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AL JALLAF ADVOCATES

FIRM PROFILE

"Their competency, know how, deliverables and their aim to ACHIEVE THE BEST interests of their clients, has been a virtue which we highly appreciate."

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*For over 15 years, we have provided strategic and commercially grounded legal advice and representation in the UAE to clients from around the globe. We are proud of the work we have done and the boundaries we have broken; but, despite our successes, we don't have any plans to rest on our laurels.*

*The UAE legal market is still young. To develop further, it requires pioneers who are well placed to innovate and BRIDGE THE GAP between UAE legal services and standards required by the international business community.*

*Our novel business model reflects this aim, and, to ensure that it is met, our standards and internal procedures have been developed to converge and integrate with those of international counsel. More importantly, our business model permits our team to seamlessly (and virtually) sit within a team managed by your own preferred international legal counsel or to internally assemble a team around the needs of a case.*

*Drawing on our expertise across a range of sectors, our select team of internationally qualified lawyers shares the ambition to make Al Jallaf the UAE's premier commercial law boutique, and the leading specialist aviation law firm in the Middle East.*

*For further details and to discuss how Al Jallaf can support your business, please come visit our offices for a coffee and a chat.*

**Amna Al Jallaf**  
Managing Partner

# SERVICES

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*Al Jallaf offers professional legal services that span the entire spectrum of commercial disputes and transactions. With particularly strong capabilities in UAE commercial litigation and arbitration, Al Jallaf is the right partner to face a challenge with.*



## COMMERCIAL LITIGATION

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*Not all law firms in the UAE can appear before the Federal and Dubai Courts. This restricts most international commercial counsel from conducting UAE litigation. Whether managed by an international law firm or on a standalone basis, choosing the right litigation team requires partnering with the best Advocacy Firm for your dispute.*

Litigation in the UAE need not be a mysterious process. Al Jallaf's team of internationally qualified lawyers is well placed to provide strategic legal and procedural advice from the first stages of the dispute (including amicable resolution) right through to enforcement.

Our team is highly experienced in running its own case management, but can also seamlessly (and virtually) sit within a team managed by your own international legal

counsel. Our expert litigators draw on a deep collective knowledge of UAE and international commercial and legal litigation strategy.

We frequently act as UAE litigation partners for international law firms, multinational corporations, and regional industry leaders. Our work includes cross-border strategy, major international recovery projects, international and local fraud claims and medium to large litigations across all our sector specializations.

## ARBITRATION

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*Dubai has fast become the arbitration hub of the Middle East. Meeting this challenge, the UAE has developed an arbitration friendly court system to support the growth of alternative dispute resolution in the region, and offer greater certainty in the arbitral process.*

We have acted in all stages of domestic and international arbitrations as representative legal counsel, and UAE law experts. As an Advocacy Firm, we can also obtain interim and injunctive relief through the UAE courts during the course of arbitration proceedings conducted in the jurisdiction. Crucially, Al Jallaf is experienced at enforcing local and foreign arbitral awards in the UAE Courts.

Our experience includes acting in Ad-Hoc and institutional arbitrations under the DIAC, ADCCAC, ICC, LCIA and UNCITRAL rules. Our team of

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internationally qualified bilingual lawyers are capable of handling both English and Arabic language arbitrations.

We also have experience of appointing and liaising with financial and other experts in arbitration proceedings, and can advise on arbitration case strategy, settlement negotiations and formal mediation of disputes.

## **CORPORATE**

*Our team has expert knowledge of corporate and commercial matters in the UAE and strong transactional and commercial drafting capabilities.*

Our experience includes advising on joint ventures, asset transfers, outsourcing, distribution agreements, licensing arrangements, manufacturing and supply agreements, mergers and acquisitions, initial public offerings, private equity, company reorganization and restructuring, and privatizations.



We have advised clients on all issues concerning free zone and onshore company

formation, including in the Dubai International Financial Centre (DIFC).

Al Jallaf is a JAFZA offshore agent.

## **CORPORATE CRIME & REGULATORY LAW**

*Al Jallaf provides critical support to businesses facing investigations or seeking recourse to the criminal law.*

We represent and advise businesses and corporate legal representatives during Police and Public Prosecution investigations. This involves submitting explanatory memoranda and evidence, and making formal criminal complaints.

We are able to advise in relation to extradition, police and prosecution procedure, and criminal law generally.

## **SHARI'A LAW**

*We advise on incorporation of Islamic banks, credit facilities and loan agreements (Murabaha), Islamic bond issuance (Sukuk), structuring of Islamic funds and the use of basic Islamic contracts such as Ijara, Mudaraba, Takaful and Istisna'a.*

Al Jallaf can draft and negotiate agreements, and litigate on behalf of Islamic banks. We have advised on Shari'a aspects of disputes involving insurance companies and fraudulent banking transactions and Shari'a compliant structures for commercial, aviation and real estate projects.

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# SECTORS

*Our professional services are underpinned by a focused specialization in prominent sectors for UAE and multinational businesses. Away from our key sector expertise, we take time to understand our clients' business models and industries to refine our advice and strategy.*

## AVIATION & AEROSPACE

*Al Jallaf has provided strategic legal expertise in relation to some of the leading developments in the UAE aviation sector. From working on the maiden purchase of the Airbus A380 (then known as the A3XX) to taking delivery of Emirate's first Boeing 777-300 aircraft, Al Jallaf offers a set of skills and experiences unique amongst UAE Advocacy Firms.*

Al Jallaf is the oldest and most established specialist aviation law firm in the UAE. Uniquely, our aviation expertise includes first-hand experience of the commercial, regulatory and operational fields.



As a full-service specialist aviation law firm, Al Jallaf covers the full spectrum of aviation disputes and transactions, including: regulatory and commercial issues, business

jet acquisition, fleet renewal and asset-based financing (including Islamic finance), reputation, criminal sanctions, aviation contract work, corporate governance, crisis management, strategic safety, and brand reputation issues including insurance and reinsurance liability and subrogation work as well as coverage.

## BANKING & FINANCE

*Al Jallaf is known for its capacity to obtain efficient and effective court remedies in high value banking and finance disputes. Al Jallaf also has notable experience in supporting financial institutions in relation to international banking and finance frauds.*

We advise clients on banking and finance arrangements across numerous sectors. Our work includes aircraft, asset and project financing, commercial property finance, shipping, banking litigation and enforcement actions, derivatives, structured finance transactions, incorporation and licensing of financial institutions, debt capital market transactions and bankruptcy and insolvency matters.

We also represent clients during government or state agency investigations, corporate internal investigations and in parallel court proceedings in the UAE.

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## **REAL ESTATE & CONSTRUCTION**

*Our experience of the UAE property market means we understand the industry and its ever changing environment.*

We handle non-contentious and contentious issues relating to major engineering and construction projects in the UAE, including the performance of contracts and sub-contracts, the failure of material and equipment, changes of orders, cost overruns, delays and disruption, negligent design and faulty workmanship.

We have also dealt with injury, loss of life and property damage on behalf of UAE based construction companies, and advise on health and safety issues, including executive investigations under the threat of prosecution.

We can draft and negotiate commercial leases for clients investing in the UAE for

the first time and have extensive experience of using both conventional and Islamic financing techniques for real estate purchases in the UAE. We also specialize in handling tenancy disputes.

## **OIL & GAS**

*Al Jallaf offers legal and commercial support on all aspects of the oil and gas industry.*

Our experience includes advising major international clients in delivering significant oil and gas projects, mergers and acquisitions, funding, litigation and arbitration. We also advise governments, NOCs, IOCs and other independent companies on complex legal issues associated with upstream, midstream and downstream developments worldwide. We also assist investors and suppliers in protecting their industry interests.



# THE TEAM

*Our select team is small but mighty. With lawyers qualified in five jurisdictions, including England, each lawyer brings a unique quality to our practice.*



## AMNA AL JALLAF | Managing Partner

The *Queen of Aviation* (the Brief), Amna Al Jallaf is recognized internationally as one of the Middle East's leading aviation law experts. Amna began her career as the first and only Emirati and Arabic speaking in-house legal counsel at Emirates. She credits a successful career at the airline on the special insight she gained by working alongside the crew in nearly every department. Today, Amna's practice encompasses all aspects of commercial litigation and aviation law issues.

Complimenting her legal work, Amna has been appointed to a number of prestigious positions. Most recently, in May 2015, Amna was re-elected as a Member of the Board of the Dubai Chamber of Commerce; an office she has served for over ten years. Passionate about children's welfare, Amna also has been appointed to the Board of Directors for the Awqaf & Minors Affairs Foundation.

In the legal field, Amna is one of a select number of notable legal professionals appointed to the Legal Advisory Panel of the Aviation Working Group (**AWG**), a UN endorsed international industry group. The Legal Advisory Panel and the AWG address various topics affecting international aviation financing and leasing. Most recently, in 2016, Amna was invited to join the Consultative Committee of Advocacy & Legal Consultancy Professions Affairs, Government of Dubai Legal Affairs Department.

■ Arbitrator, Dubai International Arbitration Centre (DIAC)

■ LLB, Al Ain University (1988)

■ LLM, Washington College of Law, American University (1995)

■ Bilingual Arabic / English

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## LEGAL CONSULTANTS

### YACOUB QASSAR | Senior Lawyer



With nearly 30 years in legal practice in the UAE and Jordan, Yacoub brings with him a great wealth of experience, including 12 years as the Head of the Legal Department at Invest Bank, Jordan. Yacoub is an expert Arabic lawyer and drafter with experience and legal knowledge across the entire spectrum of Al Jallaf's work. In particular, Yacoub possesses a deep understanding of commercial transactions and banking practices, enabling him to offer practical as well as legally sound advice. His areas of expertise include commercial litigation, loans and other financial agreements, financial structuring, corporate insolvency, project work and regulatory compliance.

■ Member of the Bar  
Association of Jordan

■ BA Law, University  
of Damascus, Syria  
(1980)

■ Bilingual Arabic /  
English

### RAMEZ MIKHAIL | Senior Lawyer



Ramez is a bilingual Egyptian lawyer with over 12 years experience in corporate law, including over 5 years at a leading Egyptian commercial law firm. An experienced Arabic drafter and bilingual contract specialist, Ramez has advised and acted for multinational clients in both Egypt and the UAE in a number of key sectors, including the pharmaceutical, tourism, and oil and gas. Ramez's practice covers both commercial disputes and corporate matters. In particular, Ramez manages cases primarily covering the following areas: antitrust, competition and anti-monopoly law, construction and real estate, labor, and hotel management and maintenance. Ramez has also advised in respect of bankruptcy and insolvency, recovery, and has acted in arbitration proceedings.

■ Licensed Advocate, Egyptian  
Court of Appeal

■ LLB, Ain Shams  
University (2002)

■ BA in English, High  
Institute for  
Language and  
Translation (1999)

■ Bilingual Arabic /  
English

## **IHAB ARJA** | Senior Lawyer / Aviation Expert



Ihab is an expert in the aviation sector. He has been engaged in commercial and regulatory law practice for more than 15 years, with a focus on aviation.

He has an extensive experience in high profile litigation, aircraft financing and leasing, aviation regulation, aircraft accident investigations and policy & business aviation issues.

During his career, he has been actively involved in a full range of legal issues arising in the aviation industry, including drafting aviation legislation, participating in major Privatization and Public-Private Partnership projects, delivering regulatory consultations & proceedings, handling general aviation and commercial issues including sale, purchase and lease of aircraft transactions, aircraft & air navigation services' insurance and reinsurance, and other environment, security & safety issues.

- LL.M. Master of Laws in International Commercial Law, Yarmouk University, 2015.
- International Air Law Diploma, International Air Transport Association (IATA), Montreal-Canada, 2011.
- LL.B. Bachelor of Laws, Yarmouk University, 1999.

## **FATHELRAHMAN BAHAGEEL** | Lawyer



Fathelrahman has practised law for over eight years. He has worked in the UAE for over five years (at Al Jallaf) and has, during this time, gained priceless knowledge of all matters associated with local procedures and regulations adopted by the courts and authorities in the UAE. Fathelrahman is experienced in a wide range of contentious matters, including extensive experience in dispute resolution and criminal proceedings.

- LLB, University of Khartoum (2005)
- LLM, Part 1 Banking & Companies Law (2007)
- Bilingual Arabic / English

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## PARALEGALS

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### AMJAD ADAM | Paralegal



Amjad focuses on all matters associated with local procedures and regulations adopted by the courts and authorities in the UAE. Prior to joining Al Jallaf, Amjad held a number of positions, including four years as a Legal Officer at the Sudanese Ministry of Justice in Khartoum.

■ BA in Law, Nile University (2008)

■ Research Master of Laws, University of Khartoum (2013)

# CONTACT

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