



**Adam Vause**

**Partner**

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Adam Vause advises major corporates and financial institutions on a broad range of large commercial disputes, with a particular focus on fraud, asset tracing, compliance and investigation matters.

Adam is Co-Chair of DLA Piper's Global Investigations Group.

He has significant experience advising in relation to regulatory/criminal investigations and anti-corruption/business ethics (FCPA, UK Bribery Act and Middle East legislation) in connection with companies' internal compliance policies and procedures and disputes arising from joint ventures, distribution agreements and a wide range of corporate and banking transactions.

Between 2002 and 2004 Adam undertook a secondment working for the UK government in the Serious Fraud Office as an investigative lawyer and prosecutor, primarily focusing on white collar crime, restraint/confiscation of assets and the Government's reform of fraud/corruption legislation.

- Advising a global provider of consumer products in respect of integrity and compliance issues raised by a whistleblower and conducting the related investigation.
- Advising a global pharmaceutical company in relation to a wide ranging investigation into compliance issues across numerous jurisdictions in the Middle East.
- Advising a global construction company on a compliance investigation in the Middle East and related negotiations with the Serious Fraud Office.
- Advising a global pharmaceutical company in relation to an investigation and related disputes concerning its distributor in a Middle East jurisdiction.
- Advising an international information and communications technology company on an internal investigation regarding allegations of corruption and fraud within its Middle East operations.
- Advising a global financial institution in relation to ICC arbitral proceedings concerning a shareholder dispute with a value of USD75 million.

- Litigation, Arbitration and Investigations
- International Trade, Regulatory and Government Affairs
- Cross-Border Litigation
- Banking and Finance Litigation
- Commercial Contracts Disputes
- Restructuring
- IT and Telecoms Disputes
- White Collar and Corporate Crime
- International Arbitration
- Global Governance and Compliance
- Investigations
- Technology
- Financial Services

- Acting for a global financial services provider in relation to all aspects of an internal and regulatory investigation concerning Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, UAE, Kuwait and the US.
- Representing an international financial institution in its attempts to recover over USD65 million from a defaulting Saudi Arabian borrower, co-ordinating global attempts (including an UNCITRAL arbitration) to recover the sums owed and advising in relation to proceedings in Bahrain and the UAE, dealing with a number of related pieces of litigation in the Saudi Arabian court system.
- Advising a Middle East-based financial services provider in respect of a central bank regulatory investigation.
- Advising an international bank in respect of an internal investigation concerning allegations of improper conduct and regulatory issues.
- Acting for a provider of services in proceedings before the Dubai World Tribunal in respect of a USD50 million claim for conspiracy and damages.

## CREDENTIALS

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### Professional Qualifications

- Solicitor of the Senior Courts of England and Wales

### Recognitions

- Adam has been ranked Tier 1 in Corporate Investigations by *Chambers Global* each year since 2015 and in *Chambers Global 2021* commended for his anti-corruption and anti-bribery practice and advice on regulatory and compliance issues." A client noted "I always find him to be incredibly responsive, with an understanding of business issues well beyond the confines of his day-to-day practice, which makes him an excellent relationship partner and advocate."
- Adam has previously been described in *Chambers Global* as a "first rate lawyer", "incredibly responsive, very clear and concise in communication, and very pragmatic, "very calm and pleasant to work with; take that personality trait and combine it with his expertise, and it's a very comforting experience" and is "extremely well versed in different sectors, and has a good working relationship with local companies", "widely recognised for his expertise on contention work in Bahrain, in particular for representing financial institutions on cross-border disputes", "acclaimed for his broad experience locally and regionally", "very competent and very strong in investigations" with a "strong track record in regulatory mandates" and "a lawyer with significant experience and a clear cut approach" with "a track record of advising international companies in Bahrain and the wider region".
- Adam is ranked as a Leading Individual by Legal 500.
- Adam is also independently rated by *Acritas Stars*.
- Adam is Co-Chair of the firm's Global Investigations Group.
- Adam Vause is commended for his anti-corruption and anti-bribery practice. He frequently advises clients on regulatory issues as well as internal compliance policies. His experience as a former UK SFO prosecutor provides him an unique understanding of the UK Bribery Act and fraud matters.

### Education

- University of Nottingham, BA (Hons) Law, 1995
- The College of Law, Legal Practice Course, 1996

### Memberships

- Registered DIFC Courts' Practitioner

## INSIGHTS

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Adam regularly undertakes speaking engagements at conferences and other events. In recent years he has spoken on issues including anti-corruption compliance, the development of fraud litigation in the Middle East, international trends in corporate integrity

enforcement/the UK Bribery Act, international sanctions, the Bahrain Chamber for Dispute Resolution, civil unrest and force majeure and the Bahrain Corporate Governance Code.

Adam has also contributed articles to a number of publications including the *IBA Arbitration newsletter*, *Business in Gulf*, *Arbitration: the International Journal of Arbitration, Mediation and Dispute Management*, *Getting the Deal Through (chapter on arbitration in Bahrain)*, *complanet.com*, *Gulf Construction* and *Islamic Business and Finance*.

## Publications

### **Bahrain - Global bribery offenses guide**

11 January 2022

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### **Kuwait - Global bribery offenses guide**

11 January 2022

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### **Oman - Global bribery offenses guide**

11 January 2022

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### **Qatar - Global bribery offenses guide**

11 January 2022

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### **Saudi Arabia - Global bribery offenses guide**

11 January 2022

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### **United Arab Emirates- Global bribery offenses guide**

11 January 2022

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### **Corruption Perceptions Index 2020 – a Middle East and North Africa perspective**

11 February 2021

The CPI uses a scale of zero (highly corrupt) to 100 (very clean) to rank countries by their perceived levels of public sector corruption.

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- Corruption Perceptions Index 2020 – a Middle East and North Africa perspective, 11 February 2021
- No "one-size-fits-all": Read the SFO guidance on evaluating compliance programmes, *Thomson Reuters Regulatory Intelligence*, 3 February 2020
- The UAE's fight against bribery and corruption, 16 July 2019
- Saudi Arabia expands anti-bribery legislation to the private sector, 16 May 2019
- Whistleblower protections and disclosure obligations - recent developments in the DIFC, 7 April 2019
- Pursuing non-performing loans in the Middle East, 22 May 2017