White Collar Criminal Defence and Corporate Investigations

Criminal investigations, enforcement and regulatory proceedings are defining moments for individuals and organizations alike. That's why you need the standout criminal trial and appellate experience of BLG's white collar criminal defence and corporate investigations team.

Experience

- Successfully defended a U.K.-based national in a landmark prosecution (*R. v Barra*) that clarified the mens rea for bribery under Canada's *Corruption of Foreign Public Officials Act*. This six-year-long precedent-setting case, successfully defended on appeal, resulted in five reported CanLII decisions and was one of the first cases to test the Jordan threshold for delay in a white collar prosecution.
- Counsel to an investment management company that had discovered that millions of dollars it invested on behalf of one of its clients could be considered proceeds of crime under the Criminal Code. This multijurisdictional case is likely the first instance of a financial services company applying to the Ontario Superior Court of Justice for direction on the ongoing handling of its funds.
- Acted for a multinational defence contractor in a critical health and safety matter. Because the charges were withdrawn on the eve of trial, the case never hit the press.
- Acted for the audit committee of a publicly listed technology company in an internal investigation.
- Represented an individual target and various related closely held corporations in the first publicized tax evasion investigation to arise in Canada from the leak of the Panama Papers.
- Conducted a two-year internal investigation for a mining company regarding insider trading and violations of the *Corruption of Foreign Public Officials Act*.
- Successfully acted for high profile corporate defendants in multiple cartel investigations across diverse sectors, including defending a client in a Canadian Competition Bureau investigation concerning alleged price fixing in the Québec retail gas sector.
- Represented six York Regional police officers, including the Chief of Police, facing a private prosecution for offences under the *Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. For this case, we successfully applied for certiorari to challenge a disclosure order against our clients made by a Justice of the Peace before the charges were withdrawn.
- Acted for an intervenor before the Supreme Court of Canada in *World Bank Group v. Wallace*, which pertained to compelled third party production in a Corruption of Foreign Public Officials Act prosecution.

- Represented a Canadian bank-owned securities dealer in an internal investigation and regulatory investigation into the collapse of the asset-backed commercial paper market.
- Special counsel to the Investment Industry Regulatory Organization of Canada in relation to market manipulation proceedings.
- Represented a Canadian bank-owned securities dealer in an internal investigation and subsequent OSC no-contest settlement regarding allegations of control and supervision inadequacies regarding customer fees.
- Acted for the former CFO of Home Capital Group in Ontario Securities Commission enforcement proceedings and related class action proceedings.

BLG | Canada's Law Firm

As the largest, truly full-service Canadian law firm, Borden Ladner Gervais LLP (BLG) delivers practical legal advice for domestic and international clients across more practices and industries than any Canadian firm. With over 800 lawyers, intellectual property agents and other professionals, BLG serves the legal needs of businesses and institutions across Canada and beyond – from M&A and capital markets, to disputes, financing, and trademark & patent registration.

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