

## TRUSTED

Committed to  
unparalleled service  
and client satisfaction

### About Us

Founded in 1998, **Abdulla Al Awadi Advocates & Legal Consultants** is one of the leading law firms based in Dubai. With industry-leading practices on both the litigation and corporate sides and stand-out teams in Financial Services, Arbitration, Commercial Banking, Insurance, Real Estate/Construction and Intellectual Property, **Abdulla Al Awadi Advocates & Legal Consultants** has played a central role in developing not only how law is practiced, but also how lawyers are trained.

With a broad range of local and international qualifications and diverse backgrounds, our lawyers are admitted and licensed to appear before the United Arab Emirates and Dubai International Financial Centre Courts and arbitration tribunals. Coupled with quality training and experience, as well as close government relationships, our drive to succeed and in-depth knowledge of the region, have earned our firm the reputation of delivering consistent results.

*Why do many of the organizations turn to **Abdulla Al Awadi Advocates & Legal Consultants** for legal representation?*

## Why us?

Sage advice and outstanding  
execution

Go-to firm

Devoted  
client service

Smart legal  
solutions

Beyond legal  
services



## Our Approach

### Service

Since 1998, Abdulla Al Awadi, Advocates & Legal Consultants has been providing innovative, valuable legal services to clients across the country. Clients appreciate our distinct collaborative structure, which enables us to approach legal matters differently than other law firms. We assemble the team that is best positioned to efficiently and effectively handle a matter – across practices, if need be – and we focus on our client’s best interest at every stage of the process. The bottom line? You get the right lawyer for your legal needs.

We employ a smart and creative approach to problem-solving, whether negotiating a business deal, crafting an estate plan, mediating a dispute, or preparing for trial.

### Integrity

Our goal is to provide solutions to legal concerns at a fair value without sacrificing quality. We assign work to the members of our legal teams best suited to a particular need, with the greatest capability to achieve the desired outcome for our clients, and to keep costs in check. We hold our lawyers to a high standard of integrity that creates greater transparency and accountability to our clients.

### Results

Our lawyers’ broad range of experience enhances value to individuals, business professionals, and corporate in-house counsel. Our focus is always on personalizing services according to each individual client’s specific needs and situation. We work to earn your trust and confidence, and approach even the smallest detail of every legal matter thoroughly, with the skill and knowledge collected from years of experience.



## **Mission**

Our mission is to provide professional and trusted legal services that assist businesses and non-profit organizations in operating sustainably. We provide expert legal counsel in combination with our own business backgrounds, and deliver valuable services in a timely and cost-effective way. We also live by what we preach—both inside our firm and in our community—by implementing sustainable business practices in every possible way, to help us, and our clients, to become driving forces toward a new economy.

## **Vision**

Our firm's vision is: "to provide advice and legal expertise at the highest level and to be a firm that is widely recognized as standing apart for the quality of our advice and for our strong commitment to our clients."

We recognize that this lofty vision cannot be delivered solely through the excellence of our advice and high standard of service, but is also achieved through our strong commitment to every one of our clients.

## **Core Values**

Our success is rooted in our core values. These values form the foundational principles that define what we stand for as a law firm and as individuals.

### **Integrity**

To be honest, trustworthy, respectful and ethical in our actions. To honor our commitments and to be accountable for our actions, successes and failures.

### **Client Focus**

To fully understand our clients' requirements, challenges, objectives and goals and to maximize the value of our services to our clients including safeguarding the security and confidentiality of their information.

### **Innovation**

The principle that insure our business success. We embrace the use of technology to help us run our business and improve the quality of services we provide our clients. Keeping up with tomorrow is as important as being great today.

### **Excellence**

To relentlessly pursue delivery of outstanding results in everything we do.



Abdulla Al Awadi Advocates & Legal Consultants is here to help you achieve your goals. We combine our legal knowledge with our industry understanding to add strategic value to your business.

Whether you are involved in a cross border dispute or want to expand your business, set up a company or buy a property in U.A.E, we are the committed ally who is determined to protect your interests in U.A.E.

Our attorneys and legal consultants provide a wide range of legal services personalized to the needs of our international and domestic clients

## 1. Arbitration & Mediation



Abdulla Al Awadi Advocates & Legal Consultants operates the largest dispute resolution forum to assist in the resolution of monetary and business disputes between and among investors, firms and individuals.

Mediation is a settlement of a dispute or controversy by setting up an independent person between two contending parties in order to aid them in the settlement of their disagreement. The mediator does not make any decisions, nor force any parties to settle in any way.

Arbitration is an alternative to litigation or mediation in order to resolve a dispute. Arbitration panels are composed of one or three arbitrators who are selected by the parties. They read the pleadings filed by the parties, listen to the arguments, study the documentary and/or testimonial evidence, and render a decision. The panel's decision, called an "award," is final and binding on all the parties. All parties must abide by the award, unless it is successfully challenged in court within the statutory time period. Arbitration is generally confidential, and documents submitted in arbitration are not publicly-available, unlike court-related filings.

### ***Mediation and Arbitration Clauses are Good for All Parties.***

With all the pressures involved in a real estate transaction, the dollar amounts involved, as well as the possible emotional attachments of sellers to their homes, disputes can happen at any time. This isn't in the thoughts of the principals when they're negotiating a transaction, so it's a good thing to have an agreement in the purchase contract to mediate or arbitrate disputes before other action.

Advice is given to employers and employees on all contentious and non-contentious aspects of U.A.E employment law and regulations and our lawyers have wide experience in drafting employment contracts suitable for regulation that apply in the U.A.E and all related matters when it comes to Labor law applications.

Not only the above, we are highly specialized to file an attestation or nullity actions regarding all arbitral awards issued here in U.A.E in needed to be executed in the same.

## **2. Property & Construction**



Either at the time a contract is signed, or when a dispute arises in a real estate transaction, the parties can agree to mediation of disputes. This is a process involving a neutral third party who works with the disputing parties to examine all aspects of the dispute, discuss it and come to some mutual agreement.

We have a dynamic Real Estate Department advising corporate and private clients on all issues relating to the sale and purchase of freehold property and contracting for leasehold property.

Our department has gained wide experience in assisting its clients on the legal issues surrounding property purchases and at the various transfer departments where we are able to offer personal service to our clients. We represent our clients in Rent committees of Municipal Departments with regards to lease disputes between landlord and tenant. The firm is an active partner in all RERA matters.

The Real Estate Regulatory Agency (RERA) was established as a result of a law issued by HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum in 2007 to regulate Dubai's real estate scene. Despite being a young entity and with the help of a qualified national staff, the RERA has managed to register all real estate development and brokerage companies in the emirate.



An arm of the Dubai Land Department, RERA is responsible for regulating the real estate sector, helping in formulating sector's strategies, regulating the activities of companies that manage residential compounds, as well as the activities of real estate brokers and the Owners Associations. The Agency also issues the rules and regulations that qualify activities of brokerage, lease contract registration and certification, as well as issues license for real estate development entities.

In order to do this, RERA has set a legislative framework that regulates the relation between the different contractual parties, guaranteeing their rights and establishing their duties and commitments through legislations in force. Precise mechanisms and regulations were put in place to regulate investment activities in the sector in the way that achieves highest returns. RERA made sure its staff are adequately qualified and trained to provide efficient and expert services, and is keen on monitoring all development projects on a financial and technical level in order to protect the wider interests of the market and investors alike.

### **3. Maritime & Aviation**



Abdulla Al Awadi Advocates & Legal Consultants, as one of specialized firms in maritime law, provide the full range of legal services related to all Marine cases such as marine torts, injuries, accidents, marine labor disputes and insurance, and all aspects of Maritime disputes.

Alongside the forgoing, we have dealt various kinds of shipping disputes, we also known as providers of legal services to ship owners, charterers and underwriters with an emphasis on litigation and arbitration issues related to the same such as personal injury and cargo claims, charter party disputes, ship mortgage enforcement.

We also provide the legal advice on carriage of goods by sea and marine insurance, and represent our clients for the same before Dubai & Federal Courts and arbitral tribunals.

Although the UAE is well known for its rich maritime trading and its ports are considered the busiest in the region, it was only in 1981 that Federal Maritime law No. 26 was first enacted.

This comprehensive law of 420 articles is mainly based on international conventions and yet at the same time has been influenced by the maritime legislation of many European and Neighboring Countries such as Kuwait, Qatar and Oman.

The UAE Maritime law consists of an introductory chapter (articles 1-10) as well as six other chapters that deal with:

1. The Ship (articles 11-83)
2. The Arrest of Ships, Liens and Mortgages (article 84-134)
3. Persons of the Ship (articles 135-215)
4. Development of the Ship (articles 216-317)
5. The Maritime Contingencies (article 318-365)
6. The Maritime Insurance (articles 366-420)

In 2004, the Federal National Council approved a new maritime law which is required to enforce the International Ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS) Code.

This new law is expected to enhance ship and port security as its penal section covers all maritime activities.



Furthermore, our firm has successfully concentrated its practice in the area of aviation law. The firm has garnered an international reputation for its attorneys' courtroom skills, aviation industry savvy and technical aircraft knowledge.



Aviation law is the branch of law that concerns flight, air travel, and associated legal and business concerns. Some of its area of concern overlaps that of admiralty law and, in many cases, aviation law is considered a matter of international law due to the nature of air travel. However, the business aspects of airlines and their regulation also fall under aviation law.

Our range of services includes:

- Aircraft purchase contracts
- Aircraft financing transactions
- Syndicated loan agreements in relation to cross border aircraft financing and related security documentation
- Fleet-wide maintenance contracts
- Buyer furnished equipment (BFE) purchase contracts, and
- Restructuring of airline companies

The United Arab Emirates, represented by GCAA, is an active member of the Council of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and its specialized committees. It is also a member of the Arab Civil Aviation Commission (ACAC) Executive Council, and currently H.E Saif Mohammed Al Suwaidi, Director General of GCAA is heading the ACAC Executive Council.

The General Civil Aviation Authority (GCAA) was established in 1996 by Federal Cabinet Decree (Law 4) to regulate Civil Aviation and provide designated aviation services with emphasis on safety and security and to strengthen the aviation industry within the UAE and its upper airspace. The main office is located in Abu Dhabi and the regional office is located in Dubai to serve the northern Emirates.

The GCAA, which is the sole authority for the control and regulation of civil aviation in the UAE, is responsible for the provision of en-route air navigation services and all aspects of flight safety. In late 2009, the GCAA opened its new Air Navigation Centre, The Sheikh Zayed Centre, which is considered the largest and busiest air traffic management facility in the Middle East as well as one of the world's most technically advanced centres in terms of its design.

#### 4. Litigation & Disputes



Being a UAE law firm, Litigation is for sure one of our most special areas of legal practice. We have the technical capability and the necessary expertise to advise our client and act for them in all types of litigation in the region including Commercial, Employment, Banking, Real Estate, Maritime, Aviation, Insurance, Construction, IP, and Criminal Cases.

We are eligible to appear before all Courts of different jurisdictions and stages in UAE, whether of First Instance, Appellate, Cassation, Federal Supreme Courts. Further, we have an in-depth knowledge of all local laws of all jurisdictions and are able to practice other GCC laws in different GCC Courts.

We have litigated in countless court cases on behalf of range of our clients including leading developers, blue chip companies, airlines, international banks, multinational and worldwide companies, and many more.

## 5. Corporate & Commercial



Abdulla Al Awadi Advocates & Legal Consultants advises its clients in a wide variety of sectors, including setting up businesses around the U.A.E including GCC and drafting all the necessary agreements.

We are regarded as having a deep understanding of our region's business and legal environment. Our international and regional clients gain the benefit of our long-standing presence in the UAE, which corresponds to a wealth of knowledge and contacts in relation to the structuring and conduct of business.

A large part of our corporate offering consists of the provision of legal advice in relation to the formation of companies, establishment of branch and representative offices, and related agency and sponsorship arrangements, both inside and outside the U.A.E's free zones and special economic areas. The firm has acted in the establishment of the majority of premier public and private joint stock companies in the U.A.E.

Our range of services includes:

- Mergers, acquisitions and disposals
- Corporate structuring and re-structuring
- Shareholder and joint venture agreements
- U.A.E Corporate laws and regulations
- Initial public offerings and securities under writings
- Advising on contentious shareholders disputes and termination of shareholders agreements
- Advising on local statute laws including DIFC, U.A.E Commercial Companies Law, shareholder governance and dispute resolution

## 6. Banking & Finance



Abdulla Al Awadi Advocates & Legal Consultants has a dynamic team of banking and financial services experts. The Firm has established itself as one of the leading players in the country in the Banking and Finance practice area.

Our expertise in Banking and Finance covers:

- Acquisition and leverage finance
- Structured Finance
- Global loans
- Restructuring
- External commercial borrowings
- Cross-border financing transactions
- Islamic Finance
- Banking litigation, enforcement and arbitration
- Incorporation and licensing of financial institutions
- Ship, aircraft and asset financing
- Project finance

## 7. Employment Law



Advice is given to employers and employees on all contentious and non-contentious aspects of U.A.E employment law and regulations and our lawyers have wide experience in drafting employment contracts suitable for regulation that apply in the U.A.E and all related matters when it comes to Labor law applications.

Our expertise spans all aspects of employment law in the public and private sectors including:

- Policies, procedures and contractual documentation
- Business Re-organizations
- Corporate Support
- Employee Relations Issues
- Litigation Assistance

## 8. Insurance & Reinsurance



Insurance & Reinsurance is one of our key practice areas. Abdulla Al Awadi Advocates & Legal Consultants insurance lawyers provide extensive and in-depth insurance coverage analysis and counsel to companies and individual throughout the U.A.E.

The main areas where we assist our clients are:

- Maritime Insurance
- Credit Insurance
- Construction & Engineering
- Personal Injury
- Fire losses
- Coverage Advice & Defense
- Subrogated Recoveries
- Medical Insurance
- Accident & Liability Insurance



## Private Notary



Abdulla Al Awadi Advocate And Legal Consultants is authorized and licensed by the Government of Dubai to provide Private Notary Services. These services were previously only available through government Notary Public branches, but are now also available from a select number of U.A.E based Law Firms.

Advocate Abdulla Al Awadi, Chairman and Founder at Abdulla Al Awadi Advocates & Legal Consultants will be the Firm's Private Notary and will be assisted by a team of bilingual senior and junior lawyers to carry out the notary services for its esteemed Clients.

Abdulla Al Awadi Advocates & Legal Consultants can now notarise the following categories of documents:

- Contracts
- Declarations
- Power of Attorney
- Notifications
- Minutes of Meeting
- Minutes of Liquidating a company

**Premium Service:** *On special request, we can also visit our client's premises to carry out Notary Services at premium price.*

*For notary services, please contact us at [notary@abdullaalawadi.com](mailto:notary@abdullaalawadi.com)*

## Contact Us



*Gulf Towers Building, Block A2 1st Floor  
Bur Dubai - Oud Metha Road,  
PO Box: 26665  
Dubai, U.A.E*

**Tel: + 971 4 335 2200**

**Fax: + 971 4 334 2200**

**E: [info@abdullaalawadi.com](mailto:info@abdullaalawadi.com)**

**W: [www.abdullaalawadi.com](http://www.abdullaalawadi.com)**