FORENSIC ACCOUNTING & LITIGATION SUPPORT

- Retained by the international guarantor of $300 million of debt associated with a troubled hotel-condominium project. Our team performed a comprehensive forensic accounting review of all aspects of the operation including the uses and amounts of funding for the project.

- Forensic Accountant and Litigation Support Expert to an international real estate services firm regarding a dispute with a Caribbean-based financial institution over various valuation services provided in association with the development of a Turks and Caicos resort.

- Forensic Accountant and Financial Advisor to the Joint Liquidators of an $800 million Cayman Island hedge fund in liquidation.

- Conducted an investigation on behalf of an international mobile communications company with $30 billion in revenue. We investigated disbursements in its Latin American divisions to determine if unauthorized payments were being made to or for the benefit of government officials.

- Retained by a Caribbean Attorney General to investigate the bidding for and construction of a $100 million national cricket arena and training complex being developed by a discredited independent government agency.

- Retained by United States immigration counsel representing two Peruvian nationals to investigate and prepare a report regarding the financial activity of their Peru-based fish company. The report with the results of our investigation were included in a comprehensive information package to the United States Citizenship and Immigration Office in an effort for the Peruvian nationals to obtain U.S. visas.

- Traced $230 million associated with alleged Caribbean real estate developments of U.S. bankrupt individuals and entities through four jurisdictions and multiple financial institutions, which were designed to re-characterize funds before routing back to the original disbursing entity.

- Retained as Forensic Accountant to a Latin American Fortune 50 company to investigate a series of questionable acquisitions and other transactions executed by former management. Our assignment included an analysis of potential offshore secret commissions and the fairness from a valuation perspective of the transaction in question.

- Retained by counsel to investigate allegations of fraud and theft in connection with a multi-use real estate development in Shanghai, China. Our role included investigating financial statement fraud, kickback schemes and construction fraud.
Retained as Financial Advisor and Forensic Accountant to The Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago, the primary financial regulator of the country. We were engaged to investigate the current and historic financial affairs and operations of the largest privately-owned conglomerate in the Caribbean with assets exceeding US$15 billion.

Retained by counsel for $21.8 billion revenue global consumer products company to investigate alleged accounting irregularities by management to enhance bonuses at the $1.5 billion revenue Canadian subsidiary.

Retained by the litigation receiver in bankruptcy to calculate the largest damages ever sought for auditor professional negligence in Canada regarding nine years of audited financial statements of a prominent publicly-traded live entertainment enterprise prior to its bankruptcy filings, which were opined on by a Big 4 international audit firm.

Retained by the Ministry of Finance of a Caribbean country to investigate the events surrounding the financial collapse of a number of banks. Our role included investigating related party transactions where short term customer deposits were used to make long term real estate investments; funds tracing improper payments made to officers and directors of the banks, and assisting the government in recovering assets to benefit deposit liabilities.

Financial Advisor to a Caribbean country directly and through a government-owned corporation in two separate public corruption investigations regarding mismanaged construction of an airport terminal building and mismanagement and pre-election excessive spending by a supposedly non-partisan economic development corporation. Our analysis and results were relied on by senior government officials.

Appointed Receiver in Anguilla over a group of disputed hedge funds. As Receiver, conducted an investigation and asset tracing activities in a multi-jurisdictional environment to ultimately recover $50 million on behalf of the fund beneficiaries. This matter involved the tracing of assets and transactions through various Caribbean and European countries and ultimately into the U.S.

Retained by counsel representing a $17 billion global company to assist in an internal investigation relating to its European division’s compliance with U.S. regulatory acts. Our role included investigating whistleblower allegations of fraud and non-compliance in various divisions operating in the U.K, the Netherlands and the Middle East.

Retained as the financial and investigative advisor to a bankruptcy examiner in connection with a dispute over ownership of companies. The companies held a valuable real estate development, popular restaurant, and an investment in viatical insurance policies through a web of complex trusts set up for the benefit of a deceased Russian billionaire. Our team analyzed financials and other documentation [including “questioned” documents], much of which was contained in court documents filed in Belarus, Gibraltar and the United States, to assist the examiner in determining true ownership.

Conducted an investigation for a multi-national publishing company regarding labor unrest in the Peoples Republic of China. Our investigation determined that employees were planning an uprising over pay rate issues, which had not been disclosed to senior management because of improper payments by mid-level management to union officials.

Conducted investigations for an international conglomerate concerning allegations of conflicts of interest by members of senior management. During the international assignment, kickback payments funneled through offshore South American companies were substantiated. The domestic assignment revealed inadequate procurement internal controls. The domestic investigation exonerated those accused of improprieties.
• Led a team comprised of U.S. and international forensics professionals in the conduct of Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA)-related due diligence of a Mexico based software company who was the acquisition target of a $2 billion U.S. company. Interviews of the target company’s personnel and analysis of financial information identified questionable transactions that were considered too high-risk by company counsel to move forward in the transaction.

• Retained as forensic accountant and financial advisor to a Caribbean country directly and through a government-owned corporation in two separate, public corruption investigations. The assignments looked at mismanaged construction of an airport terminal building, and mismanagement and pre-election excessive spending by a supposedly nonpartisan government-owned economic development corporation. Our team’s analysis and results were relied upon by senior government officials.

• Conducted a Fraud Risk Assessment for the U.S. operations of a billion dollar manufacturing company. The team reviewed current, anti-fraud policies and procedures, internal audit processes and conducted 30 interviews. Then, we issued a report with recommendations on potential fraud risk in accounts payable, accounts receivable and potential FCPA and UK Bribery violations in high-risk countries.

• Developed an FCPA policy for an engineering consulting company, which also included procedures, code of conduct and anti-corruption training sessions for high-risk employees. We also provided FCPA due diligence services on third parties in Ghana and Mexico.

• Consulted with a worldwide pharmaceutical company’s international internal audit group regarding the development of a procedure to detect fraud and illegal acts in high-risk areas. We provided regular consultations in identifying high-risk audit areas worldwide. We also developed audit procedures and tests to proactively address those risks along with onsite audit assistance.

• Led a multi-year FCPA investigation for International Trade attorneys on behalf of a US manufacturer investigating jointly FCPA and ITAR violations in Europe and North Africa. We provided findings of potential third party FCPA/ITAR violations, assisted the client to self-disclose potential violations, created FCPA compliance program for the client including an anti-corruption manual and policy/procedures documentation. In addition, we also provided FCPA training to dealers and third-party intermediaries located in five continents.
• Led a team comprised of U.S. and international forensics professionals in the conduct of Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA)-related due diligence of several non-U.S. oil field services companies who were the acquisition targets of a $10 billion U.S. company. Interviews of the target companies’ personnel and analysis of financial information identified issues that were considered by company counsel when assessing the risk of consummating the transaction.

• Conducted an investigation for outside counsel to an international oil and gas services client on the timing of the company’s recognition of a material worker’s compensation liability. During the due diligence period prior to an acquisition, the company was involved in litigation regarding a self-insured workman’s compensation claim. At various points in time before the acquisition and before the company’s fiscal yearend, an employee was aware of the future liability, but did not notify management in a timely manner. The investigation included interviews with the CEO, former CFO, interim CFO, Controller and VP of Risk Management, along with extensive electronic media acquisition and forensic analysis of custodian computers and company email data. A chronology of key documents and events was subsequently created by the investigative team and formed the basis of a timeline exhibit used by outside counsel in its report to the company’s general counsel, concluding that the material liability had not been properly reported.

• Consulted with an international off-shore oil and gas drilling contractor regarding the design and implementation of their worldwide anti-corruption program. We analyzed the company’s existing anti-corruption policies, processes and procedures, and identified opportunities to enhance anti-corruption controls. The team drafted updates to existing policies and procedures [e.g., sections of the company’s Code of Conduct and gifts, meals & entertainment approval forms] and developed new policies and procedures [e.g., anti-corruption compliance procedure and third-party due diligence procedures]. Also, the team created training courses related to the Code of Conduct and the Anti-Corruption Compliance Procedures to deliver to employees globally.

• Consulted with a worldwide healthcare products provider’s international internal audit group regarding the development of a procedure focused on detecting high-risk fraud and illegal acts. As part of the process, country and industry specific fraud and illegal act risk assessments were compiled utilizing international resources.