

The marketplace for business has a global footprint, characterised by international suppliers and customers that service multiple sectors in multiple jurisdictions.

When key commercial or regulatory relationships break down, or if disruption arises through fraud or other criminal activity, businesses face uncertainty.

Uncertainty in these cases is usually directly linked to the costs and outcomes of the matter at hand, but it can also extend to other areas, such as the adequacy of accounting controls or the actions of key staff and stakeholders.

Our aim is introduce certainty, during uncertain times.

What we do

DWF Forensic is a team of qualified forensic accountants and investigators, with 'Big Four' accounting expertise and decades of relevant experience. Over the years we have assisted clients with the quantification or challenge of losses arising from business interruption; breach of contract; defamation; fire and water damage; breach of copyright and losses arising from personal injury.

We are experienced investigators and have secured positive outcomes in respect of many UK Fraud and Bribery Act related issues. We work closely with our legal teams and the police to secure civil recoveries and/or criminal convictions as appropriate, across the globe.

Our experience includes:

1. Quantum

We assess and advise upon quantum in commercial disputes, the regulatory environment and in insurance related claims. We help our clients to focus upon the likely costs and outcomes of any legal strategies from the outset. This facilitates appropriate decision making and helps our clients to reach satisfactory settlements at the earliest opportunity.

Key areas of our work include:

- Early identification and preservation of quantum evidence
- Acting as a quantum consultant, working closely with our clients' back office teams to compile claims, thereby reducing future independent expert costs
- Preparing calculations in support of losses arising from breach of contract, breach of warranties or contract termination
- Quantification of losses in connection with shareholder disputes

- Analysing claims and challenging third party opinions by acting as a shadow expert
- Preparation of independent expert reports
- Assisting our insurance clients with the examination of claims arising from personal injury or fatality; business interruption or professional indemnity.

2. Investigations

In the event that a business suffers loss through suspected fraud, bribery or other financial irregularity, response time is critical. We react quickly to:

- Prepare detailed investigation plans and reports
- Identify, secure and search key evidence contained on computer hard drives and server emails
- Identify key suspects and witnesses
- Conduct investigative interviews
- Assist DWF's anti-fraud lawyers with civil recovery proceedings
- Communicate findings to client senior management and the Board
- Provide post-incident advice on any relevant control failures

3. Intelligence

Appropriate due diligence and ongoing monitoring should be a prerequisite to all new stakeholder relationships as well as a key component of investigations and quantum work. Our dedicated intelligence team support this process through their understanding of and access to a range of public records databases, specialist industry databases and social media.

In addition, we have developed our own intelligence database, D:cypher, which contains in excess of 25 million records based upon DWF's extensive insurance claims expertise. Our data provides unique, actionable intelligence.

Why DWF Forensic?

– Doing things differently, compared to traditional law firms, is a fundamental cornerstone of our approach. Our forensic accounting expertise supports clients, from an early stage, with the quantum aspects of claims, disputes and investigations.

- Ours is a truly multi-disciplinary, privilege-protected service that makes the real difference and sets us apart from other firms.
- DWF Forensic charge time on an hourly basis, providing 'Big Four' accounting firm expertise, without charging 'Big Four' rates. Our hourly rates mirror our lawyers' charges, consequently our skills and experience are often available at a substantial discount to those available via the open market.

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Beyond borders, sectors and expectations

DWF is a global legal business, connecting expert services with innovative thinkers across diverse sectors. Like us, our clients recognise that the world is changing fast and the old rules no longer apply. That's why we're always finding agile ways to tackle new challenges together. But we don't simply claim to be different. We prove it through every detail of our work, across every level. We go beyond conventions and expectations.

Join us on the journey.

