



MICHAEL SAVVA

PARTNER • DUBAI

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SECTORS: Aviation, Maritime, Containers and Logistics, Corporate Jets, Transport, LNG and Offshore, Helicopters, Commercial Shipping, Airlines

SERVICES: Capital Markets, ECA Finance, Corporate Trust and Agency, Islamic Finance, Debt Capital Markets, Project Finance, Asset Finance and Leasing, Structured Finance, Finance, Restructuring and Insolvency

BIO

MICHAEL IS A PARTNER IN THE FINANCE GROUP.

Michael specialises in cross-border finance transactions across a variety of sectors including aviation (helicopters, corporate jets and commercial aircraft), maritime (various types of ships and container boxes) and sport.

He advises financiers, owners and operators on a wide range of domestic and international asset and structured finance products including debt and equity financing and leasing, as well as on restructurings and work-outs. Michael also provides regulatory and enforcement advice across a range of sectors.

Michael has particular expertise in Islamic finance, ranging from acting for banks on Murabaha financings in the aviation and offshore oil and gas sectors to Ijara leasing transactions in respect of various types of equipment and container boxes.

Michael is recommended as an expert United Arab Emirates-based finance lawyer by legal directory Legal 500 EMEA 2019 and as a leading helicopter finance lawyer by Corporate Jet Investor magazine. He is a member of the editorial board of website LawInSport.com.

EXPERIENCE

Advising a group of 30 international and local banks on the successful financing of the US\$14bn merger between Hapag-Lloyd and United Arab Shipping Company.

WATSON FARLEY & WILLIAMS

Advising Bank of London and The Middle East plc on numerous transactions including the purchase and Ijara lease financing for Al Hilal Bank in Abu Dhabi in relation to their fleet of new ATM equipment.

Advising Bank of London and the Middle East, Lloyds Bank and SMBC on a €30m Islamic and conventional PDP financing facility for LCI Helicopters, including related regulatory issues.

Advising Crestline on the US\$30m loan facility for the purpose of financing up to 100% of the acquisition cost of certain ISO tank containers purchased or to be purchased by the Borrower.

Advising Dubai Navigation on a senior loan facility of up to US\$25.75m for the part-financing of the acquisition of three Panamax Bulkers, one Handysize Bulker and one Feeder vessel.

EDUCATION

2003 – 2004 · College of Law, London, Legal Practice Course,
Second Class Honours

2000 – 2003 · University College London, LLB Laws, Second
Class

MEMBERSHIPS & ASSOCIATIONS

Law Society of England and Wales

INSIGHTS

AWARD

WFW DEAL WINS REFINANCE DEAL OF THE YEAR – SOLAR PV MENA AT IJ GLOBAL AWARDS

www.wfw.com/awards/wfw-deal-wins-refinance-deal-of-the-year-solar-pv-mena-at-ij-global-awards/

ARTICLE

NEW UAE MARITIME LAW – WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

www.wfw.com/articles/new-uae-maritime-law-what-you-need-to-know/

ARTICLE

OUT WITH THE OLD AND IN WITH THE NEW – THE NEW UAE COMMERCIAL AGENCY REGIME

www.wfw.com/articles/out-with-the-old-and-in-with-the-new-the-new-uae-commercial-agency-regime/

ARTICLE

THE SUSTAINABILITY IMPERATIVE – MIDDLE EAST

www.wfw.com/articles/the-sustainability-imperative-middle-east/

AWARD

WFW NAMED LEGAL CONSULTANT OF THE YEAR AT MESIA SOLAR AWARDS 2023

www.wfw.com/awards/wfw-named-legal-consultant-of-the-year-at-mesia-solar-awards-2023/
