

Business Criminal Law

Dedicated to handling high-profile matters



Laga's business criminal law team consists of highly trained and dedicated professionals with years of experience who have handled a wide variety of criminal law cases. Not only do we assist victims of crime to recover their losses and defend those who are subject to criminal prosecution, but we also advise clients on criminal law compliance and help them establish efficient risk management procedures and mechanisms. To these ends, we closely collaborate with qualified forensic auditors. We work for private and corporate clients such as financial institutions, investment entities, real estate developers, industry associations and companies in the distribution, chemical and building sector, as well as for public institutions and (international) non-governmental organizations.

Our areas of expertise

Reputed for their expertise in tax-related fraud, economic crimes and money-laundering offences, Laga's team is specialized in all aspects of criminal law and criminal procedure, including:

- Criminal law and criminal procedure in general
- Corporate criminal law
- Financial criminal law
- Economic criminal law
- Tax criminal law
- Social criminal law
- Environmental criminal law
- International and European criminal law
- Administrative sanctions

Our team can provide all forms of assistance: from advice on general or specific topics and assistance with prevention and compliance, to litigation in criminal courts

Our team

Several of our team members are recommended by Legal 500.

Head of the team Jürgen Egger has published articles on criminal law, lectured on tort law, and speaks regularly at seminars. He has been an Expert member of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) and the Commission on Anti-Corruption in Paris for many years.

Partner Johan Speecke is a specialist in tax litigation, including tax fraud and tax criminal law. He lectures at the Fiscale Hogeschool Brussels, has published several articles on this matter and is member of the editorial staff of the "Tijdschrift for Fiscaal Recht".

Tax law partner Annick Visschers focuses on tax risk management, criminal law in tax matters, tax litigation and tax recovery. She also acts as a lawyer in tax proceedings before the Court of Cassation, the Constitutional Court and the European Court of Justice. She is a member of the editorial staff of *Révue Générale du Contentieux Fiscal* and a member of the chief editorship (doctrine) of *Tijdschrift voor Fiscaal Recht*.

Team member Willem Henckens studied criminal law in Belgium and London (UCL), and has wide experience in dealing with criminal matters, ranging from general fraud investigations to insider dealing and money laundering. Willem has published several articles in leading reviews on criminal law.

Steven Dewulf obtained his PhD in international criminal law at the University of Antwerp in 2011. He has published extensively on various topics of criminal law, and is currently also professor of criminal law and international criminal law at the University of Antwerp. He was awarded the internationally renowned Ciardi Prize 2012 and Prix Henri Rollin 2013 for his PhD, and additionally received an Honorable Mention from the Jury for the Max van der Stoep Human Rights Award in 2011. Steven had previously already won the Albert Fettweis Prize in 2005.

At the request of its clients, the business criminal law team often works closely together with the forensic section of Deloitte in Belgium.

“For many years, Laga has handled high profile lawsuits in the field of fraud and white collar crime”

Credentials

A selection of services rendered

Laga's business criminal law team advised and represented:

A leading Belgian bank

on implementing internal whistle blower procedures.

A major transportation company

on the screening of VAT fraud and money laundering by clients and preventing involvement in criminal prosecution.

The shareholders of a company in the building sector

on preventing criminal infringements in a share purchase agreement relating to formerly seized shares.

A private estate bank

on internal compliance procedures regarding preventing and detecting money laundering.

The former CFO of a Belgian bank

In administrative and criminal proceedings regarding market abuse.

A tax consultancy firm

in criminal proceedings regarding money laundering, forgery in documents and tax fraud (cash company).

A leading Belgian Notary-office

in criminal proceedings regarding forgery in documents and tax fraud.

The former CEO of an international construction company

in criminal proceedings regarding forgery of documents and corruption.

An investment company owned by the Belgian government

on the protection of the IT-environment and company secrets, and in criminal proceedings regarding internal hacking.

A leading company in the building sector

on its customer loyalty program and in criminal proceedings regarding corruption.

An insurance agent and banker

in criminal proceedings regarding money laundering and shadow banking.

A diamond industry association

on establishing compliance procedures regarding the prevention and detection of money laundering.

A private individual

In administrative proceedings before the FSMA regarding insider trading

The former managing director of a Belgian bank

In a fraud investigation and prosecution for forgery of documents and embezzlement of company funds



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For further information, visit our website at www.laga.be

A top legal practice in Belgium, Laga is a full service business law firm, highly recommended by the most authoritative legal guides. Laga comprises approximately 100 qualified lawyers, based in Brussels, Antwerp and Kortrijk. Laga offers expert advice in the fields of banking & finance, commercial, corporate/M&A, employment, IT/IP, public/administrative, insolvency and reorganisations, real estate, tax law and litigation. Where appropriate to ensure a seamless and comprehensive high-quality service, Laga lawyers work closely with financial, assurance and advisory, tax and consulting specialists, and with select EU and US law firms.

Laga provides thorough and practical solutions tailored to the needs of clients ranging from multinational companies, national large and medium-sized enterprises, and financial institutions, to government bodies.