



Alan Sarhan

Partner

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Alan Sarhan is a business lawyer with broad experience in corporate and commercial law, mergers & acquisitions, engineering and construction law, international risk management, global compliance, economic sanctions and export control.

Alan Sarhan developed extensive experience as a corporate commercial lawyer at a national law firm having worked on a wide range of transactions in the areas of mergers & acquisitions, engineering/construction, infrastructure, public private partnerships, and media/entertainment, before joining the in-house team at one of the largest multinational engineering & construction firms in the world. There he was on the M&A and infrastructure team before becoming the Legal Director of its Ethics & Compliance Department. In that role he acquired a significant amount of experience in compliance program development, crisis management, anti-corruption law, economic sanctions, government enforcement, internal investigations and corporate monitorships.

In 2015, Alan co-founded the Canadian office of a boutique business integrity law firm where he specialized in international risk management and global compliance having worked on files in Asia, Africa, Europe and North America. He has particular expertise with integrity rules of various international financial institutions, including the World Bank Group, the African Development Bank, the Asian Development Bank and the European Investment Bank.

LANGUAGES SPOKEN

- English
- French
- Arabic

- Corporate
- Commercial Contracts
- Mergers and Acquisitions
- International Risk Management
- White Collar and Corporate Crime
- Construction and Engineering
- Global Governance and Compliance
- Emerging Growth and Venture Capital
- Real Estate
- Media, Sport, Gaming and Entertainment

English French Arabic

- Member of the negotiating team representing a Canadian multinational in its discussions with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police

with respect to criminal charges laid against the Company pursuant to the Corruption of Foreign Public Officials Act.

- Conducted an internal investigation into allegations of insider trading resulting from a probe by the Quebec securities regulator (Autorité des marchés financiers)
- Appointed by a multi-lateral development bank to investigate allegations of corruption and collusion in the Egyptian power sector
- Engaged by a real estate conglomerate to advise on risks associated with money laundering and economic sanctions and investigate allegations of a business partner laundering money and violating economic sanctions.
- Engaged by a Canadian publicly listed satellite company to conduct an internal investigation into allegations of corruption reported by a member of the board of director
- Managed numerous large-scale document collection efforts in response to various law enforcement and regulatory actions by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, the Competition Bureau, Elections Canada, UPAC (Quebec Provincial Police Anti-Corruption unit), the Quebec securities regulator (Autorité des marchés financiers), the World Bank, the African Development Bank, the European Investment Bank and the Asian Development Bank
- Appointed co-lead of a two-and-half year corporate monitorship of a Japanese multinational with 335,000 employees and a market cap of USD 30B
- Appointed co-lead of a three-year corporate monitorship of a Canadian multinational with 50,000 employees and a market cap of CAD 8B
- Lead the stakeholder engagement plan between the a Canadian multinational and the Government of Canada which led to the entering into of the first ever Administrative Agreement between the Government of Canada and a Company pursuant to the Government of Canada's Integrity Regime.
- Engaged by a Canadian based global manufacturer of recreational vehicles to set up its reporting and whistleblowing systems, intake procedures and investigative protocols
- Engaged by a Canadian aerospace company to set up its reporting and whistleblowing systems, intake procedures and investigative protocols as well as to evaluate the integrity of certain principal suppliers
- Engaged by a Canadian crown corporation to set up its reporting and whistleblowing systems, intake procedures and investigative protocols
- Engaged by a Canadian multinational to perform a comprehensive and holistic review of its integrity compliance program and implement recommendations with a view to bringing the client's integrity compliance program in line with recognized international standards Engaged by a Canadian pension fund to evaluate the integrity of all of their real estate investment partners
- Investigated numerous code of ethics related violations, including investigations relating to alleged misconduct senior executives within various organizations

CREDENTIALS

Admissions

- Quebec, 2006

Recognitions

- *Canadian Legal Expert® Directory* (Corporate/Commercial), Lawyers to Watch, 2020
- In-House Counsel of the Year Finalist, Young Bar Association of Montreal, 2013

Education

- M.B.A. Kellogg School of Management, Northwestern University, 2019 - Kellogg-Schulich Executive MBA (joint program)
- LL.B., Université de Montréal, 2005
- B.A., Concordia University, 2001 (with distinction)

Memberships

- Barreau du Québec
- Canadian Bar Association
- Executive Committee Member of the Governance, Compliance and Ethics Section of the Canadian Bar Association (Quebec Branch)
- Transparency International (Canada)

INSIGHTS

Publications

Canadian sanctions in response to Russian military actions against Ukraine

March 7, 2022

Global Sanctions Alert

The Government of Canada has recently announced a series of new economic sanctions in response to Russia's invasion of and continued military actions against Ukraine.

Integrity in Canadian public procurement: What should companies know about Canada's Integrity Regime?

23 February 2022

Failure to comply with the disclosure requirements may have serious, long-term repercussions. This practical overview covers the basics companies should be aware of.

Canada - Global bribery offenses guide

11 January 2022

White collar, corporate crime and investigations: End of year review 2021

4 January 2022

2021 featured the ongoing uncertainty, challenges and risk for businesses associated with COVID-19 pandemic. Despite the challenges, compliance programs, investigations and proceedings continued as close to normal as possible, with adjustments made to adapt the "new normal". In this 2021 Year In Review, we offer key updates from the year past and offer our predictions on 2022 and beyond.

Will Canada finally pass a law addressing the resort to modern slavery and child labour by commercial stakeholders and their supply chains?

17 December 2021

On November 24, 2021, the Honorable Julie Miville-Dechéne, Senator, introduced a bill in the Senate to fight against the use of forced labor and child labor, in Canada and elsewhere, by companies doing business in Canada. Considering that Canada is a party to the *Forced Labour Convention (No. 29)* adopted in Geneva in 1930, the *Abolition of Forced Labour Convention (No. 105)* adopted in Geneva in 1957 and the *Worst Forms of Child Labor Convention (No. 182)* adopted in Geneva in 1999, to name just a few, some would conclude that the adoption of this bill is imminent.

Enough is enough — Governing the ungovernable

12 February 2021

Online harassment weighs heavily on affected people, feeling like an unstoppable intrusion. One's personal domicile offers no haven. Some people succumb, taking desperate action under this weighty burden. Courts have taken notice, evidenced through awards of punitive and exemplary damages in an effort to express disapprobation. But increased damages are irrelevant against an indigent defendant with no means to pay. When the perpetrator is unrestrained by basic tenets of decency, the court is left with a conundrum: how to govern the ungovernable?

- Co-Author, "World Bank Group v. Wallace: what happens when the cooperation between international organisations and local law enforcement goes wrong"
- Co-Author, "World Bank Group v. Wallace: International Organizations' Immunities and the Fight Against Corruption", June 20, 2016

Events

Previous

Industrials - Latest sanctions and export controls on Russia and China:

4 May 2022

Webinar

White Collar Crime, Investigations and Compliance Symposium

5 October 2021

Webinar

- Speaker, "Compliance Programs - Legal Perspective", Association of Certified Fraud Examiners, November 7-10, 2021
- Speaker, "White Collar Crime", Investigations and Compliance Symposium, October 5, 2021
- Speaker, "A Review of the World Bank v Wallace Supreme Court of Canada Case", International Administrative Law Centre of Excellence, October 31st and November 1st, 2016, London, England
- Panelist, "Fraud, Competition and Corruption Investigation Developments", Northwind Professional Institute's Inaugural Legal & Regulatory Investigations Invitational Forum 2016, September 27-28, 2016, Langdon Hall, Cambridge, Ontario
- Moderator, "Les enquêtes internes et externes pour détecter et remédier aux cas d'inconduite dans les entreprises", Governance,

Compliance and Ethics Section of the Canadian Bar Association (Quebec Branch), June 8, 2016, Montreal, Quebec

- Guest lecturer, "Corporate governance and prevention of corporate misconduct", Université de Sherbrooke, March 9, 2016, Montreal, Quebec
- Panelist, 3rd Edition, Insight Corporate Compliance Forum – Topical Issues in Anti-Bribery, Corruption and Compliance - Panelist Internal Investigations and Government Investigations June 17th – 18th, 2016 Toronto, Ontario

NEWS

DLA Piper announces partnership promotions for 2022

28 April 2022

DLA Piper is proud to announce that 74 lawyers have been promoted to its partnership. The promotions are effective as of April 1 2022 in the United States and May 1 2022 for EMEA and Asia Pacific. Promotions have been made across all of the firm's practice areas, spanning 38 offices in 21 countries.

DLA Piper (Canada) LLP welcomes five new partners

4 January 2021

DLA Piper (Canada) LLP welcomes five additions to the partnership, effective January 1, 2022
