

WHITE COLLAR CRIME LAW FIRM OF THE YEAR

PLMJ

PORTUGAL

FIRM PROFILE

PLMJ is one of Portugal's leading law firms and a key reference in the country's legal sector because of its dynamism, capacity for innovation and quality of service. PLMJ is a full-service firm that focuses on specialisation and offers a complete range of legal services.

PLMJ has built up a strong network of joint ventures across Portuguese-speaking countries where synergies are generated by a common language and culture, especially in Angola and Mozambique, where we have sponsored the setting up of local firms who team up with our Angolan and Mozambican Desks back home. The firm has specialist teams to deal with clients from nearly every part of the world that our international mandates originate from. Just to mention a few, the firm has a China Desk, an Italian Desk, a French Desk, a German Desk, a UK Desk, a Scandinavian Desk and a Swiss Desk. Through PLMJ International Legal Network, our network of joint ventures and desks, clients are able to keep the same contact lawyer in the country of origin, who will coordinate work with local teams, through the Desks for the various markets

Criminal law, white collar defence and compliance practice area and areas of expertise

One of PLMJ's areas of expertise is criminal law, white collar defence and compliance. This practice area deals with all aspects of the cases from the inquiry and discovery phase through to trial, always working in close cooperation with PLMJ's other practice areas.

Whenever possible, the criminal law, white collar defence and compliance team also focuses its attention on prevention. It works in close cooperation with clients on compliance issues, offering auditing services to detect potential problems and providing any necessary corrective advice. It also advises on achieving best practice standards.

PLMJ's criminal law, white collar defence and compliance practice is staffed by a very mature and highly specialised team that is recognised for its experience in advising on and handling fraud cases. For many years now, this team has handled the most complex and high profile cases in Portugal.

PLMJ's expertise and experience stand out in the inquiry and discovery phase, and for the support and advice PLMJ provides throughout the criminal investigation carried out by Public Prosecutor's Office. The team's excellent technical skills and focus are very often crucial to the investigation phase of the proceedings. Our team's investigation techniques and capabilities in searching for and collecting evidence are, of course, directly reflected in PLMJ's success rate.



NOTABLE LEGAL WORK

- PLMJ represents the Asperbras Group and its representatives in connection with several construction projects regarding the health sector in Congo. The Company and its representatives (among other companies and individuals) are suspected of committing crimes of corruption in international trade and money laundering. PLMJ represents several companies of the Asperbras Group, as well as several individuals with leading positions within the Group (including the President of the Board of Directors and the Chief Financial Officer)

- PLMJ represents José Augusto Martins, Iraci Oliveira and Manuel de Jesus Macedo, who are being prosecuted as principals and/or accomplices in a complex money laundering scheme involving currency exchange bureaus and connected with a number of countries (principally the USA, Brazil, Spain, Belgium, the UK and Portugal). Several individuals have been charged with money laundering, forgery, corruption, fraud and tax fraud, among other crimes.

- PLMJ represents the National Director of the Portuguese Foreigners and Border Service Office ("SEF"), in a criminal case based on allegations of influence peddling, embezzlement, abuse of power and corruption, among other crimes. It involves several foreign individuals and high-profile Portuguese individuals, mainly high level representatives of the Public Administration. These include the National Director of SEF, the President of the Portuguese Registry and Notary Public Office, the Portuguese Internal Affairs Minister and three Lisbon Appeal Court judges, including the President of the Court. Two of the judges are former Directors of the Portuguese Intelligence Services. The National Director of SEF was indicted for having been involved in three of the alleged illegal schemes. The first relates to the concession of permanent residence under the Golden Visa scheme (which allows foreign investors meeting certain conditions to obtain residence permits). The second relates to the appointment of a Portuguese Liaison Officer for Immigration matters for China. The third relates to the issuance of visas to Libyan citizens for medical treatment.

- PLMJ represents two defendants in the criminal case known as Caso Sócrates (the Sócrates Case), which began with Operação Marquês (Operation Marquês), in which the former Portuguese Prime Minister was detained as part of a case involving corruption, money laundering and tax fraud, among other crimes.

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