



Neil Swift

Partner

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Described as “top tier” by Legal 500, Neil advises and represents clients concerned with investigations by law enforcement and regulatory authorities. He is a regular speaker on corruption, fraud and corporate criminal liability.

Partner in the Business Crime department. He has extensive and broad experience in business crime, advising individual and corporate clients in relation to investigations and prosecutions by all major UK agencies, in particular the Serious Fraud Office, the Financial Conduct Authority and HM Revenue & Customs. He also advises individuals who are subject to internal investigation by their employer. He frequently advises professionals and professional firms in relation to their regulatory obligations, both from a risk management perspective and in response to requests from law enforcement and regulators. He also advises clients who are the subject of law enforcement enquiries overseas, and who are or may be the subject of Interpol notices or extradition proceedings.

Neil regularly represents clients in high -profile corruption cases, acting for both company directors and companies in relation to enquiries being conducted by the SFO, often in conjunction with overseas law enforcement, particularly the US Department of Justice. Much of Neil’s work involves him advising as part of multi-jurisdictional and multi-disciplinary teams of professionals.

Neil was a contributing author to Blackstone’s guide to the Bribery Act 2010. In 2018 he was invited to give evidence to the House of Lords Select Committee on the Bribery Act. He is a frequent speaker, writer and commentator on fraud, corruption and money laundering.

Location

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Neil is regularly ranked in leading legal directories. *In Who's Who Legal 2018 Neil is described as "a great, down-to-earth lawyer" by sources, who commend "his first-rate work on major investigations by UK agencies".* In *Chambers and Partners 2019*, Neil is ranked in Crime: Extradition, Financial Crime: Individuals, POCA Work & Asset Forfeiture and Tax: Contentious, with referees describing him as "a very good criminal lawyer", commenting on his "sensible, thoughtful and calming approach", and noting that he is an "effective operator" who is "very calm and very experienced". Sources declare that "he has extensive experience of Bribery Act work and is a good strategic thinker."

In Legal 500 (2019) Neil is described as "unassuming, calm and sympathetic", "understands the issues at stake and provides commercial and strategic advice" (Financial Services Contentious), and provides "sound, logical and well-considered advice" (Fraud: White-Collar Crime). He is recommended for his work in Crime: General, and VAT and Indirect Tax.

Expertise

- > Unexplained Wealth Orders

- > Business Crime

- > Corruption & Bribery

- > Criminal Fraud

- > Criminal Restraint & Confiscation

- > Employee Fraud

- > FCA Investigations & Enforcement

- > Money Laundering

- > Tax Investigations & Prosecutions

- > Competition & Cartels

- > Extradition

- > General Crime

- > Mutual Legal Assistance

- > INTERPOL Red Notices

- > Regulatory & Disciplinary Investigations

- > Internal Investigations

- > Sports Disputes & Investigations

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Leading Cases

- > Representation of an international investment bank
- > Acquittal secured in SFO overseas bribery case
- > Restraint order discharged after firm's representations
- > Senior investment banker
- > Representation of conglomerate in relation to international corruption investigation
- > Senior African Bank executive in internal investigation
- > Representation of firm of accountants in relation to a police investigation into a former client for money laundering and terrorist financing
- > Success for client in leading European case on MTIC fraud
- > Representation of former consultant to the World Bank on corruption allegations
- > Successful discharge from extradition for a UK citizen wanted by the Government of India
- > Firm works with overseas counsel to avoid extradition by successfully challenging domestic Italian arrest warrant
- > Firm acts for senior bank employee in relation to criminal and regulatory investigations conducted in the UK and Europe
- > Representing Danish National in a long running mutual legal assistance request
- > David Turner, A former senior executive of chemicals company Innospec
- > SFO investigation into GPT Special Projects Limited
- > Criminal proceedings avoided for former directors of a private group of companies subject to an HMRC tax investigation
- > Unique plea agreement negotiated for senior executives involved in marine hose cartel

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