

# mourant

Offshore Private Equity

# Market Leading Offshore Private Equity Advice & Services

Our market-leading private equity group operates across the world's premier offshore centres. Our team provides efficient and commercially driven legal advice and services, based on our deep understanding of the sector and broad industry expertise. Our offshore private equity capability spans the entire life cycle of this dynamic asset class, from fund formation, through investment, to exits and beyond.

We add value in this market by structuring our business to enable us to bring the firm's collective insights to every client, wherever in the world they operate. We are proud to have built trusted relationships with private equity clients, investors and their advisers across our international network. Our clients include institutional investors, global banks, pension and superannuation funds, sovereign funds, asset managers as well as family offices and private investors.



# Cohesiveness & Experience

Our PE team is substantial and consists of over 40 talented individuals dedicated to private equity, many drawn from the most prominent onshore law firms. Our group is distinguished by its ability to handle complex, cross border matters, while being both responsive to our clients' needs and able to adapt swiftly as their requirements change. We reinforce this with a rigorous knowledge sharing strategy and a market-leading lawyer development programme.



# **Genuine Partnering**

Advising on the laws of the BVI, Cayman Islands, Guernsey and Jersey, we match the most appropriate jurisdiction to a client's particular situation. This flexibility and reach, ensures that as one firm we collectively deliver the most relevant service and advice, all through our Partner-led teams. Our unique single partnership equity pool means there is no internal agenda - our sole focus is on the delivery of the very best service and advice for our clients.

# Offshore Private Equity



# **Leading Team**

The expertise within our group extends across our international network of offices, with significant bench strength throughout our global team. Our lawyers are plugged in to changes and developments in the private equity industry. We have representation on key industry bodies and are directly involved in regulatory reform in our jurisdictions. This means that our lawyers can employ the most innovative structures in the market with an understanding based on wide-ranging experience in the sector and in key international financial centres.



# Our Private Equity Services

With a market based approach to private equity, we ensure a complete range of services is provided in each of our key geographic centres of focus, so wherever a client or intermediary is based or happens to be involved in a deal, we have a dedicated team of specialists in place.

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# **Fund Formation**

Our lawyers specialise in the offshore aspects of fund structuring. And with the world's leading private equity sponsors among our clients, our expertise throughout the capital raising process is highly sought after, with regard to all types of private equity fund. These include buyout funds, debt and credit opportunity funds, real estate funds, infrastructure funds, as well as funds of funds, microfinance funds and secondary vehicles. In addition, we regularly work alongside lead onshore counsel to advise in relation to structuring and establishing co-investment arrangements, investment management and advisory vehicles, as well as incentive schemes including carried interest.



# Offshore Fund Advisory Services

Our legal advice extends through all the ongoing operations of private equity funds and we frequently provide specialist offshore counsel on all matters throughout the life cycle of the fund. These include issues relating to investor advisory committee consultations and meetings, as they take a more prominent role in the industry, as well as fund raising involving co-investment vehicles or side-car funds. We advise on all areas of corporate governance in relation to the GP or investment manager, as well as transfers of limited partnership interests and the migration of GPs. Our offshore structuring expertise also extends to the implementation of portfolio acquisitions and disposals, alongside the required debt structuring and financing needs in respect of the fund or its portfolio companies.

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# Fund Raising

Working alongside lead counsel onshore, our investment funds lawyers have the expertise to guide offshore fund sponsors through the pivotal fund raising, to ensure optimal structuring for any given scenario, such as managed funds or carried interest structures. Additionally, the professionals from our International Trusts and Private Client Group are on hand to ensure the structure achieves the required wealth management and estate planning objectives. Significant consideration is also given to factors connected with AIMFD and the various depositary regimes in place in connection with the EU's directive, while our corporate administration specialists provide the convenience of a one stop shop for compliance of entities with all legal and regulatory requirements.



# **Investor Advisory Services**

We act for a wide range of limited partners including funds of funds, pension funds, asset managers and sovereign wealth funds in relation to their offshore private equity investments. Our expertise in this area includes negotiating on behalf of investors in respect of fund terms and other issues related to the fund investment process as well as the sale and purchase of secondaries and related financing arrangements.



### Governance Services

We work seamlessly with our governance services team to assist with the formation and administration of private equity deal companies, holding companies and employee benefits trusts, and work with our listing sponsor/agent team to facilitate debt listings on the Channel Islands Securities Exchange and the Cayman Stock Exchange. We are the only major offshore law firm able to offer all of these services to the Cayman Islands, Guernsey and Jersey.



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# Private Equity Financing

We have a market leading practice advising issuers of structured equity products, both on a privately placed and publicly offered basis. Specialist lawyers provide bespoke advice on all finance related aspects of portfolio company acquisitions, refinancing connected with acquisitions, as well as revolving bridge facilities and subscription credit facilities.

# The Private Equity Life Cycle - specialist advice at every stage

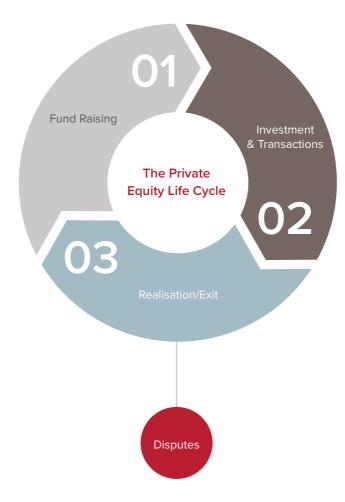
Our holistic approach to the private equity sector is based on our ability to support our clients offshore at every stage of the private equity life cycle, from a fund's genesis in the formation and structuring process, through the investment phase and up to the realisation of profits and exit. Our expertise also extends to covering any shareholder dispute or insolvency matters that may occur. We have professionals located across our international offshore network, with wide experience in private equity and the related corporate disciplines, dedicated to ensuring clients receive the right level of support through each of these key, interconnected phases. Within each office, core, designated individuals across practice areas, head up the process at each stage of the private equity life cycle.



# Investment & Transactions

The investment and deals phase of the private equity life cycle highlights in particular the strength and depth of our Corporate and Finance teams, who are routinely instructed by some of the industry's most active buyout, real estate and infrastructure funds. Our M&A experts act for both buyers and sellers in complex, cross-border transactions involving offshore entities, which leaves us well placed to extract maximum value and the most advantageous terms from the deal for our client.

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### Realisation/Exit

Disposals are a pivotal element of this practice as funds continue to review portfolios amid turbulent economic conditions. Our regulatory activities in relation to private equity and debt funds have been in increasing demand at the transactional stage in recent years, in particular for offshore funds undertaking multiple crossborder deals, as the new global regulatory landscape continues to evolve. Where profits are to be realised and various exit routes considered, we have the experts in place to make the right deals happen at the right time to get the best result for our clients. From IPOs to trade sales, all issues related to domiciliation and the impact on wealth are considered through our Trusts and Estates experts.



# Disputes

Should the need arise, we offer some of the market leading litigators in our jurisdictions. Additionally, specialist insolvency and corporate recovery teams are dedicated to pursuing clients' objectives in any real estate related distressed scenario or any dispute that may arise amongst investors.

### **Contacts**

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