



"Best Law Firm of the Year" – AMERICAN LAWYER 2023

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

King & Spalding

Jan 2025







Introduction

King & Spalding helps leading companies advance complex business interests in more than 160 countries. Working across a highly integrated platform of more than 1,300 lawyers in 24 offices globally, King & Spalding delivers tailored commercial solutions through world-class offerings and an uncompromising approach to quality and service.

U.S.-U.A.E. Partnerships

As one of the most active international law firms in the U.A.E., King & Spalding's Middle East offices, located in Abu Dhabi, Dubai and Riyadh, serve as an important hub for the firm's awardwinning work in serving their long-standing and growing client base across the Middle East and around the world on matters in and involving the region. The firm advises on and is highly recognized for its experience in Islamic finance, corporate finance, debt capital markets, real estate and hospitality, equity capital markets, construction, infrastructure projects, energy, healthcare, international arbitration and dispute resolution and investment funds.

King & Spalding's client base includes some of the most high-profile government entities, oil and gas, energy and power companies, life sciences and healthcare companies, banks and finance houses, and significant private equity firms, sovereign wealth funds, real estate investors and U.A.E. multinationals.

King & Spalding team of internationally gualified and highly ranked lawyers pride themselves on developing long-standing client relationships that are productive, professional and collegial. Since much of King & Spalding's work crosses international borders and time zones, the firm's lawyers possess a truly global perspective and are very familiar with the cultural complexities of structuring and operating international investments and the risks associated with global business. Often in close coordination with King & Spalding lawyers across the firm's platform in Europe, Asia and the U.S., the firm's U.A.E.-based lawyers (many of whom are multilingual) provide sophisticated, bespoke approaches to their clients' issues and work with them to understand the business objectives underlying each transaction. King & Spalding regularly negotiates contracts governed by the laws of the relevant Emirate, as well as advises on DIFC and ADGM matters, and is very familiar with the local requirements, particularly in the construction, private equity, funds and real estate contexts. King & Spalding have handled numerous cross-border investigations involving the Middle East with significant experience before relevant government authorities. They also handle international arbitrations under all the major institutional rules (including regional), litigation in the DIFC and ADGM courts and assist clients in litigation in the local courts (including in U.A.E. and KSA).

King & Spalding has a lengthy and very successful track record of delivering the U.A.E.'s signature projects. The firm has advised nearly all of the U.A.E.'s industrial and infrastructure champions and has advised on the majority of Abu Dhabi's most complex and sensitive megaprojects, including in the cultural and tourism sector. This includes The Louvre Abu Dhabi, The Guggenheim Abu Dhabi, Saadiyat Island, Reem Island, Al Maryah Island (and the Four Seasons, Rosewood and Galleria Mall), New York University Abu Dhabi, Cleveland Clinic Abu Dhabi, SeaWorld Abu Dhabi, Twofour54 Media City and Studios, Zaya Nurai Island, Zayed



King & Spalding has 24 offices around the globe and has handled matters in more than 160 countries, showcasing their cross-border capabilities and platform. The firm is top ranked and globally recognized with awards such as:

Leading Law Firm by The Legal 500 2024 Rankings in Saudi Arabia & the U.A.E.

Commercial, Corporate and M&A; Investment Fund Formation and Management; Capital Markets; Banking and Finance (including Islamic Finance); Projects & Energy; Real Estate and Construction; Dispute Resolution: Arbitration and International Litigation

70 practice recognitions & 124 individual recognitions by Chambers Global 2024

including Corporate/M&A, Projects & Energy; Investment Funds; Islamic Finance in the Middle East; Corporate/Commercial, Capital Markets and Banking & Finance Practice in Saudi Arabia; Corporate/M&A, Construction, Real Estate and International & Cross-Border Capabilities in the U.A.E.; Arbitration (International)

Chambers Global 2024

Corporate Crime & Investigations: USA

Band 1 for the 12th straight year

for Middle East Investment Funds by Chambers Global 2024

ALB Middle East Law Awards 2024

recognition for "Energy and Resources Law Firm of the Year"

Global Investigations Review 30 and Global Investigations Review 100

recognition for "sophisticated cross-border government-led and internal investigations" for Global Investigations Review (2015-2023)

Global Arbitration Review – ranked #1

international arbitration practice in the world (2020, 2022-2024)

12 global and regional jurisdiction recognitions and 47 individual lawyer recognitions

In White Collar Crime by Benchmark Litigation 2025

University, Paris Sorbonne University, Abu Dhabi World Trade Centre, Abu Dhabi National Exhibitions Centre and Abu Dhabi Airport. In Dubai, King & Spalding advised on the Palm Jumeirah and Jebel Ali, the Burj Khalifa and many other iconic developments, and are currently advising on the Dubai Reef offshore tourism project.

Lawyers based in the Middle East advise on precedent setting matters including the most difficult giga- and megaprojects: The Abu Dhabi team is advising on the most difficult gigaprojects and megaprojects around the world, notably including such in Saudi Arabia. The team is working on over \$60 billion of energy megaprojects in the U.A.E., Saudi Arabia, Egypt, the U.S., Canada, Brazil and elsewhere.

Leadership



A: Miami T: +1 305 462 6044 E: <u>bkamar@kslaw.com</u> Barry Kamar draws on his background as a federal prosecutor and investment banker to represent global companies in government investigations and complex commercial litigation. He focuses his practice on representing companies, boards and individuals on a wide range of criminal, regulatory and civil matters, including matters involving the U.S. Department of Justice, the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission and other domestic and international regulatory agencies, as well as on civil matters involving high stakes business disputes.

A skilled trial lawyer, Barry is often called upon for his courtroom advocacy and business-minded approach. He served for over a decade at DOJ and the SEC where he held various senior positions including Chief of the Public Protection Unit at the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of New Jersey and Senior Counsel at the SEC's New York office. In these roles, Barry oversaw significant public investigations and prosecutions involving financial fraud and federal securities law violations, spending much of his time conducting jury trials in federal court.

Prior to his government service, Barry was a litigator at an international law firm in New York, where he successfully defended financial services, pharmaceutical and media clients in multi-million dollar securities, antitrust and FCPA matters, as well as in commercial disputes involving cutting-edge legal issues.

Barry also is a former investment banker at Morgan Stanley & Co. and former economist at PricewaterhouseCoopers, where he advised energy, construction and technology clients on a variety of strategic corporate transactions, including mergers, acquisitions, corporate financing and transfer pricing.

A native Arabic speaker, Barry lived for more than 17 years in the Middle East, including Cairo, Egypt, Muscat, Oman and Abu Dhabi, U.A.E.. Barry also lived for several years in Mexico City, Mexico, and is proficient in Spanish.



Nabil Issa Managing Partner Middle East Offices

A: Dubai T: + 971 4 377 9909 E: <u>nissa@kslaw.com</u> Nabil A. Issa is a partner in the Corporate Group of King & Spalding, working from Riyadh and the U.A.E. offices. Nabil's experience includes work in the areas of funds, joint ventures, foreign investment, private equity, privatizations, venture capital, healthcare, energy, restructurings and real estate industry transactions. He is particularly known for his development of innovative funds and investment structures for real estate and private equity investments in Saudi Arabia.

Nabil is regularly cited by independent legal directories and client-based surveys. Chambers Global 2023 highly ranks Nabil for his corporate and investment funds work (Band 1) in the Middle East and recognizes him as an expert in Saudi corporate (Band 1) and capital market matters. Chambers Global, identifies Nabil as a "renowned M&A and investment funds practitioner who splits his time between Dubai and the firm's associated office in Riyadh".

Clients describe him as an "excellent business lawyer" and commend him for "his knowledge and understanding of the business environment in Dubai and Saudi", mentioning that this "makes him one of the most valuable mentors for business managers in the region".

Moreover, Nabil is listed as a "Leading Individual" for his corporate work in Saudi Arabia by Legal 500 EMEA 2023 and on their "Power List" as a leading M&A lawyer in the Middle East. He was again recognized in 2023 by Asian Legal Business in its MENA Super 50 list for outstanding client service.

Nabil received both his J.D. and a graduate certification in Middle East and Islamic Law from the University of Pennsylvania and his BA from UC San Diego (magna cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa). Following graduation, Nabil was awarded a Fulbright Fellowship to U.A.E. University. Nabil was a founding member and senior editor of the Journal of Constitutional Law at the University of Pennsylvania. Nabil is proficient in Arabic and is fluent in English.



Samaa Haridi Partner

A: New York T: +1 212 556 2248 E: <u>sharidi@kslaw.com</u> Samaa Haridi is a civil and common law-trained, trilingual lawyer with over 20 years of experience representing clients from all over the world in international commercial and investment arbitration, under the rules of all major arbitral institutions.

Samaa has been singled out by clients for being "spectacular", "outstanding," "energetic and determined," a "magnificent lawyer," and "really, really phenomenal" (Chambers USA). Sources also acknowledge her as being a "first-class arbitration lawyer; one of the best in the region" (Who's Who Legal) and a "global leader" whose "reputation is sky rocketing" (Who's Who Legal). She is one of fifteen international arbitration practitioners in North America singled out by Who's Who Legal as a Global Elite Thought Leader – Arbitration.

In addition to her work as counsel, Samaa frequently sits as an arbitrator in international commercial and investment disputes. She is also currently serving as an officer in a number of arbitral organizations, including as Vice President of the ICC International Court of Arbitration, past Senior Co-Chair of the Arbitration Committee of the International Bar Association, and a member of ICCA's Governing Board.

Samaa is a member of the New York, California, and England & Wales bars. She is fluent in French and Arabic, and conversant in Spanish.



James Stull Partner

A: Dubai T: +971 377 9929 E: jstull@kslaw.com James Stull is a partner based in the Dubai office in King & Spalding's Private Funds, Technology and Capital Markets practices. James primarily focuses on advising sponsors of private investments funds and REITs and on various other private and public capital raising transactions.

James regularly represents Middle East and international sponsors to establish conventional and Shari'ah compliant funds to invest in various asset classes, including private equity, venture capital, real estate, energy and infrastructure, listed equities, mezzanine and senior credit, and other alternative assets. He advises clients on securities laws and the corporate and regulatory aspects of structuring, establishing and liquidating various fund structures, with substantial experience in emerging markets. He regularly assists clients seeking to raise money or deploy capital in the U.S., the various Gulf Cooperation Council jurisdictions and the wider Middle East-North Africa region. He also has extensive experience counselling sovereign wealth funds, family offices and institutional investors on their investments in private funds.

James has been recognized as a leading funds lawyer by Chambers Global, which notes that "clients have nothing but praise" for him and that he explains "complex matters with ease". He was also ranked as a leading fintech lawyer by Chambers which highlighted his "expertise in digital asset funds and venture capital". He has also been recognized by The Legal 500 as a "Leading Individual" for U.A.E. Investment Funds and as "Highly Regarded" by IFLR 1000 for

his Middle East funds, corporate and capital market practices. He was named a "Rising Star" by Law 360 in asset management and named in Euromoney's 2021 Rising Stars Expert Guide for Investment Funds in the U.A.E. He was named to MENA Fund Manager's "Power 30" list, which recognizes influential Middle East-based professionals in the fund services sector.

James is a frequent author and speaker on asset management, investment funds and related topics. James is also a member of the Global Private Capital Association's Legal & Regulatory Council.

Website

Learn more about King and Spalding www.kslaw.com



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