



Forensic Accountancy Services

Established in 1976, providing expert advice for over 40 years, Alexander & Co has earned its reputation as one of the most trusted and dependable firms of accountants in the region.

We believe in building long term relationships and through our personal partner-led approach and close contact, we gain an intimate knowledge and understanding of clients and their needs.

Our Approach

Our expert forensic team combines accounting and investigative assistance with legal skills, so that accounting information is ready and suitable for court and authoritative quantification of damages.

This is a highly complex and specialist accountancy skill and our forensic accountants analyse, interpret and condense information so that full and supported facts are provided in a cost-efficient, timely manner. This ensures that our clients have a full and proper understanding of all facts to fully assist in their case.

We regularly act as expert witness and have been appointed by plaintiffs, claimants and as court appointed single joint experts.

With extensive experience in the forensic field, work includes expert witness and litigation. We regularly undertake fraud and financial investigations across many business sectors, providing the following services:

- ◆ Courses of action after reviewing financial evidence
- ◆ Obtaining relevant documentation and evidence to help uphold or reject a claim
- ◆ Examining the evidence of the opposing party and finding any strengths or weaknesses within it
- ◆ Negotiations and settlements
- ◆ Court hearings, giving evidence in court and meeting with relevant parties

ALEXANDER & CO

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

Our sector expertise

Our forensic expertise includes:

- ◆ Business valuations
- ◆ Commercial dispute resolution
- ◆ Commercial loss of profit claims
- ◆ Criminal and regulatory
- ◆ Criminal confiscation
- ◆ Damages for loss of profits
- ◆ Expert witness
- ◆ Forensic insolvency
- ◆ Fraud, bribery and financial investigation
- ◆ Matrimonial services
- ◆ Professional negligence
- ◆ Shareholder disputes

Recent Work

Our extensive experience includes the following cases:

Commercial (Claimant): Report on the consequential losses sustained as a consequence of claimants' entry into an interest rate swap agreement. Potential loss £1.4m.

Commercial (Respondent): Preparing report of alleged mischarge of fees by IoM Trust Company to client with offshore property interests and bank borrowings of over £30m, attended IoM premises to review computer records. Attended Joint Expert meeting and gave evidence at Arbitration Hearing. Involved fees of over £1.5m.

Contractual dispute (Claimant): Calculating consequential loss following failure to supply LCD outdoor advertising units on time; assessing impact on turnover and profitability.

Legal negligence (Claimant): Assessing loss to claimant caused by the failure of their solicitor to advise properly on the renewal of their lease.

Matrimonial (Claimant): Reviewing Plaintiff's shareholdings held by trusts to establish their interest in the shares and to value them.

Matrimonial (Single Joint Expert): Preparing valuation of plaintiff's interests in complex group of businesses, reviewing evidence of adequacy of income declaration. Value of businesses £14m.

Negligence (Client): Reviewing Auditor's working papers to ascertain whether audit procedures correctly adhered to, identifying potential loss to company as a result.

Partnership dispute (Single Joint Expert): Advising on the taxation implications of separating the property interests of two partners. Involved over 300 properties.

Shareholder dispute (Claimant): Reviewing accounts of a group of family owned companies to establish potential loss by 20% shareholder and tracing.

Shareholder dispute (Respondents): Prepared valuation of private company shares to resolve the buying out of a disaffected shareholder; reviewing implications of company contributions into Tax Mitigation scheme and attended at mediation meeting, Joint Expert meetings and gave evidence at subsequent High Court Trial.

Business Valuations

With a knowledge of transactions across the market, we have a wealth of experience undertaking business valuations for wide range of purposes, dealing with all valuation issues and identifying the most appropriate valuation methodology to adopt.

In the case of valuation disputes, we are experienced in acting as expert witness for the claimant or respondent. We are also regularly instructed as single joint expert. Our experience spans the valuation of individual companies, groups and specific sectors within a business.

Our valuation team calls on colleagues across the firm utilising specific skill sets to produce expert valuations.

Valuation experience includes:

- ◆ Business interruption claims
- ◆ Business reorganisations
- ◆ Capital gains tax or inheritance tax valuations involving agreement of the valuation with the Inland Revenue's Shares Valuation Division
- ◆ Establishing a share option scheme
- ◆ Matrimonial disputes
- ◆ Partnership disputes
- ◆ Shareholder disputes
- ◆ Independent valuation of non-cash consideration
- ◆ Valuations in accordance with Articles of Association
- ◆ Valuation of business for sale



The Alexander & Co Forensic Accounting Team

Stephen Verber is the partner in charge of the Forensic Accounting team at Alexander & Co. He is a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW) and an Accredited Accountant Expert Witness on the ICAEW's Register of Expert Witnesses.

Instrumental in over 200 cases, Stephen has produced independent expert reports for commercial, legal and criminal cases and acted as a single joint expert.

Work regularly undertaken includes reviewing documentation, further investigation, preparing detailed reports, liaising with counsel and giving evidence in Court. Stephen also has wide ranging experience attending mediations and preparing documentation and reports for mediators.

Contact Alexander & Co

To discuss how our team of experienced forensic accountants can assist you, please contact Stephen Verber direct, or chat to one of the team.

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This publication has been carefully prepared, but it has been written in general terms and should be regarded as broad guidance only. The publication cannot be relied upon to cover specific situations and you should not act, or refrain from acting, upon the information contained herein without obtaining specific professional advice. November 2019.