Paulo Mateus

Director in Sydney

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Paulo is a Chartered Accountant and CA ANZ Forensic Accounting Specialist with over a decade of experience providing dispute advisory and litigation support across Australia, Europe, Africa and the Middle East. Supporting expert witness and consulting expert engagements on complex matters, including class actions, post-acquisition disputes, family law proceedings and the quantification of economic loss.

In addition to his dispute work, Paulo's experience includes complex forensic investigations into fraud, misconduct and regulatory breaches. His experience spans anti-bribery and corruption, procurement irregularities, employee misconduct, money laundering and asset misappropriation, with engagements frequently supporting litigation, enforcement action and organisational reform.

Prior to joining McGrathNicol, Paulo worked in audit at a Big 4 firm and has held forensic roles across multiple international jurisdictions.

Engagement Experience

Dispute Advisory

- Assisted in the preparation of independent expert reports in response to class actions across the transport, construction, FMCG, manufacturing and insurance sectors.
- Post-acquisition disputes within the manufacturing industry, including analysis of completion accounts and adjustments to earnings underpinning earn-out mechanisms.
- Assisted in expert determinations in completion accounts disputes, addressing issues of financial misstatement, stock valuation and liability recognition.
- Applied data analytics to quantify reversion trigger events and adjustment payments across a group of entities over a 15-year period, determining both the timing of reversion and quantum payable between parties.
- Supported mediation processes between joint venture parties, including the recalculation and allocation of distributions owed between joint venturers.
- Advised a healthcare provider in negotiations with state government, including the quantification of service delivery costs and development of pricing models.
- Quantification of loss assessments within the construction sector for both plaintiffs and defendants, including evaluation of delay and defect-related claims.

Qualifications & Memberships —

- Member, CA ANZ
- CAANZ Forensic Accounting Specialist
- International member, South African CA
- Certificate IV Government Investigations.
- Bachelor of Accounting Science and Finance (Honours), University of Witwatersrand, South Africa

McGrathNicol

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- Reconstructed financial records to identify and correct accounting errors arising from system changes, supporting clients in preparation for statutory audit processes.
- Payroll remediation engagements, including sample testing, Better Off Overall Test assessments, development of remediation models using data analytics platforms, and preparation of employee remediation communications.

Forensic Investigations

- Public Interest Disclosure investigations for multiple NSW Government departments involving allegations of misconduct, procurement irregularities and financial impropriety, including the analysis of financial and electronic records and the conduct of witness and subject interviews.
- Conducted investigations into whistleblower allegations involving theft, supplier collusion, procurement fraud and misappropriation of corporate assets across a range of industries.
- Investigated allegations of misconduct by a senior employee of a global shipping organisation, including falsified inspection reports, conflicts of interest and bribery, involving detailed electronic data review, document analysis and stakeholder interviews.
- Performed investigations into misconduct within an international non-profit organisation, identifying bullying, abuse of power, corruption and conflicts of interest by senior personnel.
- Identified employee expense fraud within a multinational organisation through the analysis of ERP and accounting data, quantifying losses and supporting subsequent criminal prosecution.
- Conducted cross-border investigations for an international insurance entity into suspicious claims activity, identifying coordinated fraudulent behaviour targeting multiple insurers.

Governance, Risk and Compliance

- Investigations for a global financial institution into potential sanctionable offences across African operations, including interviews with key personnel, detailed transaction testing and targeted electronic data review, with findings reported to both the client and law enforcement agencies.
- Delivered anti-bribery and corruption risk assessments and training for global telecommunications organisations, including transaction testing, stakeholder interviews and assessment of third-party risk exposure.
- Designed and implemented contract compliance review programmes to assess vendor performance, identify control weaknesses and improve operational efficiency.