

Michael Shanahan

Partner in Perth

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Michael specialises in financial crime and forensic investigations, dispute advisory, contract assessment and anti-bribery and corruption and risk management advisory assignments.

Michael is a Forensic expert with more than 25 years' experience which includes working at a 'Big 4' firm and as an investigator at ASIC.

Michael has extensive investigation and forensic accounting experience. In particular, assisting clients undertake major investigations into allegations of fraud, bribery, corruption, money laundering, commercial and contractual disputes and other forms of misconduct. He regularly works with boards, senior executives, lawyers, regulators and law enforcement agencies.

Michael's experience includes acting as an independent expert and consulting expert, preparing reports on forensic accounting matters and attending hearings to give evidence as an expert witness.

Michael has led forensic assignments across a broad range of industries including mining, oil and gas, government, not-for-profit and indigenous sectors. He has provided expert advice across a number of geographical regions and jurisdictions including Africa and Asia.

Engagement Experience —

- Forensic investigations regularly leads investigations on behalf of corporate and government clients into allegations of fraud, theft, conflicts of interest and other forms of misconduct. Michael's role often involves communicating with whistleblowers, assisting clients through to legal proceedings, dealing with the Police and/or regulators, providing a witness statement and if required presenting his evidence at a hearing.
- Forensic accounting on a number of occasions Michael has undertaken a detailed examination of accounting and other information to identify instances of misconduct or anomalies in matters such as procurement and accounting. Michael has experience undertaking this type of work as both an independent expert and as an advisor.
- Bribery and corruption experience assisting clients respond to bribery and corruption issues. Often working with the client's lawyers, Michael has led investigations into conduct at the client's operations in foreign jurisdiction. Michael also has experience working with and providing information to the AFP and overseas regulators such as the Serious Fraud Office.
- Independent expert instructed by clients and law firms involved in litigation to act as an independent expert and/or as a consulting expert. This includes preparing reports on topics such as the quantification of loss, contractual disputes, accounting matters and misconduct. Michael has also attended hearings and given evidence as an expert.

Qualifications & Memberships —

- Master of Business, Major in Finance
- Bachelor of Business (Honours), Major in Accounting and Finance
- Member, CA ANZ
- Certificate III – Investigation Services
- Certificate IV – Government Investigation
- Certificate IV – Government Fraud Control
- Diploma, Government Fraud Control Prevention/Detection
- Diploma, Government Fraud Control Investigation
- Diploma, Business Valuation and Analysis at University of Queensland
- Holds an Inquiry Agent License and Investigators License

Board Roles —

- Ruah Community Services, Non-Executive Director of and Chairman of the Finance and Audit Committee



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- Contract assessment assist clients assess the appropriateness of costs incurred under a contract, the potential recovery of costs and overall contract compliance. This has often involved contracts on projects in the energy and natural resource sector and been part of a proactive campaign to ensure the costs incurred are appropriate.
- Anti-Money Laundering undertake independent reviews and audits to assess the risks of money laundering and/or potential non-compliance with AML/CTF legislation. This has involved work as part of Royal Commissions and work required by AUSTRAC.
- Risk management advisory advises clients on managing the risks of fraud, bribery and corruption, AML/CTF and misconduct.
- Other appointments regularly appointed to roles by government agencies, including but not limited to:
 - Commonwealth regulator appointed Michael to be Special Administrator of an indigenous corporation; and
 - WA state government regulator has appointed Michael as Supervisor and Forensic Auditor of both Settlement Agents and Real Estate Agents.