

Civil fraud and asset recovery



We are a distinct legal practice,
with a leading reputation in our
chosen services and sectors.

Our approach is relationship-driven
and internationally minded, with
great people dedicated to giving
clients just what they need.

A vibrant, agile firm which is,
above all ... just different.





Introduction

LG's award winning Commercial Fraud Team is acknowledged as a leader in the field and the team is led by experts in complex, cross-border fraud and asset tracing.

The team has particular expertise in obtaining worldwide freezing orders in support of domestic and international litigation and arbitration, worldwide asset tracing, search and seizure orders, advising on and investigating international bribery and corruption, money laundering and anti-money laundering policies.

Over recent years members of the team have advised on some of the most significant and high profile international fraud cases, including the collapse of Polly Peck, the Cayman and London liquidation of BCCI, the flight of funds from Nigeria under the Abacha regime, the copper future frauds under the Pinochet regime, the Enron collapse and the Madoff investment scandal. The core focus of the team is in representing the victims of fraud and it has a wealth of experience acting for and against investment banks, funds and fund managers, corporates, liquidators and administrators, and governments (including the Governments of Malawi, Chile and Brazil and the Federal Republic of Nigeria).

The team is conflict light and is prepared to take instructions adverse to major banks and corporates (usually on behalf of bank, corporate or governmental clients) and deploys partner-led teams who have significant expertise in managing international investigations and recovery activities.

International reach

LG's offices in Dubai and Moscow allow it to service its clients in the Gulf Region, the Russian Federation and the CIS. The Commercial Fraud Team also prides itself on its international network of contacts and colleagues, which enables it to field fully integrated fraud and asset tracing teams globally whenever the need arises.

In addition to its international offices and its global network of professional colleagues, LG is also a founder member of FraudNet, an ICC endorsed network of fraud and asset recovery specialists worldwide. Currently with 52 members in 46 countries, the FraudNet network enables the team to engage fraud specialists and investigators anywhere in the world 24 hours a day, and to arrest assets which have been identified in a given jurisdiction before they are able to move.

LG is currently advising on disputes and litigation in Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, Dubai, the CIS, the Russian Federation, Cyprus, Israel, the Cayman Islands, Kazakhstan, BVI, Bermuda, the Bahamas, the BVI, the United States, India, Mauritius, Brunei, Turkey, the Channel Islands, Switzerland, Brazil, Australia and Monaco.

Representative cases

- Acting for the Government of Brazil and the City of Sao Paulo in relation to alleged corruption by the former mayor of Sao Paulo, including investigations and proceedings in the BVI, the Cayman Islands, New York, Switzerland and Jersey;
- Advising in relation to a major alleged ponzi scheme in the Caribbean, including obtaining before the courts of the Dubai International Financial Centre the first "Norwich Pharmacal" order and the first freezing order in aid of proceedings elsewhere;
- Acting for a Saudi Arabian group in relation to its multi-billion pound restructuring and refinancing, and co-ordinating and advising in relation to the defence of fraud proceedings in the Cayman Islands, Abu Dhabi, Switzerland, the United States and England; and
- Acting for an AIM listed company in respect of an alleged conspiracy relating to \$1.7 billion worth of oil fields and licences in Russia and the Caspian Sea, involving advising on and coordinating proceedings in England, Russia, Cyprus and the BVI.

Independent recognition

The expertise and calibre of the Fraud Team is recognised in the legal directories.

"LG's fraud practice is 'proactive, commercial, accessible', and 'responsive'"

– *Legal 500, 2009*

"The commercial fraud group at LG continues to go from strength to strength, attracting sophisticated instructions for its combination of expertise in co-ordinating multi-jurisdictional asset tracing with developed financial regulation and contentions trust practices"

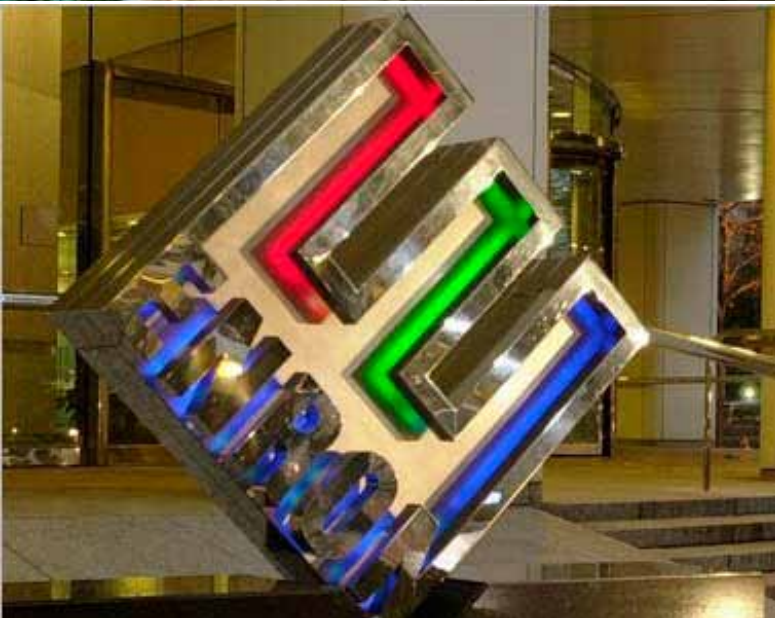
– *Chambers UK, 2009*

"This growing practice boasts depth in corruption and bribery, as well as in regulatory work ... 'the lawyers here are excellent strategists'"

– *Chambers UK, 2010*



FT Innovative Lawyers Award
2009 for Legal Innovation
and Anti-Corruption



The Partners

Andrew Witts specialises in international fraud and asset tracing. He heads the Commercial Fraud Group and LG's Corporate Investigations team. Andrew is currently advising the Government of Brazil in the important Maluf case. ("Andrew Witts is 'hugely experienced and highly trusted'" – Legal 500, 2011; "Andrew Witts is lauded for his commerciality, approachability and robust advice. Clients value that he 'always takes the time to talk through the most complex of issues in a consultative way'" – Chambers UK, 2010.)

Jeremy Andrews is experienced in complex international litigation and arbitration, with a particular focus on trust, banking and fraud disputes. He is currently advising on matters relating to the US\$64 billion fraud perpetrated by Bernard L. Madoff Investment Securities LLC.

Andrew Dobson is one of the most senior and experienced litigators at LG, attracting large, high profile international cases. He is currently advising in relation to the protection of Brunei interests.

Richard Everett is an expert in financial services regulation, particularly market abuse and financial compliance. He joined LG after 10 years at the Financial Services Authority, where he was most recently Senior Legal Advisor to the Regulatory Decisions Committee.

Eoin O'Shea is a leading expert on economic crime and contentious regulatory matters, with a particular emphasis on corruption. He is currently representing three listed funds in the investigation of allegations of fraud by agents and fiduciaries.

Principal contacts

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