



Randa I. Shiblaq

Senior Paralegal

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OVERVIEW

Randa Shiblaq is a bilingual senior paralegal. She focuses her practice on corporate and commercial matters and also advises clients on general Qatar law issues relating to establishment of business in Qatar, transfer of shares, employment and immigration-related matters.

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Randa has worked with a large holding company in Qatar for more than two years. During such employment, she handled and advised on commercial matters relating to franchise agreements and trademarks registration in addition to restructuring of corporates.

After completion of her career with the holding company, Randa started working also with a UK law firm where she assisted in establishing different types of legal entities, advising on the process and procedures to transfer shares, restructuring of corporates and other commercial and employment related matters.

EDUCATION

- LL.B., University of Damascus, 2006
- LL.M., University of Southern California, 2019

LANGUAGES

- Arabic
- English

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP *POWERED BY HUB*

- 20 September 2021, Amendments to the Qatar Commercial Companies Law
- 16 June 2021, Ultimate Beneficial Ownership Rules in Qatar (2020)

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- "Amendments to the Qatar Commercial Companies Law", *LexisNexis*, 20 September 2021

NEWS & EVENTS

- 14 October 2022, K&L Gates Recognized as Banking & Finance, Corporate Teams of the Year at Qatar Business Law Forum Awards

AREAS OF FOCUS

- Construction and Infrastructure

REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

- Advising foreign companies in connection with establishment of a legal presence within the Qatar Financial Centre Authority and the State of Qatar.
- Advising companies in connection with employment, corporate, and immigration matters under the State laws and the Qatar Free Zones.
- Advising and assisting clients in connection with their IP applications and registration of a number of trademarks.
- Worked on several matters pertaining to liquidation/closing down of legal entities in Qatar, all successfully completed.
- Working on a liquidation matter that involves four local entities. Discussing with the client the current status of each entity. Reviewing of all corporate documents to confirm whether or not there are any restrictions or issues that could possibly prevent or delay the action. Preparing the memorandum of advice that includes the requirements, steps, process, and timeframe. Preparing the necessary documents (resolutions, powers of attorney, application forms) as part of the liquidation process. Appearing before the competent authorities to file the required documents. Liaising with any external advisors (i.e. tax advisors) whose involvement is essential to complete the liquidation process.
- Assisting and supporting the team representing a leading family conglomerate on a potential listing of part of its business in Qatar. The transaction was particularly challenging as it involved trying to introduce good governance policies and procedures into the family office within the context of an established family structure.
- Assisting and supporting the team representing a Qatari client in the food sector on defending itself from injunctive relief issued against it in Italy. Advised the client on potential claims it could advance in Qatar.
- Assisting and supporting the team representing a global electric utility company on privacy and data protection matters in Qatar and reviewed agreements for related purposes.

- Supporting the team representing a listed commercial Islamic bank in Qatar with a subsidiary in the United Kingdom on its merger with a Qatar listed bank with subsidiaries in France and the United Arab Emirates to create one of the largest Islamic banks in Qatar.
- Assisting and supporting the team representing the borrower on a commodity Murabaha facility made available to it by Dukhan Bank for the construction of two luxurious hotel developments in Qatar.
- Advised a Middle Eastern nonprofit education, research and innovation, and community development organization on a restructuring exercise involving the establishment of four private institutions for public benefit in the art, education, and health sectors. Provided guidance on the structure, drafted documentation, and assisted with the licensing and the registration process. Involved careful dealing with a number of regulators across various sectors in Qatar.
- Assisting and supporting the team representing a strategic joint venture partner (an ultra-high-net-worth-individual) to a sovereign wealth fund in a Qatar-based project involving two luxurious hospitality developments. Provided guidance in relation to the legal aspects of the investment by the brand owners into Qatar, in addition to funding and development agreements.
- Advised a utility network services provider and a major Japanese integrated trading and investment business conglomerate during tender for the Ashghal Catchment Zone Framework project concerning long-term, comprehensive O&M of Qatar's water and sewage network system.
- Advised a fintech startup focused on mobile payments and loyalty program solutions on its establishment and application for a payment service provider licence to operate in Qatar.