



Laura Ford

Partner

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As a member of our Corporate Crime Investigations & Compliance team, Laura Ford conducts UK and multi-jurisdictional investigations into allegations of serious and complex misconduct for national and international clients. Her recent mandates have involved the retail, finance and logistics sectors. Laura is recognised as a "Future Leader" in the 2018 edition of Who's Who Legal: Investigations and regularly advises clients on anti-corruption and anti-money laundering compliance.

EXPERIENCE

- Acting for one of four defendants in the fraud trial concerning Barclays capital raising and related payments to Qatar in 2008.
- Acting for a management consulting company in connection with an FCA investigation into suspected market abuse.
- Acting for one of the world's largest retailers in connection with investigations into wide-ranging misconduct by a senior manager and the timely recognition of supplier funding.
- Acting for a worldwide logistics company on an internal investigation in cooperation with the SFO into allegations of facilitation payments made in 10 countries.
- Acting for an engineering, procurement and construction client on a large scale SFO investigation into bribery and corruption in a Nigerian liquefied natural gas project.
- Acting for a client providing services to the gas & oil and power generation industries in connection with a deep-dive anti-corruption due diligence review and resultant internal investigation.
- Acting for the cloud computing arm of a global e-commerce client to design and implement dawn raid procedures across 25 jurisdictions.
- Acting as the EMEA Regional Compliance Counsel for a Fortune 500 company in the cosmetics industry.

RELATED SERVICES

- Global Governance and Compliance
- Investigations
- White Collar and Corporate Crime
- Litigation, Arbitration and Investigations
- International Trade, Regulatory and Government Affairs

RELATED SECTORS

- Consumer Goods and Retail
- Hospitality and Leisure
- Energy and Natural Resources
- Industrials

- Acting for Andy Coulson, a former Editor of the News of the World, in connection with the Leveson Inquiry and police investigations into allegations of phone hacking and conspiracy to commit misconduct in public office
- Acting for a range of clients on compliance with the Bribery Act and UK money laundering legislation and developing policies and procedures to assist them in ensuring compliance.

CREDENTIALS

Professional Qualifications

- Solicitor of the Senior Courts of England and Wales

Prior Experience

- 2017 to date, Legal Director, DLA Piper, London & Birmingham
- 2012 to 2017, Senior Associate, DLA Piper, London & Birmingham
- 2008 to 2012, Associate, DLA Piper, London & Birmingham
- 2006 to 2008, Trainee Solicitor, DLA Piper, Birmingham

Education

- College of Law, Birmingham, Legal Practice Course, 2004
- University of Leeds, Law LLB, 2003

Memberships

Laura Ford is a Solicitor registered with the Law Society of England & Wales

INSIGHTS

Publications

Revised guidance from the DoJ: Would your organisation's Compliance Programme stand up to scrutiny?

6 JUN 2019

"Adequate procedures" under the UK Bribery Act is a well-known term in Compliance circles. Having adequate procedures is the only defence to a charge against a commercial organisation of failing to prevent bribery.

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- Foreign Companies Compelled To Produce Materials - The Scope Of The SFO's Powers Redefined, September 2018
 - Cyber Risk in the Retail Sector, Computer Business Review, May 2018
 - Manufacturing Firms at Greater Risk of Criminal Liability? (BQ Magazine, April 2018)
 - ICBC Standard Bank avoids prosecution for bribery failings (British American Business Council Newsletter, March 2016)
 - Failing to Prevent Bribery – Prevention is Better than Cure (DLA Piper Regulatory Update, October 2015)
 - Financial Crime chapter updates (Thomson Reuters Insurance Handbook, August 2015)
 - Anti-Bribery and Corruption Due Diligence (DLA Piper "WIN-WISE" update, July 2015)
 - Certainty at last? Sentencing guidelines for corporate criminality published (DLA Piper Regulatory Update, February 2014)

- Deferred Prosecution Agreements - What's the big deal? (Manufacturing Matters, April 2014)
- Advise clients on fraud rules (The Lawyer, October 2012)
- Risks and Rewards of SOCA disclosures in the non-regulated sector (In House Lawyer, April 2012)
- Deferred prosecution agreements: the way forward? (In House Lawyer, February 2012)

NEWS

DLA Piper announces partnership promotions for 2019

1 APR 2019

DLA Piper is proud to announce that 77 lawyers have been promoted to its partnership. The promotions are effective as of April 1, 2019 in the United States and May 1, 2019 for EMEA and Asia Pacific. The promotions were made across many of the firm's practice areas in 43 different offices throughout 20 countries.
