetlaw's practice includes mergers and acquisitions, airport development and compliance projects, aircraft transactions and financing, aircraft ownership and operations structuring, FAA/DOT/TSA/CBP regulatory compliance, air carrier compliance, tax planning, federal and state audit defense, securing private equity funding, government contracting, and Department of Defense-related projects.

In 2023 Jetlaw celebrated its 30th anniversary, along with the 30th anniversary of the first publication of the *Federal Aviation Regulations Explained*, which is now *Jetlaw's FAR/AIM Explained* book series, the only treatises to annotate and explain FAA regulations and case law. These books are critical to correctly interpreting the FAA regulations.

Jetlaw's attorneys and advisers began their careers in the aviation industry, using their knowledge to help clients. "There's a limit to your understanding of aviation if your contact with the industry is from behind a desk," said Mr. Jackson, a former chief pilot for an air carrier. Kali Hague, Partner, who worked for a charter operator and airport authority before joining Jetlaw, added: "I spot issues that other attorneys didn't even know existed because I've actually lived in my clients' shoes." The firm's depth of experience continues to impress clients. Attorneys and advisers bring decades of experience in civil and military aviation to their practice, including experience as government regulators. Mike Kolich, Partner, was a former military crew chief and was deployed on several overseas missions where he ensured the mission readiness of military aircraft. Mr. Kolich has an MBA in addition to his J.D. and has gained a deep understanding of the business and regulatory compliance issues that intertwine in aviation contracts.

Kent Jackson's experience also includes representing clients on FAA aviation rulemaking committees, including the rulemaking committee that developed and drafted the fractional aircraft rules in 14 C.F.R. Part 91, Subpart K. The firm closely tracks aviation legislation and works with clients and members of Congress to introduce provisions into FAA Reauthorization Bills. "Sometimes regulations don't adequately address a situation, and we can help clients fix that," comments Jackson. "It's not always a fast solution, but it provides iron-clad certainty, which many of our clients need." Mr. Jackson is also an author, type-rated airline transport pilot, flight instructor, and repairman, as well as an active speaker throughout the aviation industry.

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VINSON & ELKINS LLP

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Craig serves as Co-Head of Vinson and Elkins' Litigation & Regulatory department and is a leader of the firm's renowned global Antitrust Group. With 30 years of antitrust experience that results from working with the world's leading companies, today Craig represents clients in all areas of antitrust law, including criminal grand jury investigations, civil investigations by the FTC and the DOJ, class action litigation, and merger investigations.

Craig is ranked as one of the leading cartel lawyers in the world by several publications. He has been annually ranked by Chambers Global Antitrust: USA as one of the top cartel lawyers in the US. He has also been recognized annually in Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business from 2009–present. He has been recognized by Legal 500 as one of the top cartel lawyers in the United States. Craig has also recently been recognized by Lawdragon since 2021 as one of the 500 best lawyers in American in Lawdragon's 500 Leading Lawyers Guide.

Additionally, a core area of Craig's practice involves defending multinational companies in cartel and price-fixing investigations. He has successfully defended Fortune 100 companies in grand jury investigations and coordinated the defense of multijurisdictional cartel investigations. Craig has represented clients in obtaining amnesty from the DOJ, and has successfully defended others in cartel investigations with no charges being brought against the company. "Some of my greatest victories are those that receive no publicity, such as when our team convinces the government not to bring charges against a client at the end of grand jury investigation, or when my team obtains amnesty for a client."

Craig also represents companies in antitrust civil litigation, including follow-on actions to cartel investigations. He has been able to win bet-the-company cases for clients by winning early dismissals, defeating class certification and winning summary judgment motions. Craig's experience spans a wide range of industries, including technology, financial services, chemicals, aerospace and defense, semiconductors, transportation, consumer products, and energy, among many others. His work has involved multinational organizations based in Asia, Europe, North America, and Australia.

Other areas of Craig's practice include advising and representing private equity clients on the antitrust risks associated with managing portfolio companies competing in the same markets as well as serving as one of the leading lawyers in the area of antitrust enforcement against government contractors, a particular area of focus within the Antitrust Division.

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MARY JOYCE CARLSON ESQ.

Mary Joyce Carlson ESQ.



Mary Joyce is recognized for her representation of clients under OECD guidelines and coordination of investor prosecution of cases under European Competition Law. In that capacity, Ms. Carlson supervised the workload of lawyers litigating French, Italian & German antitrust complaints coming before the European Commission.

Her international work has included collaboration with the European Public Service Union and the European Federation of Food, Agriculture & Tourism Trade Unions. She has also represented clients before the Brazilian Labor Prosecution Service (Ministério Público do Trabalho), and holds an International Global Legal (IGL) designation.

Ms. Carlson's career has featured critical wins in labor & employment law, and she has gained an international reputation for creating new lines of inquiry and innovative legal theories that result in successful litigation, particularly in regards to coordinating complex EU anti-competition matters. Ms. Carlson has built an impressive portfolio of clients and professional contacts that include large nonprofit organizations, NGOs, academic institutions, advocacy groups, professional associations, and national labor unions, including SEIU, CWA, and UAW. In addition, Mary Joyce provides due diligence and client consultation on responsible investments and union-side investment funds, including shareholder litigation.

As counsel for The Fight for Fifteen, Mary Joyce Carlson played a key role in elevating more than 22 million workers to win \$62 million in raises.

Mary Joyce served as Distinguished Scholar & Speaker at Cornell University, conducted faculty-student lectures, spoke at many ABA International Law meetings, and has been quoted in Washington Post, New York Times, Wall Street Journal, and more. Throughout her career, Ms. Carlson has served on select panels, including the ABA "Future of Worklife, Post Pandemic" panel. She recently served as guest commentator at the IIT Chicago-Kent College of Law's 36th Annual Kenneth M. Piper Lecture, featuring Jared Bernstein, former chief economist and economic adviser to Vice President Joseph Biden. For the Harvard Law School Clean Slate Project Working Group, she played an active role in drafting solution sets and proposals for a variety of constituencies and communities.

A native of rural Tennessee, Mary Joyce participated in student Civil Rights protests while earning her undergraduate degree. She later earned a Juris Doctor degree from Duke University School of Law, where she prepared for her career in Civil Rights and Economic Justice. After practicing law in Georgia and Maryland, Ms. Carlson continued her career in Washington, DC. Mary Joyce was subsequently appointed by President Clinton to the position of Deputy General Counsel for the National Labor Relations Board.

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Kramer Jacobs Search is a boutique recruitment firm that specializes in the legal industry. Operated by long-time recruiter Ann Jacobs, our company is dedicated to placing attorneys of all levels with law firms and corporations throughout the East Coast. Whether you are just starting out, moving with your family to another city, or looking to advance your career, we can help. Likewise, we also consult with firms searching for the ideal candidate for their openings.

As our Founder and principal legal recruiter, Ann works tirelessly to serve each and every client to the best of her ability. Ann holds a law degree and previously worked as a paralegal for the Department of Justice, where she amassed an in-depth understanding of the legal field. Today, she uses that knowledge to provide prompt, confidential job placement and interview preparation for firms and legal professionals.

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MARJORIE RAWLS ROBERTS, P.C.



MARJORIE RAWLS ROBERTS, PC
ATTORNEYS AT LAW



Marjorie Rawls Roberts, P.C. is a US Virgin Islands firm that specialises in the areas of tax law, investment law, trusts and estate planning, corporate law, real estate, and general business law.

Marjorie Rawls Roberts, P.C. was established in 1999 to focus on the tax and business issues facing individuals and entities doing business in the US Virgin Islands. The firm's seven attorneys and four paralegals provide an array of services in the area of tax law, including US Virgin Islands, international, US, and Caribbean tax planning, representation before the Virgin Islands Bureau of Internal Revenue and the Internal Revenue Service, estate planning, and the establishment and operation of US Virgin Islands exempt international insurers and exempt companies. The firm also represents clients seeking to take advantage of the US Virgin Islands economic incentive programs, including the Economic Development Commission program, the University of the Virgin Islands Research and Technology Park program, the Enterprise Zone Commission Tax Incentive program, the Hotel Development Act, Tax Increment Financing, and incentives for Music and the Arts.

Ms Roberts and her colleagues particularly enjoy introducing individuals and businesses to the unique incentives offered by the US Virgin Islands to businesses that will expand the territory's economic base and permit individuals, especially US citizens and permanent residents, to receive tax credits against their income tax for income from qualifying activities. Participating businesses and their US Virgin Islands resident owners can receive income tax credits equal to 90% of the otherwise applicable income tax as well as exemptions from US Virgin Islands gross receipts tax and property tax on real property used in the qualifying business. At the same time, the businesses and their owners are under the US flag, with FDIC-insured banks that are not foreign banks for FBAR purposes, Federal Courts that form part of the Third Circuit Court of Appeals along with Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Delaware, and the protections of US bilateral investment treaties, among other benefits.

Before establishing the firm, Ms Roberts was in private practice in London and Washington, DC with the law firm of Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher (1981–1985), served as an attorney-advisor in the US Treasury Department's Office of Tax Policy in Washington, DC (1985–1988), was Chief Counsel to the US Virgin Islands Bureau of Internal Revenue (1988–1995), and was General Counsel, Vice President, and Director for Globalvest Management Company, LP, a St. Thomas-based investment company managing approximately \$1 billion in investments in Latin America and Russia through offshore funds (1995–1999). She holds law degrees from Harvard University (J.D. 1980), Cambridge University (LL.B. 1981), and New York University (LLM in Tax 2016). Ms Roberts is admitted to practice law in the US Virgin Islands, California, the District of Columbia (inactive), the US Tax Court, the Third Circuit Court of Appeals, England and Wales, and the British Virgin Islands.

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ASIA & OCEANIA



Growth in developing East Asia and Pacific is projected to remain strong at 5% in 2023's final data, easing in the second half, and is forecast to be 4.5% during 2024, the World Bank stated in its semi-annual economic outlook for the region.

According to the World Bank's East Asia and Pacific October 2023 Economic Update, regional growth for the year is higher than average growth projected for all other emerging market and developing economies, but lower than previously projected. Growth in China in 2023 is projected to be 5.1%, and in the region excluding China to be 4.6%. Growth among Pacific Island Countries is expected to be 5.2%.

In 2024, improving external conditions will help growth in the rest of the region, but persistent domestic difficulties in China – the fading of the bounce back from the re-opening of the economy, elevated debt and weakness in the property sector combined with structural factors, such as ageing – will weigh on growth in China, slowing it to 4.4% in 2024. Growth in

the rest of the region is expected to edge up to 4.7% in 2024, as recovery in global growth and easing of financial conditions offsets the impact of slowing growth in China and trade policy measures in other countries.

An intensification of geopolitical tensions, and the possibility of natural disasters, including extreme weather events, are additional downside risks to the region's economic outlook.

“The East Asia and Pacific region remains one of the fastest growing and most dynamic regions in the world, even if growth is moderating,” said World Bank East Asia and Pacific Vice-President Manuela V Ferro. “Over the medium term, sustaining high growth will require reforms to maintain industrial competitiveness, diversify trading partners and unleash the productivity-enhancing and job-creating potential of the services sector.”



The services sectors can play an increasing role in driving development in a region known for manufacturing-led growth, a Special Focus section of the report says. Services sectors have already become key contributors to aggregate labour productivity growth over the last decade. Services exports have grown faster than goods exports; meanwhile, the growth of FDI in services has exceeded that in manufacturing by a factor of five in China, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines and Thailand.

The diffusion of digital technologies and services reforms are improving economic performance. In the Philippines, the adoption of software and data analytics increased the productivity of firms by 1.5% on average over the period 2010–2019. In Vietnam, the reduction in policy barriers, such as restrictions on foreign entry and ownership in transport, finance and business services, led to a 2.9%

annualised increase in value added per worker in these sectors over the 2008–2016 period. The elimination of such barriers also led to a 3.1% increase in labour productivity in the manufacturing enterprises that use these services, benefiting small and medium private enterprises most significantly.

The combination of services reform and digitalisation is not only creating new opportunities; it is also enhancing the capacity of people to take advantage of these opportunities. For example, distance education and telemedicine supported by well-selected, trained and motivated local staff have led to better learning and health outcomes in the region, though there remains significant inequality in access.

“Services reform and digitalisation can generate a virtuous cycle of increasing economic opportunity and enhanced human capacity, powering development in the region,” commented World Bank East Asia and Pacific Chief Economist Aaditya Mattoo.



World Bank Expects Solid Growth but Risky Outlook for South Asia

South Asia is expected to grow by 5.8% in 2023 data – higher than any other developing country region in the world, but slower than its pre-pandemic pace and not fast enough to meet its development goals, says the World Bank in its twice-a-year regional outlook.

The latest “South Asia Development Update, Toward Faster, Cleaner Growth” forecasts growth to slow to 5.6% in 2024 and 2025, as post-pandemic rebounds fade and a combination of monetary tightening, fiscal consolidation and reduced global demand weigh on economic activity.

Growth prospects are subject to downside risks, including due to fragile fiscal positions. Government debt in South Asian countries averaged 86% of GDP in 2022, increasing the risks of defaults, raising borrowing costs and diverting credit away from the private sector. The region could also be affected by a further slowdown in China’s economic growth and natural disasters made more frequent and intense by climate change.

“While South Asia is making steady progress, most countries in the region are not growing fast enough to reach high-income thresholds within a generation,” said Martin Raiser, World Bank Vice President for South Asia. “Countries need to urgently manage fiscal risks and focus on measures to accelerate growth, including by boosting private sector investment and seizing opportunities created by the global energy transition.”

In India, which accounts for the bulk of the region’s economy, growth is expected to remain robust at 6.3% in FY23/24. Output in the Maldives is expected to grow by 6.5% in 2023, and Nepal is expected to rebound to 3.9% in FY23/24, thanks to the strong rebound in tourism in both countries. Several countries in the region are still suffering from the aftermaths of recent currency crises. In Bangladesh, growth will slow to 5.6% in FY23/24. In Pakistan, growth is forecast at only 1.7% in FY23/24, below the rate of population growth. Sri Lanka is showing signs of recovery after a severe recession, and the economy is expected to grow by 1.7% in 2024 after contracting by 3.8% in 2023.

Constrained by fiscal challenges, governments have limited room to help their economies fully capitalise on the global energy transition. Though often seen as an additional burden for developing countries, for South Asia, the energy transition could present an opportunity for future growth and job creation – if it leads to more investments by firms, cuts air pollution and reduces the reliance on fuel imports. Even with limited fiscal space, countries can encourage firms to adopt more energy-efficient technologies through market-based regulations, information campaigns, broader access to finance and reliable power grids.

“South Asia’s energy intensity of output is about twice the global average, and the region lags in the adoption of more advanced energy-efficient technologies,” noted Franziska Ohnsorge, World Bank Chief Economist for South Asia. “Improvements in energy efficiency, in the context of a rapid global energy transition, are an opportunity for South Asia to make progress towards both environmental and economic goals.”

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Justin Cotton, Director of Lovegrove & Cotton, is a senior construction lawyer and pre-eminent building practitioner advocate. Justin's practice is cross-jurisdictional, having accepted briefs in Victoria, New South Wales, Queensland and the Australian Capital Territory. He is an expert construction litigator, and is highly experienced in medium- to high-dollar litigation building and commercial disputes, providing quality regulatory and front-end contractual advice.

He is presently Chairperson of the HIA Industrial Relations and Legal Services Committee, and a member of the Regional Executive Council, for HIA Victorian Chapter.

Construction Law

Justin Cotton is adept at Building Dispute Resolution and Advocacy, managing dispute resolution, including negotiations, strategic planning and preparing matters for litigation in Victoria, New South Wales, Queensland and the ACT.

Fire-cladding Dispute Resolution

Justin is experienced in the resolution of fire-cladding disputes and regularisation of fire-cladding issues with local governments.

Building Contract Advice & Drafting

Moreover, Justin advises builders, councils and owners on variations, latent conditions, extensions of time, progress payments and Security of Payment claims, together with contract advice and drafting.

Building Practitioner Advocacy

For nearly 20 years, Justin has represented building surveyors, building certifiers and builders in disciplinary proceedings. Today, he is one of the most experienced building practitioner advocates in terms of his cross-jurisdictional experience in Australia. Be it Victoria, New South Wales or the ACT, he has appeared in person in numerous building practitioner investigations, and has invariably generated the best possible outcomes in the circumstances.

Building Practitioner Mutual Recognition

Justin has had extraordinary success in the facilitation of registration of building practitioners, with regards to submissions and appearances for registration under the Mutual Recognition Act 1992. More recently, he successfully represented a practitioner seeking registration courtesy of the mutual recognition criteria as a senior accredited certifier in New South Wales. The matter was resolved before it found its way to a hearing at the AAT.

Resolution of Domestic Building Disputes

Justin also works to resolve domestic building disputes, and has nigh-on two decades' experience in this area. An expert at VCAT advocacy, he represents his clients at directions hearings, compulsory conferences and final hearings.

He is revered for his frank and sound contractual advice – particularly in reviewing and drafting special conditions for standard form building contracts.

In the unfortunate event that parties are forced to litigate, Justin's wide knowledge and litigation prowess ensure the clients' interests are always front and centre.

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LOVEGROVE & COTTON



Construction Lawyer and Manager at Lovegrove & Cotton Construction & Planning Lawyers; Secretary of the IBQC Dispute Resolution Working Coalition; Former Ethiopian Consulate to Victoria attaché.

Tsigereda "Ziggy" Lovegrove has an LLB from Victoria University and a diploma in management, coupled with nine years' management experience. She has a further diploma in legal training from the Leo Cussen Centre for Law.

Construction & Planning Lawyer

Practising in the area of building dispute resolution and building regulatory advice and application, she has conduct of: VCAT matters; respondent and plaintiff advocacy in sole and multi-defendant VCAT matters; leaky building and cladding litigation; drafting and settling affidavits; defending winding-up applications; building regulatory enforcement and compliance cases; respondent building compliance regularisation; plea bargaining and negotiation with council compliance officers; as well as advising NSW certifiers on legislative interpretation.

Previous Roles

- Assistant to Ethiopian Honorary Consul to Victoria;
- Secretary to the International Building Quality Centre Dispute Resolution Coalition;
- Lovegrove & Cotton liaison contact for Hope for Children, HIV NGO Ethiopia;
- Past Financial Controller – all aspects of financial control and bookkeeping.

Law Firm Management

A diploma in management, coupled with nine years' management experience, has qualified Tsigereda to run the office – ensuring a harmonious environment wherein staff are universally treated with dignity and respect. She also maintains best-practice HR and safe workplace protocols, dealing with staff concerns to ensure there is cohesion and happiness.

International Building Quality Centre

Tsigereda is the secretary to the International Building Quality Centre dispute resolution coalition. In this capacity, she coordinates logistics for the group. The coalition comprises multinational legal experts, ranging from Queen's Counsel to pre-eminent construction lawyers and arbitrators, to a senior presiding judge and a retired judge.

Bilingualism

Tsigereda is fluent in English as well as her native Ethiopian language Amharic. It follows that she can take instructions from members of the Ethiopian business community on the resolution of disputes; moreover, Tsigereda can translate legal instruments drafted in Amharic into English, and the converse. Her high level of bilingualism is a rare expertise.

Publications

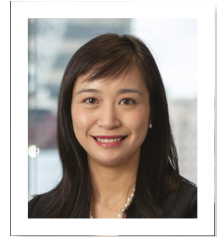
To date, Tsigereda has published a number of articles, namely:

- Domestic Building Insurance Requirements in Victoria;
- Victorian Building Practitioners' Insurance Requirements;
- How to Prepare and Respond to Statutory Demands and Wind-up Applications; as well as
- Co-authorship of the IBQC guidelines for inspection protocols in emerging economies.

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LANDER & ROGERS



Eleanor leads the international family law team at Lander & Rogers. As an Accredited Family Law Specialist, Eleanor is highly experienced in advising clients across the spectrum of family law issues. She has particular expertise in financial matters involving complex structures, such as trusts, companies and partnerships, including where assets are held both within Australia and overseas. Eleanor is also experienced in complex parenting matters, particularly in cases that cross international jurisdictions, including the recovery of children and international child support proceedings.

Eleanor is a member of the International Academy of Family Lawyers (IAFL), a worldwide association of legal professionals who are recognised by their peers as the most experienced and skilled family lawyers in their respective countries.

Eleanor is also a member of the Specialist Accreditation Family Law Advisory Committee, which is responsible in overseeing and assessing Australian family lawyers in gaining their specialist accreditation. She is one of only a small number of Cantonese- and Mandarin-speaking family lawyers in New South Wales who have attained the specialist accreditation in family law.

Eleanor has been consistently recognised by Doyle's Guide as a Leading Family & Divorce Lawyer in both Australia and New South Wales. Eleanor is also named by Doyle's Guide as a Leading Parenting & Children's Matters Lawyer in New South Wales.

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WATTS McCRAY LAWYERS

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L A W Y E R S

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 Australian Family Lawyers


Justin Dowd AM has been a solicitor for more than 40 years and has specialized in family law since 1987.

Justin is an accredited specialist in family law, now specializing in international family law matters. He is a past President of the Law Society of NSW, member of the Executive Council of the Law Council of Australia, and for many years was Australia's nominated council member of Lawasia, where he became Vice President in 2015.

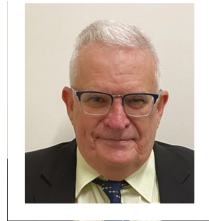
He is a Fellow of the International Academy of Family Lawyers and of the International Academy of Collaborative Practice. In addition, he is a member of the Australian and New Zealand College of Notaries, and has been an Associate Member of both the Hong Kong Law and Singapore Law Societies.

Justin also lectures in family law at the University of Sydney.

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Jeffrey Chard is the Principal of CBB Law, initially as a Senior Associate and then as a Partner and then Principal of Paul Bard Lawyers, before changing the name in January 2024. The firm is based in Sydney CBD and has an office in Parramatta, NSW.

Jeffrey has in excess of 25 years' experience in commercial litigation and has been an Accredited Specialist in Commercial Litigation (accredited by the Law Society of NSW) for more than 15 years, having obtained his law degree in 1986 from the University of Technology, Sydney after initially graduating in Electrical Engineering in 1980 with First Class Honours. Jeffrey's main practice involves corporate, insolvency and bankruptcy matters, acting for both debtor and creditor clients as well as a number of trustees, liquidators and administrators. Jeffrey's interest in technology resulted in the firm advancing its use of software to manage matters, and assisted the firm to quickly identify critical documents in litigation matters and economically and effectively manage high-volume document-based litigation. He is a member of the management team that maintains policies and procedures for ISO 9001 quality-assurance accreditation.

Jeffrey has been involved in major cases dealing with the removal of liquidators, setting aside Deeds of Company Arrangement, shareholder oppression claims, Australian Taxation Office Director Penalty Notices, applications to terminate bankruptcies and the winding up of companies as well as prosecuting or defending those proceedings, copyright infringement cases, and equitable tracing claims in the Supreme Court of NSW, Federal Court of Australia and the High Court of Australia. He also practices in building and construction disputes in the NCAT, in addition to administrative reviews in the AAT and NCAT.

Jeffrey is supported by Senior Associate Tim Bottrell, who has been with the firm since 2002. Tim's practice includes transactional work in commercial and property areas, dealing with complex financial arrangements as well as assisting with litigation cases when required. Tim is highly experienced in preparing and reviewing contracts, deeds and leases essential in the commercial work undertaken by the firm, and his work and experience are greatly valued by business owners and investors, joint venturers, property developers, commercial landlords and tenants.

Paul Bard continues to assist Jeffrey when required. He has more than 35 years of practice in equity, corporate insolvency, bankruptcy, corporations law and commercial litigation – as well as construction contracts and litigation.

Jeffrey Chard

Principal

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VLM AND PARTNERS



Vugar Mammadov is the Managing Partner at VLM and Partners, a select law firm in Azerbaijan with international competencies, which is ranked by the Legal 500 among leading Azerbaijani law firms. Vugar brings his knowledge and know-how in various legal fields to VLM's practice.

With more than 18 years of experience, Vugar mainly supports clients in navigating complex legal issues related to tax, project finance, M&A, cross-border transactions, international corporate structuring, investment protection, dispute resolution, and other matters.

As a legal practitioner, he has been engaged in international renewable energy projects carried out in overseas jurisdictions. He has supported international organizations, such as the Asian Development Bank, in addressing legal challenges related to its investment projects.

Vugar is a member of the Association of International Energy Negotiators.

His experience extends to arbitration and dispute-resolution practices. He has acted as a legal expert before the courts in various jurisdictions, such as Latvia, Switzerland, and the UK. He has also represented his clients before international arbitration institutions, namely ICSID.

In addition, Vugar is an arbitrator of the Shenzhen Court of International Arbitration (SCIA) in China.

As the practice head of VLM, Vugar is trusted by a wide range of international corporations representing banking, construction, energy, oil & gas, technology, FMCG, aviation, health and well-being, investment, heavy industry, and further industry sectors.

Prior to embarking on his journey at VLM, Vugar had gained solid experience in the legal and tax practice of PwC Azerbaijan. He also contributed to the establishment of legal practice at Deloitte Azerbaijan, where he was head of legal services for many years.

Vugar graduated from Erasmus University Rotterdam with an LL.M degree in International Business and Trade Law.

Key Practice Areas:

- Corporate/Commercial/Contract Law;
- M&A and Legal Due Diligence;
- Renewable Energy;
- Oil & Gas;
- Tax;
- Intellectual Property;
- Consumer Markets;
- Banking and Finance;
- Arbitration and Dispute Resolution;
- Project Finance;
- Regulatory Investigations;
- Construction and Real Estate.

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HGN COUNSELOR LLC



HGN COUNSELOR LLC is a multi-practice law firm located in Baku, Azerbaijan.

Practice areas encompass corporate law and governance, banking and finance, tax law, energy and infrastructure, mining and natural resources, telecommunication, insurance, real estate, intellectual property, legal entities' registration, mergers and acquisitions, employment and migration law as well as dispute resolution and litigation services. The firm also engages in cooperation agreements with leading local audit companies, which allows it to assist clients in their day-to-day tax and accounting issues.

Founded in 2007, the firm's combination of global insight and local knowledge enables it to handle all aspects of complex domestic and cross-border corporate transactions. The partners and associates of HGN are educated and experienced in their respective areas of expertise, with high standards of ethical conduct in the pursuit of justice for clients.

Year This Office Was Established: 2007.

Languages: Azerbaijani, English, Russian.

HGN COUNSELOR LLC Areas of Law:

- Commercial Law;
- Corporate Law;
- Oil & Gas;
- Mining;
- Contracts Law;
- Labour Law;
- Migration Law;
- Tax Law.

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SYED ISHTIAQ AHMED & ASSOCIATES



Mr. Syed Afzal Hasan Uddin is the Managing Partner at Syed Ishtiaq Ahmed & Associates, one of the top-tier and oldest partnership law firms in Bangladesh. With a distinguished legal career, he possesses significant expertise in general corporate advisory services as well as substantial experience in structuring, negotiating and implementing mergers and acquisitions, corporate restructurings, corporate takeovers, public listings, and private equity transactions.

He is recognised as a seasoned dealmaker in the Bangladesh legal landscape, with a remarkable track record of advising investors, target companies, shareholders, management teams, and employees in over three hundred transactions throughout his over 25-year career as a corporate practitioner. His clientele spans a broad spectrum of both local and multinational entities, encompassing various local and cross-border business and investment transactions.

His recent notable engagements include advising on the acquisition of GSK by Unilever, investments in Apollo Hospitals by TPG, Evercare and CDC Group, investments by Ant Financial and Softbank in bKash, and the acquisition of Laugfs Gas by Kai Heng Long Global Energy. His consistently high-calibre performance has earned him recognition as a leading corporate lawyer by esteemed publications like Chambers and Partners, Asia Business Law Journal, and Legal 500. More recently, Mr. Uddin has been honoured as one of the top 50 lawyers in the country and has achieved Band 1 status in the corporate and finance category.

Beyond his corporate expertise, Mr. Uddin provides counsel to clients in diverse sectors, including power and energy, telecommunications, technology, and banking and finance. Additionally, he plays a pivotal role in private-public partnership projects. His extensive experience has led to his appointment as an external legal consultant for the Asian Development Bank, as well as involvement in the privatisation and corporatisation of Biman Bangladesh Airlines. Moreover, he is frequently consulted by governmental and non-governmental stakeholders for his insights in drafting and amending legislation.

Mr. Uddin was admitted as an advocate in the High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh in 2001 and is a barrister of the Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn since 1996. Prior to joining the firm, he contributed his legal expertise to the civil litigation department of PricewaterhouseCoopers in London from October 1995 to February 1998.

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CKR Law LLP is a dynamic and rapidly growing international law firm. The firm operates, through various legal and affiliated entities, in more than 50 locations worldwide, including North America, South America, Africa, Asia-Pacific, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean as well as the Middle East.

CKR's Clients

CKR represents a global clientele that spans Fortune 500 companies, local and national governments, U.S. and foreign publicly listed and privately held corporations, emerging companies in a wide variety of industries, entrepreneurs, institutional investors as well as individuals.

CKR's Approach

The firm's lawyers share a commitment to providing high-quality legal services to clients in a more flexible and lower-cost business environment, which enables us to charge more reasonable rates for our services and to devote more time to each client. We achieve this through our intimate local knowledge and relationships, cultural and political sensitivity as well as practical, goal-oriented solutions. With our highly collaborative culture, we deliver seamless and consistent client services across our global platform.

CKR's China Practice

With attorneys and support staff fluent in Mandarin, Cantonese, Shanghaiese and English, CKR possesses a distinct advantage in China, advising international companies, financial institutions and investors conducting business throughout the region. This extends to representing Chinese companies in global investment activities, overseas capital markets transactions, dispute resolution and arbitration, IP strategies, cross-border M&A as well as real estate transactions – including corporate and project financing, energy & alternative energy projects, private placements and IPOs, combined with other public offerings.

Jeffrey A. Rinde

Jeffrey A. Rinde is the founder and Managing Partner of CKR Law LLP, specializing in the corporate, securities and other regulatory aspects of global business ventures across a diverse array of industries.

Mr. Rinde's broad expertise includes public and private equity as well as debt security financings, international M&A, angel, venture capital and private equity financings, project finance, banking, international trade, secured debt transactions, going private transactions, FDI and corporate law/governance. He has a distinct skill set in representing Chinese and other Asian-based companies in complex transactions to help expand their overseas business, access capital and complete foreign public offerings, including in the United States, Hong Kong and London, as well as representing international companies in all facets of their business activities in Mainland China.

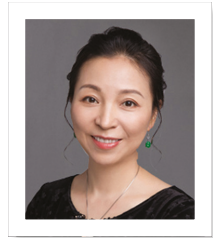
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Ms. Catherine Miao serves as legal counsel for many large financial institutions, international investment banks, overseas private equity funds, multinational companies and real estate developers. She excels in complex and difficult non-litigation projects and has successfully handled multiple innovative legal matters that were unprecedented in China.

She was recognized as one of the 2020 ALB China Top 15 Female Lawyers and one of the 2019 ALB China Top 15 M&A Lawyers. She was also named as one of the outstanding lawyers in the category of “Corporate/Commercial: East Coast (Guangdong)” by Chambers in 2019–2021, and was one of the recommended lawyers in the fields of “Bankruptcy & Restructuring” and “Real Estate & Construction” by Legal 500 Asia-Pacific in 2020.

Catherine has practiced in the field of special situation/opportunity investment in China since the establishment of the four major financial AMCs in 1999, and is a pioneer and leading lawyer in that field. She has completed many benchmark projects in the industry, including: assisting China Orient AMC in closing China’s first deal of disposing of NPL portfolios by using foreign capital in 2002; assisting AMCs in establishing Sino-foreign cooperative joint ventures engaged in the NPL business; and assisting AMCs in completing a large number of projects involving the acquisition or transfer of non-performing assets, debt restructuring, bankruptcy reorganization and liquidation, as well as debt-for-equity swap of listed companies.

Over the years, she has also assisted well-known overseas special situation funds in closing many deals, including assisting Bain, Oaktree, Blackstone, Cerberus, TSSP, CDH and other internationally renowned special situations funds in actively making investments in the Chinese NPL market and helping them successfully complete multiple NPL acquisitions, in addition to the restructuring of distressed enterprises. The accumulated book value of projects that Catherine has served in this field is more than RMB 100 billion.

In the corporate and M&A sectors, Catherine has acted as the Relationship Partner of JunHe for Shell, as well as being the Relationship Partner of JunHe for Mars Wrigley, coordinating resources on a firm-wide basis so as to provide quality legal services for her clients over many years. In addition, she has provided legal services to many multinational corporations, state-owned enterprises, and private-owned enterprises in their acquisitions of equity and assets of various nature – as well as their routine operation.

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Fang (Helen) Liu is a Senior Equity Partner and the Director of International Practice at Beijing Tiantai Law Firm. Ms. Liu is licensed to practice law in China PRC, California, New York, Michigan, and Washington D.C. of the United States. She specializes in corporate law, cross-border M&A, VC&PE, IP licensing, as well as foreign-related dispute resolution, and is the legal counsel for many traditional and high-tech enterprises – providing foreign-related legal services to clients worldwide.

Ms. Liu received her LL.B. degree from Peking University Law School in 1999; her J.D., *magna cum laude* (top 1%, 2 out of 438, with 19 book awards) from Western Michigan University Cooley Law School; and her LL.M. from the University of California, Berkeley School of Law, with a Certificate of Specialization in Business Law. She was awarded the President’s Achievement Award from Cooley Law School, the Advanced Degree Program Scholarship from UC Berkeley Law School, as well as the ACCA (Associate of Corporate Counsel America) Scholarship Foundation Award.

During her time in the U.S., Ms. Liu interned with Honorable Justice Stephen Markman at the Michigan Supreme Court, with Honorable Judge Christopher Yates at the 17 Circuit Business Court in Michigan, and practiced law at Dickinson Wright PLLC, where she was the only attorney qualified to practice law in both China and the U.S.

She returned to China in 2018, and with her remarkable performance, she has won numerous awards within the field. She is also a Senior Research Fellow of UC Berkeley Center for Law & Technology (BCLT); co-authored the prominent book *Intellectual Property Strategy for Business* with Prof. Robert Merges at UC Berkeley Law School; and translated the renowned book *Managing Information Assets in the Age of Cyberespionage*, authored by James Pooley. She has published numerous articles and has lectured at several prestigious universities, in addition to speaking via online platforms.

The Firm:

Established in the early 1990s, Tiantai Law Firm is headquartered in Beijing. With 29 branches and more than 2000 lawyers nationwide, it is one of the largest full-service law firms in China. Tiantai has been awarded “Excellent National Law Firm” by the All-China Lawyers Association, “Excellent Beijing Law Firm” by the Beijing Municipal Bureau of Justice and the Beijing Lawyers Association (for consecutive years), among many other accolades.

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大成 is Dentons' Preferred Law Firm in China.



Daorina is a Senior Partner of Beijing Dacheng Law Offices, LLP, serving as a Member of the Advisory Board of Beijing Offices, a Member of the Beijing Office Management Committee, the Director of the Second Business Department, and the Executive Director of the China Dispute Resolution Committee. He has 30 years' practical experience in the field of dispute resolution, and has been awarded the title of Beijing Outstanding Lawyer.

Daorina has been continuously devoted to the contract dispute resolution domain for nearly 20 years, understanding the relevant laws, rules and regulations that apply to practice. Together with 13 years' experience as a judge – where he witnessed China's legal system of contract law evolve from scattered to unified – he has an in-depth understanding and rich practical experience in matters of contract dispute resolution.

Describing the firm, Daorina noted that it is “driven to challenge the status quo”, adding that it delivers “consistent and uncompromising quality and value to clients in new and innovative ways”.

Dacheng was the first law firm to implement large-scale development in China's legal industry when, in 2004, Dentons commenced its first five-year development plan. In 2007, Dentons took the lead in launching a global legal service network construction strategy, becoming a pioneer and promoter of the large-scale development of Chinese law firms (such as Dacheng).

Daorina commented: “We are polycentric, as Dentons has no single headquarters and no dominant national culture. Diverse in terms of geography, language and nationalities, we proudly offer clients talent from diverse backgrounds and countries, with deep experience in every legal tradition in the world.”

Dentons' clients include national government units, institutions and large, state-owned enterprises – in addition to well-known global, 500-strong enterprises. In one recent case, the firm represented Qingdao Yi Jia Economic and Trade Co, Ltd Vs Tianjin Weierke Petroleum Chemical Co, Ltd over a warehousing contract dispute.

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MUNROS

Solicitors 文禮律師行



Mark Reeves has practised as a litigator since 1987. He specializes in liability insurance cases, acting for a large number of insurers. He has a great depth of experience, particularly in personal injury litigation, handling cases of all ranges, from minor injuries to the catastrophic. He is Chairman of the Law Society Personal Injuries Committee, and has been involved in drafting personal injury practice direction and liaison with the judiciary on personal injury matters.

He also handles general commercial litigation and land disputes.

He is a qualified mediator, practising as such since 2009, and is regularly instructed on a wide range of cases, especially those pertaining to personal injury.

In addition, Mark has been recognized by the Legal 500 as a notable practitioner in the area of dispute resolution.

The Firm:

Munros Solicitors is a local independent law firm, established in 1980, focusing solely on litigation. Our firm's dispute resolution practice has vast experience in complex commercial litigation, personal injury litigation, insurance litigation, divorce litigation, criminal litigation, cross-border litigation, as well as insolvency. Since the firm does not conduct non-contentious work, it largely remains conflict-free and is able to receive referral work from other law firms based in Hong Kong as well as overseas, where those firms cannot act.

We represent insurers in all their legal needs, from civil actions, to defending the insured in related criminal proceedings, to advising on insurance disputes – conducting arbitrations and drafting policy wording.

In addition to the inevitably large number of personal injury claims, we also advise insurers on fire, life, and fidelity claims.

With our many years working for insurance companies, we have developed a close understanding of their requirements and are able to respond effectively to meet their needs.

In particular, we are acutely aware of the considerable costs incurred in litigation in Hong Kong, and so we strive – at all times – to ensure we provide a cost-effective service for insurers to control their investigating, reporting, and other cost reserves.

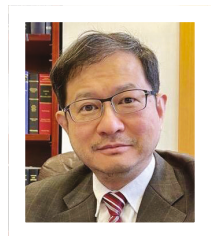
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Mr. William Leung, the founder of William KW Leung & Co (www.jwllw.com) in Hong Kong, has been a practicing solicitor of the High Court of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region since 1988.

In 2016, Mr. Leung was granted the status of Solicitor Advocate in Hong Kong, having higher rights of audience to appear and make submissions in any higher courts in Hong Kong. He obtained a Master of Laws (LLM) degree from the University of London in 1988 and a Master of Business Administration (MBA) degree from the University of Hong Kong in 1992. To further polish his legal expertise, he obtained a degree of Bachelor in International Economic Law from China University of Political Science and Law in 1997 and a degree of Master in Economic Law from Peking University (China) in 2002. He is currently pursuing a PhD in Law in Tsinghua University (China).

Mr. Leung is a Fellow with the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators and also a Panel Arbitrator with various international arbitral organizations, including Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre (HKIAC), Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC), and China International Economic and Trade Arbitration Commission (CIETAC). In addition to his profound experience in arbitration, he has been an insolvency practitioner in Hong Kong since 2001.

His recent publications include *“Exercise of Residual Discretion under Article V of The New York Convention by Enforcement Court When Award is Alive, Dead and Undead”*, published in January 2019 by China Legal Science.

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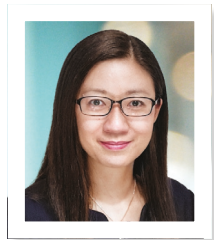
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DEMİNOR LITIGATION FUNDING



d e m i n o r
LITIGATION FUNDING



Irene Lee joined Deminor in November 2020.

Main Tasks:

Irene is General Counsel at Deminor Litigation Funding for Greater China and South East Asia, based in Hong Kong. Irene has more than 15 years of experience in complex commercial litigation, arbitration and financial regulatory work, as well as years of experience working with clients all over the world, especially mainland Chinese clients.

In 2023, Irene was recognised in Who's Who Legal's Thought Leaders – Third-Party Funding, and was awarded the Lexology Client Choice Award and Acquisition International Leading Adviser Awards.

Irene's role at Deminor focuses on finding and assessing new litigation funding opportunities in Greater China and South East Asia; advising and working with clients and law firms on funded cases; and actively participating in the development of Deminor's activities in the region. Prior to joining Deminor, she had experience working at two international law firms and as in-house legal counsel of an investment bank.

Previous Work Experience:

- University of Hong Kong, part-time lecturer (2019–2023);
- City University of Hong Kong, part-time lecturer (2019–present);
- Dechert, Trial, Investigations and Securities Lawyer (2019–2020);
- UBS AG, Litigation and Investigations Lawyer (2016–2017);
- Herbert Smith Freehills, Disputes Resolution Lawyer (2005–2016).

Education:

- Master of Laws, London University (2005);
- Postgraduate Certificate of Laws, University of Hong Kong (2004);
- Bachelor of Laws, University of Hong Kong (2003);
- Bachelor of Business Administration (Laws), University of Hong Kong (2002).

Languages:

English, Mandarin, Cantonese.

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& CO** ADVOCATES
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Ajay Bhargava is a Partner in the Dispute Resolution practice group in the New Delhi and National Capital Region office.

Representative Matters

In his areas of practice, Ajay has advised and represented matters in Supreme Court, High Courts, Arbitration (International and Domestic), Quasi Judicial Tribunals (National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT), National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) and National Green Tribunal etc.). He advises on Constitutional matters, Civil & Criminal matters, IPR laws, Employment Laws and on corporate – commercial disputes. He also advises on matters before the Police Investigation Wings relating to corporate criminal investigations and quasi-criminal prosecutions (white-collar crimes). Ajay is often consulted on M&A transactions to provide tactical and advisory support. He advises on preventive measures in commercial contracts.

Ajay has been associated with:

- American Bar Association – Appointed as Speaker, he will answer questions and address specific statutes and areas of law that provide for criminal actions in commercial matters
- CII National Committee on Dispute Resolution
- Indo-American Chambers of Commerce (IACC) – Member of Legal Affairs Committee
- Indo-American Chambers of Commerce (IACC) – NIC Sub Committee on Financial Services Committee
- Indo-American Chambers of Commerce (IACC) – Education Committee
- Member of Executive Committee for ICC India
- PHD Chambers – Corporate Affairs Committee
- The International Bar Association – Antitrust Committee Working Group Society of Indian Law Firms (SILF) and has been appointed as a:
 - Chairperson – Litigation Committee
 - Co-Chairperson – Business and Corporate Laws Committee
 - Member – IBC Committee
 - Member – Legal Reforms Committee
- Government of India – Ministry of Law and Justice and is a part of the:
 - Sub Committee on Time Standard and Delays
 - Sub Committee on Implementation of Pre-Institution Mediations and Settlements (PIMS)
- Nominated as the Co-Opted Regional Council Member 2021 by The Regional Council (RC) of Indo American Chamber of Commerce, North India Council (IACC, NIC)
- Vice-Chair of the Insolvency Committee of the Inter-Pacific Bar Association (“IPBA”)
- Member of the Sub Committee on Dispute Resolution of the CII Task Force on Legal Services
- Member Course Committee of the Delhi School of Public Policy & Governance, Institution of Eminence, University of Delhi
- Registered as Foreign Lawyer in SICC (Singapore International Commercial Court)
- Board of Advisors in IRDC (the Indian Dispute Resolution Centre)
- Facilitated at the House of Commons, UK Parliament by the ACL on the 3rd of October, 2023

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Fabulous Media is a digital marketing company in Gurgaon that specializes in building brands and creating powerful online identities. With 50+ digital marketing experts and 200+ GO professionals globally, the firm helps its clients achieve their goals through cutting-edge digital marketing with an ethical approach, assuring high service levels and adherence to quality benchmarks.

In addition, the firm has developed a structured workflow process that provides transparency into what happens at each stage, so there are no surprises or confusion. The team offers deep knowledge across diverse industries, which means its professionals know how to apply the appropriate solutions.

Team Fabulous is a cohesive group of experts who realize that a good digital promoting agency will increase your online presence with the assistance of the correct technology, as well as providing promotional activities on the relevant platforms. The aim is to make you more visible on the net and build up your profile.

The digital revolution has established digital marketing as one of the most effective means to reach your target audience and ensure ROI. Prime Minister Modi's Digital India push is also a commendable step that has helped shape the industry. Your business should not be left behind in harnessing the future of marketing and growth methods, since they are key to running a successful venture, be it a startup or a Fortune 500 organization.

Unlike traditional marketing, digital marketing can dominate business scenarios in a short space of time, with amazing and quantifiable results. To this end, a "digital marketing plan" is typically composed of social media strategies, PPC or paid marketing, web design and content development – and if harnessed in the right way, this will create a wave of success for your business. If you wish to dominate on a global scale and receive significant organic traffic and conversions, find the right digital marketing agency for you.

Nikhil Sharma:

Nikhil Sharma is an innovator, entrepreneur and expert in marketing, digital and branding. He is passionate about digital as a medium, as it is the only media in 500 years of human history to deliver a double-digit growth rate within a span of a decade or more. Moreover, Nikhil is a firm believer in the importance of quality. Devising technological solutions to business problems is his forté, and he approaches such matters as an artist with a scientific fervor, continuously building upon his own skills in the process.

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J. SAGAR ASSOCIATES / JSA ADVOCATES & SOLICITORS



Ms. Shivpriya Nanda has more than 30 years' extensive experience in M&A, corporate restructuring, strategic joint ventures as well as corporate advisory. She has represented several marquee clients over the years, and has been consistently sought out as a valued adviser for her incisive and business-oriented advice.

Having spent her initial years as a litigator in a premier law chamber, Ms. Nanda brings to the table added disputes insight to transactions she has advised several Fortune 500 companies on, whether they relate to acquisitions or divestments, complicated strategic alliances, restructurings, shareholder issues, bribery and anti-corruption investigations, technology licensing as well as transfers or senior management engagement and exits.

Ms. Nanda has spearheaded sectors with specific regulatory challenges, such as defence, retail, education, mining, aviation, real estate, ITES, food and food processing, and has been instrumental in steering several large foreign investments into India in these sectors. She has represented such clients as British Petroleum, Walmart, Michelin, Emaar, KFC and Pizza Hut, Fidelity, Frankfurt Airport, POSCO, Pernod Ricard and Hindustan Times, among others.

To date, Ms. Nanda has advised several clients on complex employment issues involving large-scale workforce restructuring and transfers, C-suite hiring, departures as well as disciplinary issues.

In addition, Ms. Nanda has been consistently ranked as a top-tier lawyer in various publications, having been named a leading lawyer by Legal 500, IBLJ and Chambers consecutively for the past several years. She has also received numerous client recommendations, including in RSG.

She is passionate about giving back to the community, and is the Founding Member of the Society of Women Lawyers in India. For some years, she spearheaded the pro bono activities of the firm. Ms. Nanda also serves on the Pro Bono Council of Trust Law.

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MUL & Co

INDONESIA TAX LAW FIRM



Mulyono is the Founder and Managing Partner of Mul & Co and has accounting, finance, and legal backgrounds. He has a doctorate degree in taxation law (University of Jayabaya) and triple master's degrees in finance (University of Indonesia), law (University of Padjajaran), and notary (Pelita Harapan University), as well as several professional certifications, including: Certified Public Accountant, Chartered Accountant, Certified Financial Planner, Certified Management Accountant, and Affiliate Wealth Manager. He is also a licensed legal counsel in tax court, licensed advocate and member of the Indonesian Advocate Association (PERADI), and a registered tax consultant.

Before setting up Mul & Co, Mulyono had extensive experience in tax and legal environments. His experience in taxation extends to tax disputes, tax due diligence, tax advisory, tax compliance, as well as company restructuring. He serves a variety of multi-national clients from many industries, such as e-commerce, manufacturing, trading, real estate, mining & oil and gas, telecommunication, hospitality, and services. He has also been invited to be the speaker and facilitator in several national tax seminars and trainings.

His unique combination of technical knowledge in tax, accounting, finance and law, as well as his expertise of the Indonesian taxation system, enable him to become a trusted adviser to clients. He is able to deliver holistic and practical taxation services to clients and to accomplish complex and challenging tax-related projects.

Mul & Co is one of a very few law firms in Indonesia that specialises in taxation fields. Mul & Co was founded by experienced practitioners with multi-disciplinary backgrounds in tax, law, accounting, and finance.

The firm's services include tax dispute, tax advisory & restructuring, and tax compliance. The team is comprised of dedicated professionals with a deep understanding of taxation law regulations and business culture. The firm is also independent, meaning that it is free from time-consuming conflict check processes.

The Mul & Co team believe that their success depends upon clients' satisfaction; therefore, they always strive to provide clients with the best possible solution to their tax matters. The firm brings a rich understanding of Indonesia's unique business and legal culture to provide tax services. Ultimately, Mul & Co understands exactly what the client needs in their every taxation need and want.

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ASAMURA IP P.C.



Kazutaka Otsuka is an experienced patent attorney and a lawsuit counsel who focuses his practice on domestic and international trademark and design prosecution. He incorporates global policies for intellectual property protection in his daily work related to IP rights acquisition and client counselling.

As a member of a patent attorney private organization, Kazutaka Otsuka was involved in the management of the Intellectual Property Foreign Training Department for four years, starting in 2006. In 2011 and 2012, he was a member of the Trademark Committee, a special committee of the Japan Patent Attorneys Association (JPAA). In the Japan Trademark Association, an association made up of corporate intellectual property professionals and lawyers, he has been involved in the management of the judicial decision research group since 2012.

At Chuo University, Kazutaka Otsuka was a member of the Corporate Law seminar, where he immersed himself in corporate law, particularly intellectual property rights and product liability.

Key Areas of Expertise

Examinations, consultations, procedural support for trademark and design rights acquisition (foreign and domestic), dispute support, legal advice, consultations and other types of support for license transfer agreements, negotiations, unfair competition, and copyrights.

Publications

“Look and Learn! Introduction to Foreign Patent Applications”
Japan Institute of Invention and Innovation, 2010

“Trademark Law Practice Seen From the Latest Rulings II” Seirin Shoin, 2012

“Legal Practice of Trademarks – Analysis of Important Precedents and Brand Strategy” CHUOKEIZAI-SHA HOLDINGS, INC., 2023
www.biz-book.jp/isbn/978-4-502-43391-7

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RATO, LING, LEI & CORTÉS – ADVOGADOS E NOTÁRIOS | LEKTOU



Lei Wun Kong is a Senior Partner of Rato, Ling, Lei & Cortés – Advogados e Notários. He is also China Attesting Officer and Private Notary of Macau SAR. He has experience in Real Estate, Administrative & Regulatory, Banking, Finance & Insurance, Corporate, Commercial, Mergers & Acquisitions, Dispute Resolution. Besides the above mentioned legal services, he can also provide notary services in various areas.

Qualified to practice as a lawyer in Macau and Greater Bay Area of China, he is also member of the Macao Special Administrative Region Basic Law Committee under the National People's Congress Standing Committee, Member of the Committee of The Municipal Affairs Bureau, Legal advisor for the Zhuhai government. He is also experienced in arbitration, as Arbitrator of the Hainan Arbitration Commission, Arbitrator of the Zhuhai Arbitration Commission, Arbitrator of Zhuhai Court of International Arbitration, Mediator of Guozhong civil and commercial mediation center (Hengqin, Zhuhai) and Arbitrator of the Guangdong Arbitration Commission.

He works as legal advisor for several enterprises (including cross-border enterprises, financial institutions, construction engineering companies and real estate companies, etc.), academic institutions and government departments, issuing legal opinions, offering advice on license applications, mergers and acquisitions, intellectual property rights and dispute resolution.

He is a regular contributor to legal and non-legal publications and speaker at regional and international conferences relating to the legal subject.

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DEOL & GILL

DEOL & GILL

Advocates & Solicitors, Malaysia



Sathish Ramachandran read law at the University of Kent at Canterbury, England and is a Barrister from Middle Temple, London, England. He was admitted as an Advocate & Solicitor of the High Court of Malaya in 1994. Apart from general corporate advisory work, Sathish's core areas of legal expertise and experience include venture capital and private equity investments, mergers and acquisitions, capital markets and corporate finance, property and construction, and banking and finance. Sathish has extensive experience in corporate and commercial law practice.

His practice areas include:

- banking and finance, project finance and securitisation
- capital markets and corporate finance
- competition law
- construction and infrastructure projects
- inbound and outbound investments
- mergers and acquisitions
- personal data protection
- privatisation
- real estate and property development
- corporate governance and compliance advisory

Deol & Gill

The firm, established in the year 2000, is a mid-sized law firm providing legal services across the following specialist areas:

- mergers and acquisitions
- corporate reorganisation and corporate restructuring
- capital markets and corporate finance
- venture capital and private equity investments and divestments
- telecommunications, multimedia, information and communication technology
- intellectual property
- infrastructure and energy projects
- banking and finance
- legal due diligence audits and investigations
- dispute resolution, litigation, arbitration, mediation and adjudication
- real estate and property development projects
- corporate and commercial advisory
- corporate governance and compliance advisory
- competition
- personal data protection
- anti-bribery and anti-corruption

The firm's reputation is built on its ability to harness the wealth of experience of its Partners and Associates and to deliver pragmatic legal advice and solutions to corporate and commercial issues in an approach which is both cost effective and personalised.

The firm is listed on The Legal 500 (Asia Pacific) as a recommended Malaysian law firm for corporate law and mergers and acquisitions.

The firm's select client base includes: public-listed corporations; multinational corporations; government-linked corporations; small and medium enterprises; high-net-worth individuals and families.

The firm has acted as legal advisers for numerous cross-border transactions involving Malaysian clients investing in the following jurisdictions: Australia, Belgium, Bermuda, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, People's Republic of China, Philippines, Russia, Singapore, Thailand, South Africa, Sri Lanka, United Kingdom, United States of America.

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izND Services, along with its group of companies, is aligned to your business metrics through our Partner Expert Leveraging Programme, working hand in hand with you to deliver superior quality to your clients. We help you enhance your business performance, improve margins, align technology with business priorities, reduce costs, improve service speed and flexibility, and achieve long-term success.

Our complete spectrum of infrastructure outsourcing services will help you build and manage a highly available, reliable IT infrastructure that is capable of meeting the dynamic needs of your businesses in a multi-sourcing scenario.

At izND Services, we are flexible. Your business gains by reducing costs and complexities, as well as increasing operational efficiency. We provide our customers with repeatable, proven process that delivers consistent end-results regardless of project scope or client.

izND Services provides a managed services program featuring a dedicated team of hardware and software professionals specialized in developing services and products to meet our customers' needs and best interests.

izND Services have broad experience providing IT Services and we have invested extensive resources and have developed a mature Managed IT Services Program, Cloud Computing Solutions and Professional IT Project Delivery.

It is simply smart to outsource your core and critical IT requirements with izND Services, as it is easy to lose track of your priorities. It begins with issues like which servers to buy, and which firewall to install. Then, the operating system breaks down, security is breached, and network disruptions become a daily problem.

We will provide you with a one-stop solution, including all necessary hardware or software according to specifications identified based on your requirements.

izND's Services focuses on providing a one-stop solution approach – because we understand that eliminating confusion when it comes to support tools is important to the success of reducing any downtime encountered by your organisation. Having all of your collateral in a one-stop solution and support provider streamlines the process for distributors to get everything you need.

Then, we will manage it all for you: the hardware, software, network, security and backup. Everything can be configured to your needs.

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SALVADOR LLANILLO & BERNARDO (SLB)



After heading the Tax Division of the largest professional services firm in the Philippines, Serafin U. Salvador, Jr. propelled SLB to be one of the leading commercial law firms in the country. Currently with the world's largest independent tax organization providing quality integrated tax advice worldwide, SLB can be considered as one of the highlights of Mr. Salvador's illustrious career in taxation.

Mr. Salvador's invaluable knowledge of taxation has provided local and international clients with advice instrumental to firmly establishing their businesses in their respective industries. His expert insight has helped small to medium-sized enterprises and multinational corporations to effectively deal with complex issues and rapid changes in a highly competitive global market.

His extensive experience and knowledge in the field of taxation has been recognized on a national level through his previous appointments as the president of the Tax Management Association of the Philippines, and as a Bar Examiner in Taxation Law. An invaluable source of taxation expertise, even among his peers on the global stage, Mr. Salvador was tapped to become a member of the United Nations Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters.

Contributing to the education and training of the younger generation in the intricacies of taxation has always been Mr. Salvador's passion. He teaches at the country's top law schools, the UP College of Law and the Ateneo Law School. He also taught at the De La Salle – FEU MBA-JD Program, St. Scholastica's College of Commerce, the University of Manila College of Law, as well as the Philippine Women's University College of Liberal Arts.

In addition, Mr. Salvador is a lecturer at the UP Law Center's Mandatory Continuing Legal Education, and served as a speaker and lecturer in SGV Management Tax Seminars; the Rotary Clubs of Makati, Quezon City, San Juan, and Pasig; as well as seminars sponsored by the Philippine Institute of Certified Public Accountants, the Tax Management Association of the Philippines, and the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

He has written for the CCH Journal of Asia-Pacific Taxation, the SGV Tax Division's "Tax Files" column in the Philippine Daily Inquirer, and several local publications – expanding the reach of his contribution to the field of Philippine taxation.

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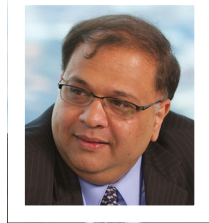
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CLYDE & CO CLASIS SINGAPORE*

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A joint law venture



Prakash has more than 20 years' experience representing major local and international companies as well as high-net-worth individuals in high-value, complex arbitration proceedings, and in his capacity as Managing Director at Clasis LLC, litigation proceedings, in Singapore.

In respect of international arbitration, Prakash regularly appears before various arbitral tribunals in both ad hoc arbitrations and arbitrations governed by the leading institutional rules, as well as in investor-state arbitrations, and he has been recognised as a leading arbitration practitioner by multiple publications over many years. In addition, he is a specialist in India-related arbitrations, having advised and represented Indian clients for more than two decades on matters throughout the geographical breadth of India, including in the states of Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, NCR (Delhi), Orissa, and Maharashtra. Prakash is on the India Business Law Journal's A-List for India-focused practitioners based outside India, and Chambers and Partners APAC notes that Prakash is "awesomely well connected with India".

In respect of litigation, Prakash regularly represents clients in commercial matters involving shareholder and contractual disputes, insurance, professional liability, and fraud. His litigation experience also includes insolvency work, including court challenges to rehabilitation and liquidation proceedings, claims by liquidators against directors of the insolvent company and/or third parties and clawback claims.

Prakash speaks regularly at conferences and seminars focusing on international arbitration and is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators. He was also formally an Adjunct Associate Professor of Law at the National University of Singapore, teaching international arbitration law and practice. An established legal author, he frequently writes and publishes articles on arbitration law and practice.

Prakash graduated from Queen Mary College, University of London, and further obtained a Master's degree in law from Cambridge University, where he specialised in public international law, including investment treaty law. He was subsequently admitted as a Barrister-at-law at the Middle Temple in London and is qualified as an Advocate and Solicitor in Singapore. He previously worked at the Singapore Ministry of Foreign Affairs as a Foreign Service Officer and is the Honorary Consul of the Republic of Iceland in Singapore.

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Junxiang Koh's main areas of practice are restructuring and insolvency, as well as litigation and arbitration disputes, with a focus on shareholder disputes, employment, financial fraud and regulatory investigations.

Junxiang is a specialist in restructuring and insolvency, with an in-depth knowledge of Singapore insolvency laws and procedures. He has acted for liquidators, scheme managers, judicial managers and receivers in all aspects of corporate restructuring and insolvency, both contentious and non-contentious. This includes representation in the context of numerous high-profile insolvencies, particularly in the energy, resources and shipping sectors. He also has extensive experience acting for distressed companies in restructuring their debts and corporate turnarounds.

Aside from restructuring and insolvency, Junxiang regularly advises and represents corporations, directors and individuals in high-value, complex disputes, and has appeared before all levels of the Singapore Courts. His matters frequently involve issues related to alleged breaches of director's duties, employment contracts and professional liability. In addition, he has advised and represented forensic accountants, the Singapore Stock Exchange and the Singapore government in complex investigations into suspected cases of commercial fraud, accounting irregularities as well as breaches of listing regulations.

Moreover, Junxiang has tutored aspiring lawyers in Civil Procedure & Insolvency as part of the preparatory course leading to Part B of the Singapore Bar Examinations.

**Clyde & Co Clasis is a joint law venture in Singapore between Clyde & Co and Clasis LLC.*

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E.M.HWANG & PARTNERS
INTERNATIONAL PATENT & TRADEMARK



**Certificates/Education –
SungPil Hwang:**

- Patent & Trademark Attorney admitted in South Korea (2006)
- Yonsei University, Bachelor of Law and Business (Seoul, Korea, 2006)
- KAIST Master’s Course in Intellectual Property (2016~)

Professional Career:

- E. M. HWANG & PARTNERS IP Law Firm (2006~present)
- Of Counsel, Yonsei University Life & Health (2015~ present)
- Of Counsel, ULIANNE LEE & Co (2015~ present)
- Of Counsel, Treasure Hunter (2015~ present)
- Of Counsel, SBS Contents Hub Co., Ltd. (2011~ present)

The Firm:

Since its foundation in 1982, E. M. HWANG & PARTNERS has provided high-quality, client-centered services related to IP for various clients, including small and medium-sized enterprises and venture enterprises as well as leading companies in Korea. The firm has made efforts based on a high level of specialized knowledge, accumulated over 40 years, to ensure its clients are effectively informed on matters of IP.

Furthermore, Euy Man Hwang, the firm’s Representative Attorney, has made efforts to stabilize the job invention policy by giving lectures across the country with Sumyeong Cha, Commissioner of the Korean Intellectual Property Office, aimed at raising awareness of IP considerations in Korea. With this goal in mind, Hwang has given lectures at leading companies, such as Hyundai motors, Hyundai Heavy Industries, Daewoo Heavy Industries & Machinery, SK, SKC, LS networks, among others. Meanwhile, Hwang has lectured on the topic of “What is invention?” on Korean TV Channel TBS.

Over the years, E. M. HWANG & PARTNERS has built broad and strong networks with IP law firms based all over the world, having rendered high-quality IP counseling by strategically, and beneficially for its committed clients, utilizing these networks to its advantage.

In addition to such areas as patents to protect intangible assets, trademark, copyright, and license contract counseling, E. M. HWANG & PARTNERS has consistently expanded its practice by exploring – in depth – the potentialities of online business, new technology, and entertainment, etc.

Expertise / Practice Areas:

- Intellectual Property
- Trademark & Patent Prosecution and Consulting
- Trademark & Patent Litigation and Enforcement
- Foreign Prosecution & Litigation
- Copyrights & Domain Names
- Franchising & Licensing

Membership/Writing:

- Korean Patent Attorneys Association (KPAAs)
- Japan Trademark Association (JTA)
- International Association for the Protection of Industrial Property (AIPPI)
- International Trademark Association (INTA)
- Asian Patent Attorney Association (APAA)
- Intellectual Property Owners Association TM Committee Member (IPO)
- International Referral (IR)

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DOMNERN SOMGIAT & BOONMA (DS&B)

**Practice Areas:**

- Trademarks
- Brand strategies
- Copyright

Qualifications:

- Monash University (LL.M. (Commercial Law))
- Monash University (LL.M. (IP))
- Thammasat University (LL.B.)
- Admitted to Bar Thailand, 2003

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Apiwatt is an acclaimed intellectual property lawyer who champions human creativity, whether it manifests in brands, artistic works, or innovations. His expertise and dedication in the field of IP laws has earned him recognition by Managing IP as one of Thailand’s IP Stars in the realm of Trademarks across multiple years.

Currently, Apiwatt is a Partner leading the firm’s trademark prosecution teams, offering comprehensive services to clients worldwide. His leadership and expertise make him a key figure in protecting and advocating for intellectual property rights at both the national and international levels.

At the heart of Apiwatt’s legal practice is a robust trademark prosecution service. He places immense value on effective communication, considering it as crucial as legal expertise. His approach involves a deep understanding of business needs, crafting solutions that are practical, cost-effective, and enable clients to make informed decisions swiftly. Apiwatt’s legal counsel is renowned for being direct, clear, and solution-oriented.

Apiwatt’s proficiency extends beyond Thailand, assisting businesses across various sectors to secure trademark protection globally. He is particularly active in neighboring countries, including Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, and Vietnam, working closely with local associates. His comprehensive understanding of trademark practices allows him to formulate successful brand strategies for Thai businesses in foreign markets. Apiwatt has demonstrated exceptional skill in navigating complex international trademark disputes, successfully reclaiming client brands from trademark squatters in China and Vietnam, among others.

Beyond his law practice, Apiwatt is a committed contributor to the development of IP laws in Thailand. He serves as Vice President of the Intellectual Property Association of Thailand (IPAT). Since 2013, he has been instrumental in enhancing public understanding of IP laws and collaborating with the government to advance intellectual property laws and practices.

Apiwatt’s journey in the intellectual property landscape has seen a progressive ascent. After making substantial contributions as a committee member in both the Copyright Committee and Trademark Committee for the Thailand Recognized Group of the Asian Patent Attorneys Association (APAA), his expertise and dedication led to a pivotal career milestone. In 2023, Apiwatt was appointed as one of the five councilors for the Thailand Recognized Group, a role that marks a significant elevation in his influence within the international IP community. This new position reflects his deep commitment to advancing IP law.



AFRICA & THE MIDDLE EAST

Sub-Saharan Africa’s economic outlook remains bleak amid an elusive growth recovery. According to the latest World Bank “Africa’s Pulse” report, rising instability, weak growth in the region’s largest economies and lingering uncertainty in the global economy are dragging down growth prospects in the region.

Economic growth in Sub-Saharan Africa is forecast to decelerate to 2.5% in 2023, from 3.6% in 2022. South Africa’s GDP is expected to only grow by 0.5% in 2023 as energy and transportation bottlenecks continue to bite. Nigeria and Angola are projected to grow at 2.9% and 1.3% respectively, due to lower international prices and currency pressures affecting oil and non-oil activity. Increased conflict and violence in the region weigh on economic activity, and this rising fragility may be exacerbated by climatic shocks. In Sudan, economic activity is expected to contract by

12% because of the internal conflict that is halting production, destroying human capital and crippling state capacity.

In per capita terms, growth in Sub-Saharan Africa has not increased since 2015. In fact, the region is projected to contract at an annual average rate per capita of 0.1% over 2015–2025, thus potentially marking a lost decade of growth in the aftermath of the 2014–15 plunge in commodity prices.

“The region’s poorest and most vulnerable people continue to bear the economic brunt of this slowdown, as weak growth translates into slow poverty reduction and poor job growth,” said Andrew Dabalen, World Bank Chief Economist for Africa. “With up to 12 million young Africans entering the labour market across the region each year, it has never been more urgent for policymakers to transform their economies and deliver growth to people through better jobs.”





Despite the gloomy outlook, there are a few bright spots. Inflation is expected to decline from 9.3% in 2022 to 7.3% in 2023, and fiscal balances are improving in African countries that are pursuing prudent and coordinated macroeconomic policies. In 2023, the Eastern African community (EAC) is expected to grow by 4.9%, while the West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU) is set to grow by 5.1%. However, debt distress remains widespread, with 21 countries at high risk of external debt distress or in debt distress as of June 2023.

Overall, current growth rates in the region are inadequate to create enough high-quality jobs to meet increases in the working-age population. Current growth patterns generate only three million formal jobs annually, thus leaving many young people underemployed and engaged in casual, piecemeal and

unstable work that does not make full use of their skills. Creating job opportunities for the youth will drive inclusive growth and turn the continent's demographic wealth into an economic dividend.

"The urgency of the jobs challenge in Sub-Saharan Africa is underscored by the huge opportunity from demographic transitions that we have seen in other regions," said Nicholas Woolley, World Bank Economist and contributor to the report. "This will require an ecosystem that facilitates private-sector development and firm growth, as well as skill development that matches business demand."

The development of labour-intensive manufacturing seems to be missing in Africa, limiting further effects for the indirect job creation in support services and international trade. This may be partly due to a lack of



capital, which continues to hamper the structural transformation required for good quality jobs. While the region contributes 12% of the global working-age population, Sub-Saharan Africa owns only 2% of the global capital stock. This means people have fewer assets with which to be productive in Sub-Saharan Africa, compared to other regions.

The report identifies a set of policies to overcome hurdles and unleash job creation in Sub-Saharan Africa, including: Cost-effective private sector reforms, focused on increasing competition, uniform policy enforcement across firm sizes and regulatory alignment with regional trading partners. Governments can also help identify and support early-stage growth of businesses through more inclusive procurement practices and promotion of local businesses abroad.

Investment in education is necessary to boost semi-skilled occupations for the region. Interventions that improve learning in school are more effective than those increasing school attendance alone, while vocational education can be useful for addressing the underemployed and those who have missed out on education as children.

Education of girls and access to jobs for women can reduce potential productivity loss from the misallocation of female labour. Meanwhile, cash transfers have proven effective in increasing girls' school enrolment and attendance, as well as in curbing pregnancies among school-age girls.

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DENTONS HAMILTON HARRISON & MATHEWS

DENTONS

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Adil Khawaja is the Managing Partner at Dentons Hamilton Harrison & Mathews, and a leading name in the restructuring and insolvency, private client, hospitality and tourism, real estate, environmental and planning industries.

He advises investors, high-net-worth clients, companies, diplomatic missions and various government authorities. His experience includes advising on a multitude of complex commercial and residential land transactions that includes: the development of Kenya's first grade "A" logistic and distribution Warehouse Park; eco-conveyancing for clients in the tourism sector; complicated land control issues, company restructurings, and environmental policy issues.

Adil's vast experience has seen him repeatedly clinch the Band 1 ranking from Chambers and Partners, the world's leading directory of lawyers, where his clients gave a sterling review in last year's ranking and said Adil is *"very bright and has good knowledge of the law."*

In the 2023 Legal 500, Adil's clients also remarked his *"knowledge of the Kenyan and global environment is a great strength of the firm"*.

Adil regularly advises investors who are keen on investing not only in Africa, but globally, in addition to foreign companies that conduct business in Kenya, as well as the Kenya corporations that conduct business abroad. He is highly recognised in Kenyan business circles for his legal expertise, and holds board positions in various companies.

Adil is also active in the wildlife and environmental conservation space. He is an Executive Member of the Nairobi Arboretum Conservancy Community Forest Association. He has also served as a Director on the National Environment Council, a Trustee to the Friends of Conservation and Care for Wild Kenya, as well as the Kenya Wildlife Service. He actively participates in the Rhino Charge competition, which raises funds to support the activities of the Rhino Ark Kenya Charitable Trust – working towards the conservation and protection of Kenya's mountain ecosystems.

Adil was awarded the Moran of the Order of the Burning Spear (MBS) by the President of the Republic of Kenya in 2022.

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The Founder and CEO of Willminds LLC, Pascale Dahrouj, is a multi-award winner mediator, arbitrator, negotiator, dispute resolution expert, international consultant, and justice innovator. She is accredited by international dispute resolution bodies and serves on board many international panels in mediation and arbitration. She practices in four different languages: Arabic, English, French, and Spanish (limited).

Pascale has founded three divisions within Willminds, being:

- Willminds Mediation and Arbitration Center (WMAC): to empower people through Alternative Dispute Resolution services
- Willminds Consulting Services (WCS): to empower people through expert consulting services.
- Willminds Academy: to empower people through training and learning to reach unparalleled personal and professional development with focus on Alternative Dispute Resolution, Anti-Corruption, and Sustainable Development.

She also focuses her work on Anti-Corruption, policy design and implementation, and stakeholder consultation and engagement. She is the President of the Lebanese Diaspora Energy (LDE) and a strategic adviser in various Ministries, the latest of which was the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants. She has extensive experience in the public and private sectors, and international experience, both worldwide and with international organs.

Pascale holds degrees and certificates from George Washington University, Harvard Kennedy School of Government, Georgetown University, and Notre Dame University, among others. She is a certified Anti-Corruption Manager (CACM) and an alumnus of the International Anti-Corruption Academy (IACA). She is currently pursuing her MLS in Energy, Oil, and Gas Law at the Texas A&M School of Law.

Awards:

- 2023 Business Elite Award 40 under 40
- 2023 Acquisition International – Global Excellence Awards – Best Dispute Resolution Specialists 2023 – Lebanon
- 2023 Justice Innovation Award – 2nd place by the Hague Institute for Innovation of Law
- Monthly Lawyer 2022 Legal Award for the category of Mediation and Dispute Resolution Expert.

Memberships:

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NOLANDS LAW (MAURITIUS) LIMITED

Nolands

LAW



Nolandslaw (Mauritius) Limited is a multi-disciplinary law firm licenced to operate as a law firm in Mauritius. We have been in existence for nearly 10 years, and we have acquired a vast experience both onshore and offshore.

Nolandslaw (Mauritius) is headed by RAMSAGUR Shailendr, the Founder and the Managing Partner. We are also member of AEA Association of European Lawyers and Justinian Lawyers, and RAMSAGUR Shailendr is the Vice President of the AEA for the African Region.

Our offices are situated in the City of Port Louis, the capital of the Republic of Mauritius.

Our main areas of practice include the following:

- Commercial Law and Corporate Law
- Arbitration
- Employment Law
- Civil Law Litigation
- Taxation
- Corporate Business Structure and Tax Treaty
- Real Estate Law
- Inheritance matters and conflict of laws
- Intellectual Property and registration of IP
- Setting of Trusts and drafting of Trust Deeds

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Adiel Solicitors is a corporate and commercial law firm dedicated to timely and cost-effective service delivery.

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DR. RASHID, MOHAMED EL MURTADA & CO.



Dr. Rashid, Mohammed El Murtada & Co.
Barristers & Legal Consultants



Mohamed El Murtada is one of Oman's leading litigators and advocates, and is Managing Partner at Dr. Rashid, Mohamed El Murtada & Co.

He is an experienced legal professional and entrepreneur, with a remarkable history of working in various fields of law. Holding 37+ years of expansive experience in providing general legal counsel, legal documentation, and dispute resolution for the government and private sector, he is specialized in handling complex cases. He has vast knowledge of Omani law and policies, and regularly advises local as well as international clients on matters within Omani jurisdiction. He was hand-picked by real estate companies to advise on multinational disputes and to represent them in Oman before the competent courts. He has been appointed by Omani courts as the sole arbitrator in disputes among international and local companies, as well as government, in various matters.

Today, the firm Dr. Rashid, Mohamed El Murtada & Co. is engaged in diverse fields of law, spanning corporate, commercial litigation, energy, banking & insurance, telecommunication, maritime, trademark / intellectual property, construction, contracting, arbitration and dispute resolution, among others.

As Managing Partner, Mr. El Murtada offers extensive insight for developing the strategies and defining the goals for the long-term success of the firm.

An empowered and engaged legal counsel with a strong understanding of commercial, corporate and contract issues in diverse industries, both locally and internationally.

Frequently representing large corporations, private companies, governmental bodies and individuals on numerous matters, with expertise in business and regulatory legal issues.

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Publications:

- "Law of Taxation in Oman", published by the Centre for International Legal Studies.

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QATAR INTERNATIONAL LAW FIRM



Mr. Abdelmoniem Abutiffa received an L.L.M. with first-grade honors degree, University of Guba, 2010. The highlights of his career include:

- Lawyer and legal Consultant;
- LM. with first-grade honors degree, University of Guba, 2010;
- B. with distinction, Al-Rabat University, Morocco, Faculty of Law, 1984;
- Bar examination certificate passed in 1985;
- Advocate roll registration certificate in 1986;
- Sudanese bar registration in 1986;
- Lawyer, Sudan, 1985–1998;
- Senior legal advisor with Hassan Sati law office – Doha Qatar, 1998–2001;
- Languages: Excellent in Arabic and English, Manageable French;
- Joined Qatar International Law Firm 2001;
- President of the Sudanese Community in Qatar, 2006–2008.

Qatar International Law Firm is a full-service legal firm with extensive experience, providing legal services and advice to the local and international business community. The firm currently includes 23 members, and has imparted its activity on the excellency reached both in local and international law.

Qatar International draws its strength from the diversity of background and experience offered by multinational and multi-jurisdictional lawyers, partners and consultants, who dedicate considerable effort in preventing disputes and delivering innovative, pragmatic legal solutions and advice with an assessment of risks and alternatives as well as in a cost-effective manner. The strong relationship with the best foreign international law firms grants our clients a very qualified and specialized legal assistance worldwide, maintaining the quality and flexibility of a “Boutique Law Firm”.

Our members’ skills also include the particular behavioral rules which are necessary for a proper management of the business in the Gulf Area – the legal profession etiquette, meeting protocol and negotiation techniques.

We work on building and maintaining strong and durable relationship with our clients, not only to ensure their satisfaction, but also to gain their confidence and loyalty. We also aim to provide every client with the best solution in terms of risk/benefit and cost/benefit ratios, and we always consider the use of alternative dispute resolution tools among available options. We are committed to continuous improvement of legal and customer services, applying all efforts to thinking better and doing better in order to become the best.

We are committed to fair and flexible fee arrangements. Our “small-boutique firm approach” allows us to offer lower rates than most firms with comparable experience, by ensuring the client receives high-quality legal services and “tailor-made solutions”. We have a friendly, local feel, and our lawyers are open, approachable, flexible and always willing to respond to demanding deadlines. Our mission is to provide our clients with the highest professional standards and services – with respect of all the ethical principles related to our profession.

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QATAR INTERNATIONAL LAW FIRM



Qatar International Law Firm was established in 1996 by His Excellency Sheikh Ahmed Bin M. AL-Thani, formerly a judge in the Qatari Civil Justice Courts. The firm consists of multinational and multijurisdictional lawyers, partners and consultants with diverse educational, legal and business backgrounds. Our goal is to combine experience and expertise to achieve client objectives efficiently, promptly, economically and with continuity.

Our expertise focuses on the commercial area and extends across all the major practice areas of law, with ample experience in banking law and regulation, Islamic compliance transaction, corporate and partnership, commercial transactions and international trade contract, oil & gas commercial agencies, real property and construction, intellectual property, insurance, maritime, aviation and labor law.

Dedicated to the highest level of legal expertise and service, we advise a wide range of international and local clients on all legal aspects of their business and activities in Qatar and abroad.

We work closely with each client and provide our expertise in transactional matters, as well as in dispute resolution. Through our membership and active participation in many local and international professional and trade organizations, we are well positioned and committed to keeping up with new developments in the legal and economic environment.

Throughout the years we have developed an excellent working relationship with many government and non-government organizations. This, coupled with our experience in banking, finance, insurance, corporate, investment, real property and labor law, makes Qatar International Law Firm one of the top leading Qatari law firms in all the MENA region.

We consider ourselves as partners of our clients: we think and act as if we were the clients ourselves so that we work harder, we think deeper, and we act faster. Moreover, we pride ourselves on teamwork and a positive can-do attitude – so that if your primary contact is temporarily unavailable, another colleague will assist you in order to handle the matter and find the most appropriate solution.

His Excellency Sheikh Ahmed Bin M. AL-Thani

- His Excellency Sheikh Ahmed Bin M. AL-Thani is a professional lawyer licensed by the Advocate Admission Committee in 1996. His career highlights include:
- Professional lawyer licensed by the Advocate Admission Committee in 1996;
- Former judge in the Civil Justice Courts;
- Awarded B.L.L degree from the Faculty of Sharia and Law, Qatar University;
- Awarded degree with distinction from the High Institute for Judges Training in Egypt in 1995.

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RUBERT & PARTNERS

Rubert & Partners is a passionate boutique law firm in the UAE, specialized in arbitration and corporate services.

With strong connections with Europe and the Americas, Rubert & Partners resembles Western client service while playing by the local idiosyncrasies of the region. Its team of experienced lawyers offers legal services in English, Spanish, French and Arabic, and is proud to assist local, regional and international clients in strategic legal areas, including arbitration, litigation, corporate and commercial law.

We are arbitration experts, combining the academic knowledge with ample Western and Middle East experience.

Our Managing Partner María Rubert has a solid record as arbitrator in the region, having handled more than 35 cases as arbitrator.

Our practitioners are versed in the civil and common law systems, having significant expertise on the field from its different angles – the institutional, governmental and private practice. They represent clients in arbitrations in the Middle East and internationally, and hear cases as members of Arbitral Tribunals.

We represent a varied range of UAE-based and international clients in various UAE-court appointed, ad hoc, DIAC, Dubai Municipality, ADCCI, DIFC-LCIA, LMAA, ICC and UNCITRAL arbitrations.

María Rubert

María is a Spanish and American arbitrator and lawyer, registered with the authorities of Dubai (Ruler's Court) and the courts of DIFC.

María has obtained master's degrees in commercial law and arbitration from the Washington University of Law of the American University (Washington DC, US), as well as in business administration through an Executive MBA with the Instituto Empresa (Madrid, Spain). In addition, she received a bachelor's degree from Alfonso X El Sabio (Madrid, Spain) and Kennesaw State University (Kennesaw, US).

Since her arrival in Dubai, María has developed a substantial experience in the fields of commercial structure, with a wide range of international clients. Before arriving in Dubai, María worked in the field of arbitration and commercial law from different angles – private enterprise, institutions and government. In parallel to her advocacy role, María acts as arbitrator with a significant number of arbitration centers in the Middle East and Africa.

Moreover, María is an active member of the Spanish-speaking community in the UAE – currently serving as Vice President of the Spanish Business Council. María further contributes to the preparation of future lawyers through an internship program in collaboration with various Spanish and American institutions; meanwhile, she often acts as a lecturer for universities, business groups and legal organizations.

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WHITE & CASE LLP

WHITE & CASE



Marcus Booth is a Partner in the EMEA Corporate M&A team in White & Case's Global M&A Practice.

Ranked in the top ten Private Equity M&A Lawyers in EMEA by Financial News, and recognised as an "M&A Lawyer of the Year" and "Private Equity Lawyer of the Year" by a number of awarding bodies across EMEA and Asia for 2022, Marcus co-leads the firm's financial sponsor practice in the Middle East and North Africa, advising sovereign wealth fund, private equity, alternative capital provider (ACPs) and corporate clients on all forms of M&A, alternative capital transactions, portfolio assistance and restructuring advice.

Bars & Courts:

- Dubai, Foreign Legal Consultant
- England and Wales

Education:

- PGDLP College of Law
- PGDL College of Law
- MA Medieval History, University of St Andrews

Languages:

English, French, Italian.

The Firm:

White & Case is a global law firm with longstanding offices in the markets that matter today. The firm's on-the-ground experience, cross-border integration and depth of local, US and English-qualified lawyers helps its clients work with confidence in any one market or across many.

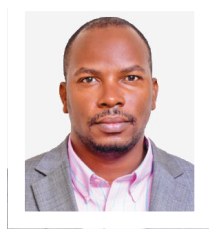
The firm guides clients through difficult issues, bringing its insight and judgment to each situation. Its innovative approaches create original solutions to clients' most complex domestic and multijurisdictional deals and disputes.

By thinking on behalf of their clients every day, White & Case lawyers anticipate what they want, provide what they need and build lasting relationships. They do what it takes to help their clients achieve their ambitions.

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ONYANGO & COMPANY ADVOCATES



Onyango Owor is the Managing Partner of Onyango & Company Advocates. He has advised clients for more than 12 years in both public and private transactions.

Onyango has a wide array of experience advising local and international clients on FDI, corporate finance, construction, infrastructure, restructuring as well as corporate law. He routinely assists clients with procurement in addition to government lobbying affairs.

He also has extensive experience handling public interest cases before the Constitutional Court. As part of his passion for legislative reform, rule of law and development of the legal practice in Uganda, Onyango has served on committees of the Uganda Law Society, and has been a visiting lecturer of law at the University of Pretoria, South Africa. He regularly serves as a part-time lecturer of law.

In addition, he is a member of the Commonwealth Lawyers Association, the East African Law Society, an Advocate of the Courts of Uganda and a Commissioner for Oaths.

The Firm:

Onyango & Company Advocates is a full-service Ugandan law firm with expertise in corporate advisory, commercial litigation, IP, banking & finance, insurance, employment and tax. Meanwhile, the firm offers a specialization in immigration, personal injury, NGO advisory as well as social enterprise advisory, among other key issues. The firm is a recognized expert advisory in Ugandan banking & finance law by IFLR1000, a leading guide for top-tier lawyers around the world.

Onyango & Company Advocates works closely alongside governments and regulatory agencies in the region to ensure clients receive practical, cost-effective legal solutions. It tailors its services to meet the unique needs of each client; moreover, its partners and consultants have had prior experience in corporate, leading law and consulting firms at the highest levels.

To date, the firm has advised leading companies, manufacturers and flagship social enterprise ventures operating in Eastern Africa – having also advised leading SMEs and NGOs in mediation processes under the auspices of the IFC/World Bank. As a result, the firm is retained by some of the most prominent companies and nonprofit organizations in the region.

Its team is passionate about creating a responsive work culture to tackle the most complex legal challenges faced by clients, as well as providing value for money in the practical, creative solutions it renders – because legal disputes should always be resolved in the most efficient and practical manner possible.

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