

Best Attorneys RUN

Barun exists to
provide each of
our clients
with high quality
service.

Barun Law LLC is here for our clients

Our passionate and experienced experts provide optimal solutions for our clients.

Due to our formidable prowess in litigation,
we are able to meet our clients' needs and provide reliable services.
Our group of experts, many of whom have formerly served as judges and prosecutors,
work in close collaboration to provide high-quality legal services.

We strive to provide innovative services,
as we live in the age of digital transformation driven by the fourth industrial revolution.

As part of our efforts,
we have created the Digital Assets and Innovative Industry Task Force Team,
as well as the Estate Planning Center, a first of its kind among law firms in Korea,
providing all-inclusive asset management services.

Based on our accumulated experience and know-how,
we will further advance our skills and ability to help clients make rational decisions.

Our motto is, "Always be ready to take on difficult roles for clients."
Our top-notch legal professionals are here and ready to work with and for our clients.

Best Attorneys RUN



PRACTICE

Criminal Group

Our Criminal Group includes multiple veteran lawyers with extensive experience in dealing with investigations and trials brought before courts by prosecutors' offices. Not only are we equipped to deal with general criminal matters, but we are also prepared to respond systematically to complex criminal cases concerning corporate crimes, accusations, investigative responses, and election-related matters to protect the interests of our clients. We have also formed TF teams consisting of experts that are optimized for each case type to come up with the best results. As response measures taken at the police investigation level have become more significant due to restructuring of the investigative power between the prosecution and the police, we created the Police Investigation Response Team, which consists of attorneys and senior advisors who have formerly served with the police force.

Police Investigation Response

As the police force is recognized as an independent investigative agency with the right to terminate an investigation, the importance of lawyers and the need for substantial legal assistance from the very beginning of the investigation have become apparent. Hence, we created the Police Investigation Response Team, which is centered around senior advisors and lawyers who formerly served as members of the police force. These experts, who have extensive on-site experience and networks among the police, provide seamless legal assistance to clients. We strive to protect the interests of our clients through well-rounded response measures, starting from the investigative stage to the investigation and litigation stages.

Corporate Crimes

We see accelerating changes occurring in the corporate management environment. Executives bear greater responsibility for management, while workers, with an increased awareness of employee rights, no longer turn a blind eye to unfair labor practices. This leads to stricter application of laws on illegal business activities, including embezzlement, tax evasion, price manipulation, bribery, unfair trade practices, and piracy on trade secrets. In line with such societal changes, legal risk management concerned with corporate management has become a pressing issue. The Corporate Crimes Team, consisting of experts specializing in investigations on public safety, taxes, fair trade, and occupational safety, will provide satisfactory results to clients by quickly and systematically responding to any matters involving the police, prosecutors' office, or courts.

Criminal Accusations and Investigation Response

Experience in dealing with investigative cases is an important factor in dealing with matters on criminal accusation and investigation response. Based on our experts' experience and extensive network, we meet clients' needs through our TF teams, which consist of attorneys and senior advisors who have formerly served in the police force and are ready to provide optimal advice and services for each stage of the investigation process. The initial response taken at the beginning of an investigation has become more crucial, and therefore, special judicial police officers play bigger roles in the areas of finance, environment, food, and labor. Our Investigation Response Team will provide the best service to protect our clients' interests from the initial stage of the investigation conducted by the police or special judicial police officers to the investigation and decision-making stages involving prosecutors and the court.

Anti-Corruption and Election

In the past, election-related offenses centered around giving and receiving monetary bribes, whereas today, such offenses increasingly involve dissemination of false facts and smear campaigns against other candidates via social media. The crime of defamation (libel or slander) against another candidate is a difficult issue to deal with in actual practice, which is why it is crucial to obtain advice in advance from experts. In this area, we operate an all-inclusive team consisting of attorneys who formerly served as senior judges, and chief prosecutors and prosecutors at various public prosecutors' offices in Korea, with extensive experience in dealing with and directing investigations on such offences. Our response measures are divided into two parts, each part providing services optimized to each stage. The team also collaborates with other expert groups specializing in white collar crime, financial crime, and antitrust and competition.

IP Group

The IP Group provides all-inclusive advisory and litigation services for not only traditional types of intellectual property rights, such as patent rights, trade secrets, trademark rights, design rights, and copyrights, but also complex types of intellectual property rights that have newly emerged following the fourth industrial revolution. Disputes over trade secrets involving cutting-edge technology are on the rise following developments in science and technology, and digitization of the overall industries has led to new types of industry types and business models. New issues in intellectual property rights tend to arise whenever new technologies or business models are introduced. Based on our extensive knowledge and understanding of the IP field, we are committed to protecting our clients' interests and providing each of our clients with high quality service.

IP Advisory and Litigation

Our IP Group handles matters on patent, trade secrets, utility model rights, design rights, trademarks, and copyrights, as well as providing advisory and representation services (including advice on patent applications). Our IP Group attorneys, many of whom have formerly worked as patent attorneys, have outstanding track records of successfully dealing with a variety of litigation cases on infringement of patents, trade secrets, model utility rights, design rights, and trademark rights, as well as matters involving interim injunctions regarding unfair trade practices or infringement of copyright (or interim injunctions on unfair trade practices).

Protection of Trade Secrets

Trade secrets make up the core assets of a company in this time and age in which technology forms the basis of corporate competitiveness. Disputes involving trade secret infringements and analogous technology continue to occur as businesses scramble to attain a larger portion of the technology market. We provide one-stop integrated services on protection of trade secrets, including providing advisory services on creating trade secret protection system as well as dispute resolution services concerning interim injunctions and related lawsuits.

Sports/Game/Entertainment

The content industry is one of the fastest growing fields in Korea, and K-Culture is no longer limited to the domestic market and continues to expand overseas, transforming itself into a global industry. We have ample experience dealing with disputes concerning copyright and contracts in the areas of entertainment, games, and sports. As early diagnosis and taking preemptive measures are important and necessary services, our focus is on improving our preemptive response and advisory services. In particular, we contribute to the efforts to globalize the Korean content industry by providing services for various matters, such as contract-related services and measures to prevent disputes, based on our understanding of the different legal system of other countries.

Media(Broadcasting and Communications)

Our Media Response Team strives to resolve issues involving broadcasting, diagnose new issues arising from the fast changes occurring in the media environment, and provide solutions based on such diagnoses. As such, we focus on securing the legal stability that is needed by companies as they go through changes and become part of the new media industry involving the Internet of Things (IoT), artificial intelligence, big data, and blockchain.

Industry 4.0

The fourth industrial revolution is an ultra-connection-based intelligent revolution triggered by new technologies such as artificial intelligence (AI), Internet of Things (IoT), blockchain, cryptocurrency, and big data, which have brought in great changes in industries and governments. New technologies and industries are at the heart of the fourth industrial revolution, which may lead to never-before-seen legal issues and disputes. Thus, we have created the Fourth Industry Team to deal with legal issues related to new technologies such as AI, IoT, big data, blockchain, and cryptocurrency and provide relevant legal advice. The Fourth Industrial Team is quick and flexible in handling multiple legal issues, with 20 lawyers in the team, ranging from senior attorneys who formerly served as judges and prosecutors in relevant fields as well as attorneys well-versed in cutting-edge technology.

Labor and Employment Group

The area of labor and employment requires attorneys to be familiar with all relevant labor laws and have extensive hands-on experience in the relevant field so that they can provide substantially helpful services to companies. We have the best labor law experts who can provide outstanding services on labor and employment matters based on their extensive legal knowledge and experience in dealing with relevant matters. They are experts on dealing with various issues regarding disciplinary measures, dismissals, workplace harassment, ordinary wages, minimum wage, salary peak system, and severance pay, as well as internal subcontracting, employee status, collective bargaining assistance, improvement of the work hour system, and corporate restructuring. We are here to provide the requisite legal advice and all-inclusive services for litigation and projects aimed at improving various personnel and labor-related systems.

Labor Dispute Resolution

The employment and wage system is evolving in ever greater complexity in line with diversified working environments and enhanced worker awareness following Korea's economic growth. Labor-management disputes have clearly become large-scale, and issues regarding discrimination between regular and non-regular workers has become a major issue for all companies. Recently, discrimination towards elderly workers (salary peak system) and among regular workers (based on the route of recruitment) have also emerged as new issues. It is crucial for such complex and diversified labor disputes to be handled by experts, and we are equipped with the requisite experts who have perfected their skills in labor dispute matters. Our team of experts, including a former Supreme Court Justice, attorneys who specialized in labor matters for over twenty years, and attorneys who formerly worked as in-house counsels for large corporations, work together to obtain the best possible results. Our Labor Dispute Resolution Team undertakes to provide optimal legal services to clients based on its insight and understanding of labor dispute cases and by organically networking with other experts for each case dealt with by the team.

HR Strategies and Consulting

HR strategy focuses on designing programs that are optimized to each individual company. The team is made up of attorneys with extensive legal knowledge and experience in dealing with relevant matters, attorneys who formerly served as judges or prosecutors, and a certified labor affairs consultant who previously served on the Environment and Labor Committee of the National Assembly. Areas of service include advice on work hours and the wage system, manpower operation and efficiency, labor-management relations, and compliance.



Construction & Real Estate Group

Construction and real estate involve many stakeholders, who are often intricately interconnected, which can lead to complex legal issues. We are known for our skill in providing optimized solutions based on a clear understanding of the key issues by our experts who have extensive knowledge and understanding of the relevant field. We work closely with our clients to provide services on the basis of our extensive work experience in construction and real estate, including responding to issues throughout the reconstruction and redevelopment process and handling construction litigation and construction administration.

Reconstruction/Redevelopment

Because reconstruction and redevelopment projects are carried out after association members pass relevant resolutions and requisite permits are obtained from the applicable authorities, legal disputes may arise in each stage of progression of a project. The success of a project may depend on the speed and accuracy with which such disputes are handled. Our Reconstruction and Redevelopment Team consists of many attorneys who previously served as judges in the Korean court system, as well as high caliber legal professionals experienced in dealing with a variety of related cases. They are confident that they can come up with the best possible solutions for construction associations or association members through thorough and systematic review of various legal issues that such associations or their members may face, thereby providing quality legal services that are satisfactory to clients' needs.

Construction Litigation

Construction litigation involves complex background facts and various legal issues. As a result, an enormous number of documents must be reviewed, and related disputes become long drawn-out. To prevail in construction litigation cases, it is important to not only thoroughly understand all facts concerning the case but also be equipped with extensive, expert knowledge in applicable laws, such as the Civil Code, Commercial Code, administrative law, subcontracting law, etc. Close consultation and communication with clients are critical, as construction litigation cases tend to be lengthy processes. Our successes and work experience affirm our reputation as Korea's number one law firm in the area of litigation. We will live up to clients' expectations by providing winning strategies developed by our experts, many of whom have extensive experience as judges specializing in construction cases and have an objective understanding of relevant legal issues.

Construction Administrative Affairs

Construction is directly related to administration throughout the entire stages, from the planning stage to the construction permit/reporting stage, the use approval stage, and the change of use stage after completion. Under administrative laws, there will always be the possibility that a dispute arises in any of these stages. Thus, from the owner's perspective, it is essential to not only conduct legal review at each stage of the process, but also respond appropriately in the event of a dispute. Our Construction Administrative Affairs Team provides customized services based on a thorough analysis of a given situation, led by lawyers who previously served as judges for administrative affairs cases and handled construction dispute cases.



Commercial & Corporate Litigation Group

We have attained outstanding achievements in dispute cases concerning the corporate governance structure. We utilize the expertise gained from dealing with various types of cases to ensure our clients' satisfaction. Our experts in the field commit to providing necessary solutions and diagnosing each case with the client's viewpoint in mind. We also operate a team that is dedicated to issues involving startups, which are considered to be one of the future growth engines.

Compliance

We live in an era in which corporate compliance is a must as ESG management emerges as a global trend. We have accumulated extensive experience and know-how in the areas of compliance management and anti-corruption. Our services in this area include general advice on compliance management, labor issues, internal audits, document management, and diagnosis of decision-making processes to identify issues and provide necessary solutions. Our experts, many of whom have worked for years as corporate in-house counsels, are here to provide practical services based on their understanding of a company's needs.

Securities

An increasing number of innovative financial instruments have been created following the introduction of cutting-edge IT technology in the finance sector, such as blockchain-based real estate asset-backed securities platform services and stock lending and borrowing (SLB) platform services. The regulatory environment is becoming ever more complex as financial companies release innovative products, and as a result, consumers face higher risks. Based on our extensive hands-on experience and record of outstanding performance working with leading domestic institutions, listed companies, and investors, we efficiently provide advice to clients on various regulatory issues concerning financial institutions and financial transactions. We provide optimized legal advice for related work in this area, including foreign exchange transactions, structured finance, derivatives, development of new financial instruments, IPOs and issuance of stock in Korea and abroad, depository receipts, convertible bonds, exchangeable bonds, bonds with warrant, commercial papers, floating rate bonds, and floating rate certificates of deposit.

Commercial Arbitration

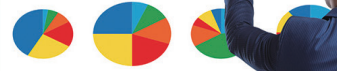
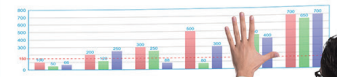
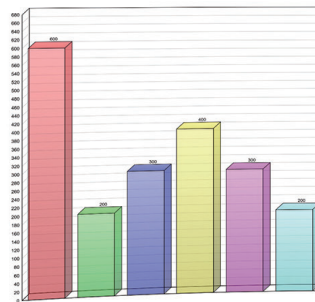
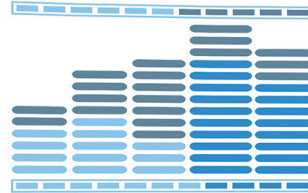
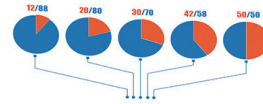
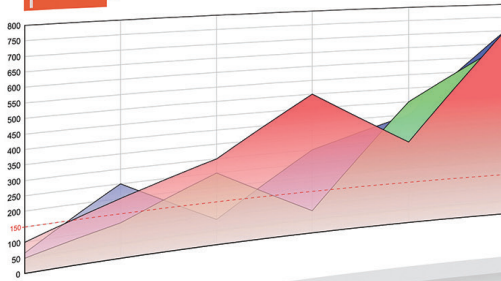
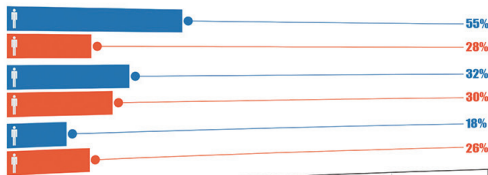
Commercial arbitration is a dispute resolution method in which a third party is designated as an arbitrator to resolve the dispute matter at hand. Commercial arbitration ensures personal and corporate privacy and saves time and costs when compared with other dispute resolution methods. Our lawyers, some of whom currently serve as arbitrators of the KCAB and have formerly served as chief judges and presiding judges of district and high courts, are at the center of our firm's arbitration services. The Commercial Arbitration Team operates in cooperation with the International Arbitration Team and continues to achieve outstanding results in various cases.

Startups

There are numerous startup companies conducting businesses in a variety of fields, energizing Korean society and the market, as well as acting as a driving force behind the nation's economy. However, many startups find themselves in unstable situations in terms of size or business stage, and many are exposed to the risk of legal disputes as they focus their attention on operating the business. Barun Law provides a checklist service listing the requirements for each growth stage, starting with legal review from the company establishment stage and consulting on investment attraction, to help startups focus on operating the business and achieve stable growth. Our service begins from the incorporation stage, with overall legal review and we provide checklist services, such as providing advice on attracting investments, so as to help startups achieve stable growth. Our Startup Support Center is made up of four sub-committees (M&A, IP rights, general corporate and tax matters), ready to provide customized legal services according to our clients' needs.

Finance Group

We provide comprehensive services for financial transactions, including project financing, issuance of securities, securitization, structured finance, and domestic and foreign investments. As the financial market grows ever more sophisticated, we strive to assist our clients in obtaining the best possible results based on our in-depth understanding of relevant laws and regulations concerning transactions that utilize the latest transaction structures and methods. Finance is a field that requires not only expertise in the relevant laws and regulations but also understanding of the elaborately evolving transaction structure of financial products. Our outstanding attorneys are licensed to practice in Korea and abroad and are experts in traditional financial services as well as the latest financial structures and methods. Working in close collaboration with other experts who previously worked at financial regulatory agencies and financial or investment firms, we provide the best services to our clients.



Project Financing

Due to the particular characteristics of the field, project financing requires a high degree of expertise and a vast amount of contract work. Services in this field can be provided only with a thorough understanding of the relevant business process and structure. In some cases, project financing requires concluding a number of tasks, such as reviewing contracts, negotiating, and closing the transaction, all at once in a very short period of time. Our experts have provided advice on various types of project financing (including property development, SOCs, infrastructure, resources and energy, ships, and aircrafts) from the initial legal reviews to refinancing. They have extensive experience in the area, as they routinely draft basic documents like LOIs and LOCs, as well as various types of contracts signed with national agencies regarding project financing, such as license agreements, financial agreements, and business agreements. They possess in-depth knowledge in various regulations concerning financial transactions and are adept at handling issues arising from cross-border deals.

Insurance and Maritime Matters

We provide representation and advisory services on financial laws and regulations, such as the Capital Market and Financial Investment Business Act, for leading life insurance companies, general insurance companies, reinsurers, insurance brokers, and insurance agents in Korea and abroad. We have accumulated a considerable amount of knowledge and expertise in maritime law and have dealt with a variety of maritime lawsuit cases on marine pollution, ship collision, bills of lading, chartering, marine insurance, and ship execution.

Finance and Criminal Matters

We live in an age in which it is impossible for individuals and companies to go about their daily lives without engaging in financial transactions. With the rise of such transactions, related incidents are increasing as well. We provide services responding to any investigation or criminal lawsuit regarding fraud, breach of trust, and embezzlement between individuals, companies, and financial institutions. We have a team specializing in these matters composed of experienced lawyers who have experience with related cases, such as investigations on property-related crimes and lawsuits. The team has long been trusted by clients for its outstanding performance record, such as successfully obtaining no charge dispositions or not guilty decisions.

Finance and Litigation

New types of disputes are on the rise in the securities and financial markets following their quantitative growth and changes in the trading environment, such as the release of new financial instruments (e.g., futures, options), development of fintech, and the rise of cryptocurrency. We strive to provide satisfactory services to our clients based on our expertise in financial dispute cases concerning general finance, corporate finance, and real estate finance, as well as new types of financial disputes involving fintech and derivatives. Based on our outstanding track record in dealing with litigation cases, our team of experts, made up of attorneys who formerly served as judges and prosecutors and advisors who have extensive hands-on experience in the relevant financial fields, work towards resolving financial dispute cases in the best way possible.

Financial Advisory

Financial advisory services need to be based on legal expertise and a comprehensive understanding of the structure of financial transactions and financial instruments. We are known for our outstanding performance with respect to matters concerning complex securities and our expertise in financial advisory matters. We have accumulated extensive experience in cross-border financial transactions by cooperating with accounting firms and domestic and overseas certified public accountants' associations, including KICPA and AICPA. Many of our lawyers, who are members of our firm's Financial Group, regularly take part in various symposiums and seminars on financial matters, such as those held by the Korean Securities Law Association, Korean Commercial Law Association, Korea Finance ICT Convergence Association, and Fourth Industrial Revolution Convergence Law Association, and work towards building networks with a wide range of experts from various fields.



Asset Management Group

As society grows ever more complex and goes through changes, it has become important to find ways to secure asset management. The public perception on liquidation and starting over by corporate rehabilitation and bankruptcy procedures has changed over the years, and many are showing interest in individual asset succession, business succession, and asset management. Also, legal issues concerning asset management and business succession involving the elderly and demand for adult conservatorship are on the rise because the number of people becoming incapacitated by dementia and other senior conditions is increasing. Our Asset Management Group provides high-quality legal services based on the outstanding capabilities and expertise of our attorneys, many of whom have attained considerable experience in the relevant field through previously working as judges and prosecutors dealing with various insolvency, trust, and inheritance matters, as well as litigation cases concerning family affairs, such as adult conservatorship.

Insolvency

Our Insolvency Management Team provides advice on the full spectrum of corporate rehabilitation, bankruptcy, and private rehabilitation matters, from the determination of the application strategy to the execution of the applicable procedures. The team develops strategies for creditors to minimize losses; for creditors that are businesses and entities, the team develops appropriate rehabilitation programs and provides advice on merger, acquisition, and division of business before and after the rehabilitation program is approved. We specialize in filing for work-out or bankruptcy proceedings and dealing with diverse litigation matters arising from insolvency proceedings.

Trust

The full revision of the Trust Act in 2011 greatly increased the possibility that a trust could be used as a new means of property succession. We have continuously analyzed the viability of trusts as a means of inheritance and gifts and launched the "Inheritance Trust Research Association" back in 2012. Our long-term efforts led to the publication of "Inheritance Trust Research I," "Inheritance Trust Research II," and influential articles on legal journals registered with KCI (Korea Citation Index). In recognition of our research and hands-on experience, we were awarded the highest grade (Band 1) from Chambers and Partners, a world-renowned law firm rating agency located in Britain. Our Trust Team is recognized as having top-notch professionals who are capable of fully utilizing trusts in a variety of areas, including inheritance, finance, blockchains (NFTs), and real estate.





Individual Asset Management

A growing number of clients want their assets to be personally managed by experts. Our Individual Asset Management Team determines what clients need and provides optimal asset management measures by analyzing their asset status. In addition to advising on management or disposition of existing assets, we also provide consulting on new types of assets such as cryptocurrency and NFT. Furthermore, we provide one-stop services on asset management by providing consultation on overseas investment in the U.S. and Singapore and establishment and operation of family offices.

Individual Asset Succession

Successful and efficient succession of private assets can be a daunting task. For successful succession, it is necessary to establish the best strategy in advance to prevent disputes and to find the most efficient solutions when disputes take place. Our lawyers, who specialize in inheritance, and experts on tax law, accountants, and tax accountants work together as a team to provide our clients with optimized inheritance planning. Our experts on inheritance law, who are recognized as the best in their fields, likewise provide the best possible solutions.

Business Succession

Maintenance and survival of companies are crucial to individuals for asset succession and to society to maintain employment and stable operation of related companies. Under the current legislation, various problems concerning business succession need to be solved, including issues on legal reserve of inheritance and excessive inheritance taxes. Accordingly, our Business Succession Team provides consultation on improving corporate governance structures to assist clients on stable and effective succession of businesses. The team also reviews all possible tax-saving strategies to provide the optimal measures for business succession, including the Business Succession Tax Deduction.

Family/Inheritance Lawsuit

We are skilled at providing the most advisable solutions for our clients, who are frequently mentally and physically exhausted from dealing with family disputes, and attaining the best possible results for them. Our competitiveness in family affairs and inheritance litigation comes from our outstanding experts in the relevant field, many of whom formerly served as judges specializing in domestic affairs and juvenile cases and judges of family courts, and have experience dealing with inheritance dispute cases involving businesses. We also work with passionate and experienced lawyers who specialize in inheritance-related matters. Based on the caliber of our team, we were recognized as a band 1 firm by Chambers and Partners in their HNW (High Net Worth) Guide.

Administrative Group

Our Administrative Group is made up of attorneys with extensive experience from previously serving as research judges of the Supreme Court of Korea, senior judges of the administrative divisions of high courts, and senior judges of the Administrative Court, as well as attorneys with diverse work experience in the areas of administrative litigation and administrative relief. We provide prompt and accurate legal services in response to various legal needs arising from individual administrative fields, such as administrative trials and litigations, constitutional appeals, and adjudication on the constitutionality of statutes for illegal and unjust administrative actions.

Administrative Litigation

Business activities are directly related to administration throughout the entire process. Administrative agencies become involved in various areas, from presenting preliminary standards for corporate establishment to evaluation and regulation of matters related to the process of corporate growth. Our Administrative Litigation Team consists of lawyers with extensive work experience and a proven record of winning significant cases in the fields of administrative litigation and administrative relief, including former research judges of the Supreme Court of Korea, senior judges of the administrative divisions of high courts, and senior judges of the Administrative Court. The team not only represents clients in administrative appeals and administrative lawsuits concerning various types of administrative actions, but also provides representation services concerning administrative procedures before administrative actions, interpretation of laws regarding administrative regulations, and legal advice on dealing with administrative cases, thereby providing all-inclusive services for the relevant dispute.

Constitutional Litigation

Constitutional litigation is a judicial form of control procedure to ensure the constitutionality of state action. In particular, it is the ultimate institutional device guaranteeing citizens' basic constitutional rights in case of infringement of fundamental rights due to a court's wrongful application of the law, enactment of unconstitutional laws, or unconstitutional and illegitimate administrative actions. The number of constitutional lawsuits filed seeking remedies or resolution of disputes is on the rise as the public's awareness of fundamental rights under the Constitution improves. Constitutional litigation has become ever more important due to recent issues such as trials on dissolution of a political party and impeachment. Our Constitutional Litigation Team continues to successfully protect the interest of clients through the efforts of its members, who have expansive knowledge and experience in dealing with constitutional dispute cases.

Immigration and Nationality

Our Immigration and Nationality Team consists of expert attorneys with extensive knowledge of and experience in the areas of the Immigration Act, the Nationality Act, the Passport Act, the Act on the Immigration and Legal Status of Overseas Koreans, and the Emigration Act. The team cooperates with foreign attorneys, who are well-versed in private international laws and have experience dealing with various immigration matters, and attorneys who previously served as judges and prosecutors and are thereby skilled at dealing with related litigation cases to provide optimal legal services to clients.

Medical and Healthcare

The medical and bio-healthcare industry is considered the new global growth engine. Civil and criminal medical disputes and cases and medical administrative cases regarding medical services are also on the rise. We deal with incidents and cases arising from clinical application of new and unverified medical technology. We respond to the needs of our clients, including bio-healthcare companies, health-related administrative agencies, and public companies, by providing necessary legal services based on our expertise and skills. In particular, our lawyers with medical backgrounds provide optimal professional services based on their in-depth knowledge of the medical field.

Food and Pharmaceutical

The food and pharmaceutical field is a fast-growing industry, and quick responses are required for new issues that continuously arise as the industry grows bigger. Barun Law's Food and Pharmaceutical Team consists of lawyers with ample experience in dealing with cases concerning large companies and SMEs engaged in the business of food, pharmaceuticals, and cosmetics. Our lawyers provide comprehensive legal services on various legal issues and help clients resolve disputes arising in the food and pharmaceutical industry, including food products, hygiene products, medical goods, bio products, cosmetics, quasi drugs, traditional Korean medicine, and medical devices. The team also provides legal services on civil, criminal, and administrative lawsuits and on filing for licenses and permits with administrative offices and departments. We have the necessary expertise and have built an outstanding track record on dealing with allegations of false and/or exaggerated advertisement of food and health supplements, violations of food standards and specifications, business permits required by health supplement manufacturers and distributors, patent rights to pharmaceutical products, and the testing, trials, and examination of cosmetics products. We have recently published "Explanation of the Korean Food Hygiene Act," which is the result of our efforts made in this field.

Defense Industry

We provide services on defense industry matters, including negotiations and legal support for large-scale national defense projects led by the Defense Acquisition Program Administration and the Ministry of National Defense, as well as litigation and enactment and amendment of legislation. Our team of experts consists of the highly qualified professionals with experience dealing with administrative, criminal, and civil cases related to the defense industry. Our Defense Industry Team provides businesses and individuals with customized services on the defense industry and public contracts. The team also provides clients with advisory services on cross-border deals and import/export of advanced weapons systems and local defense industry goods to help clients obtain the best legal services to improve and develop the national public contract systems, such as defense projects.

Environment

The environmental sector is a core resource that requires responsiveness by companies to achieve sustainable growth, as seen by ESG having become the main subject of global management. We operate a response team with lawyers well-versed in the environment field and experts on climate change. We provide a wide range of legal services in all areas concerning the environment, including air, water quality, waste, soil pollution, hazardous chemicals, and regulations on product environment, greenhouse gases, and climate change issues.

Private School Consulting

Our Private School Consulting Team possesses extensive work experience in dealing with legal disputes concerning school foundations. The team is led by lawyers who previously served as judges and prosecutors and worked as members of private school mediations committees, advisory members for school violence, and conflict mediation committees. We provide the necessary legal advice to clients and deal with various litigation issues such as establishment and operation of private school foundations, management rights disputes, normalization of school foundation, appointment of directors, operation of board of directors, and administrative matters concerning school foundations.

Legislation Consulting

The change of era and development of science and technology bring about rapid changes in the business environment. New types of businesses are emerging from new technologies. Any new type of business requires a new legal system. Revising old legislation to reflect the changing times and technology is a crucial agenda. We provide comprehensive advisory services for revision of unreasonable legislation that hinder new business activities and for enactment of new laws. Lawyers who served as expert members in charge of legislative affairs in the National Assembly work in harmony with lawyers with extensive experience in legislative consulting to meet the needs of various clients.



Tax Group

Tax Group protects the legitimate interests of our clients by providing legal advice on not only national taxes (including corporate tax, VAT, income tax, and inheritance and gift tax) but also local taxes and customs. We also provide specialized tax advice concerning individual industries and issues by collaborating with related industry teams on tax issues related to general corporate tax, financial transaction tax, overseas investment by domestic companies, real estate investment, and personal inheritance and gifting. In addition, we are committed to attaining the best possible results in tax disputes that often lead to tax investigations, pre-assessment review, administrative tax appeals, administrative tax lawsuits, civil tax lawsuits, and criminal tax lawsuits before the National Tax Service, the Board of Audit and Inspection, and the Tax Tribunal. Our Tax Group boasts a high winning rate in tax lawsuits through the efforts of our lawyers and tax accountants, many of whom have experience dealing with tax dispute matters within the court and the prosecutors' office or serving as advisors or tax attorneys with the National Tax Service.

Tax and Criminal Matters

The tax and criminal field encompasses overall efforts to respond to tax investigations and criminal trials for violation of the applicable terms set out under the Punishment of Tax Offenses Act. Proper response measures are needed for each step of the way if an investigation is launched for any tax offense, because such investigation can lead to a notice of disposition or charges. Because tax and criminal matters involve both the criminal act and the tax act, it is crucial to obtain systematic assistance from experts with extensive knowledge of and experience in not only the criminal act but also the tax law. Our Tax and Criminal Matters Team consists of several lawyers with experience dealing with tax and criminal matters, as well as expert advisors who formerly worked at the National Tax Service. In particular, our attorneys, some of whom specialized in tax-related cases while serving as judges or prosecutors, help clients achieve optimal results that accommodate their individual situations by providing effective and professional response measures and solutions.

Tax Audit Response

Compliance with procedural regulations established regarding tax audit has recently gained more importance. There is growing interest in protecting taxpayers' rights, including the legality of selection of tax audit targets, the expansion of the scope of investigation during tax audits, notification of taxes after conclusion of tax audits, and guarantee of opportunity for pre-assessment review. Taxpayers need to respond rationally at each stage in the tax investigation process to narrow the scope of issues subject to investigation and minimize the amount of additional tax imposed. Our Tax Audit Response Team consists of experienced lawyers and advisors with over 30 years of experience dealing with tax audit matters as former tax officers and investigators at the Korean National Tax Service. Our lawyers, advisors, and tax attorneys provide clients with systematic prompt legal services to assist them with responding to tax authorities over the throughout the tax audit, such as attendance at investigation sessions, development of responsive strategies, submission of opinions, advice on preparation of answers and confirmations, persuasion of investigators and taxation advisors, and filing for review of legality before taxation. In addition, our experienced lawyers work closely with tax attorneys even from the initial stages to provide clients with legal advice to end tax audits as soon as possible and develop strategies to deal with any future tax trials or lawsuits.



Antitrust and Competition Group

Our Antitrust and Competition Group is divided into two teams: the Antitrust and Competition Team and the Antitrust and Competition Investigative Response Team, both of which consist of lawyers and expert advisors who formerly worked with the Korea Fair Trade Commission. These groups are known for obtaining results that meet clients' expectations on fair trade cases, including cases involving collusion, abuse of market dominance, unfair trade practices, and unfair support practices. Based on the groups' tireless efforts, we are recognized as a strong player in the fair trade field.



Antitrust and Competition

Regulations are tightening on various types of offenses that hinder efforts to foster a fair, competitive environment. We respond to a wide range of issues regarding abuse of market dominance, unfair internal transactions, cartels, unfair transactions, franchise businesses, and subcontracting. In particular, we are experienced in providing advice on restructuring, M&As, and combination of enterprises.

Investigation Response for Antitrust and Competition Matters

The basic procedure on dealing with violations of antitrust and competition law is to respond to investigations and examinations conducted by the Korea Fair Trade Commission and administrative lawsuits. Due to an increase in the number of charges filed by prosecutors and changes to the antitrust and competition law, along with a larger number of personal charges filed against employees and officers of a company for breach of fair trade laws, there is a greater need for speedy and appropriate responses for such charges. Taking these changes into account, we operate a team that focuses on investigation response for antitrust and competition matters. Through a team effort by our lawyers specializing in fair trade and lawyers specializing in criminal matters, we provide insightful and systematic responses for the overall investigation process.

Corporate Legal Affairs Group

Our Corporate Legal Affairs Group is committed to providing reliable services to clients and seeks to provide the best possible solutions after thoroughly reviewing all relevant legal issues. The group handles all necessary legal services for incorporation, corporate growth, corporate governance, M&As, global investment and transactions, strategic alliances, and restructuring. We will continue our efforts to keep abreast of new developments affecting companies and provide preemptive support to clients so that they can make the right decisions. We will do our best to strengthen our clients' trust based solely on our skills.

Corporate Legal Affairs

Enterprises have played a leading role in the extraordinary development of the Korean economy, and corporate legal services are now considered essential for sustainable management and development. We have been providing optimal legal services for domestic and overseas corporate clients for a long time based on the expertise and experience we have accumulated in various industries. These efforts and experience continue beyond the traditional industrial fields and now extend to new sectors, including the fourth industry, shared economy, innovative enterprises, emerging economies, and startups. Our Corporate Legal Group is always cognizant that building a long-term and constructive relationship with clients is the cornerstone of providing the best legal services. As a result, our attorneys carefully tailor solutions and strategies to meet the needs of each corporate client.

M&A/Corporate Governance

Developing an optimal deal structure and thorough preparation are essential to successfully leading a client's M&A deal. Our experts in the field are equipped with extensive knowledge and experience in dealing with various types of merger and acquisition deals such as transfer of shares, acquisition of new shares, merger and division of businesses, and incorporation of joint venture companies. We fully understand the business and strategies of our clients and strive to provide the most effective and efficient legal advice to help reach their goals. According to the company's strategic needs, a company may change or reorganize its corporate governance structure, or adjust or regulate its ownership structure or the interests of shareholders, management, and workers who directly or indirectly participate in corporate management. We are skilled at accurately understanding the current governance structure of companies to assist them in their efforts and provide diverse solutions to effectively change corporate governance structures by taking full advantage of our understanding of the applicable laws and regulations, including the Commercial Code, the Capital Markets and Financial Investment Business Act, and the Monopoly Regulation and Fair Trade Act.



Cross-Border Trade/Investment

Our Cross-Border Trade and Investment Team has a track record of successfully representing and advising domestic and foreign companies, financial institutions, and government agencies in connection with various international transactions and investment deals. We are experienced in providing legal advice on review of deal structures, including M&As, cross-border investment, and international commercial deals, as well as technology and license contracts, due diligence, negotiations, and deal closings. Our attorneys provide efficient and timely services on international transactions and investments for clients by working closely with law firms and lawyers located in North America, Europe, China, Southeast Asia, Singapore, Hong Kong, and the Middle East.

Corporate Finance

Our Corporate Finance Team is led by partners with substantial experience and expert knowledge in financial transactions. Considering our clients' need for diversified and specialized legal services in the corporate finance field, we operate individual practice groups consisting of lawyers and advisors specializing in the respective fields of M&A financing, private equities, insurance, trusts, derivatives, venture capital, fintech, project financing, capital market transactions, securitization and structured financing, collective investment schemes, asset management, and general corporate finance.

Financial Transaction

Our Financial Transaction Team is divided into sub-groups specializing in project financing, real estate financing, indirect investment in real estate, capital market transactions, securitization and structured financing, collective investment, asset management, financial regulations, permits, and corporate general finance. The team continues to maintain an outstanding track record in financial transaction cases by providing the best legal services in the field within Korea.

Emerging Market

The Emerging Market Team is in charge of providing legal services for outbound and inbound investments to and from emerging markets, including ASEAN member countries such as Vietnam, which continues to grow rapidly, and CIS member countries such as Russia, North Korea, and China, which have close ties with South Korea. Each emerging market has its own unique regional characteristics and legal restrictions. Our Emerging Market Team has built a close working relationship with the best law firms in these countries and provides prompt and satisfactory legal services for clients wherever they may be in collaboration with our partner law firms.

Energy/Infrastructure

The energy and infrastructure sector is a specialized legal field that requires extensive understanding of trade practices and financial structures as well as legal knowledge of the uniqueness of the industry. Our Energy and Infrastructure Team has experience in various fields such as private investment, renewable energy, power generation, and resource development. In particular, we successfully completed a number of projects in the field of private investment and photovoltaic power generation. We have also been expanding our capabilities for overseas projects during the last several years. Our Energy and Infrastructure Team provides legal advice to financial institutions, developers, construction companies, and project owners from diverse perspectives. We advise clients throughout the entire life cycle of a project, from the initial bidding stage to refinancing after the closing of the deal, encompassing legal reviews of the deal structure, negotiations, and the execution of contracts and instruments. We promise to provide you with timely and professional advisory services.

International Arbitration

Our International Arbitration Team has a track record of successfully representing and advising local and foreign clients on various arbitration cases brought before international arbitration organizations such as the Korean Commercial Arbitration Board (KCAB), International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), London Court of International Arbitration (LCIA), American Arbitration Association (AAA/ICDR), Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC), Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre (HKIAC), and the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS). The team consists of lawyers who provide effective and efficient legal services for clients over the entire lifecycle of a dispute based on their in-depth knowledge of foreign cultures and laws, the uniqueness of international transactions, excellent command of foreign languages, effective negotiating abilities, and ample experience in dealing with domestic and international dispute cases.



Emerging Issues



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Response to Serious Accidents

The Serious Accidents Punishment Act (SAPA) has been enacted to prevent serious accidents and protect the lives of citizens and workers by setting out punishments to be applied to business owners and/or individuals in charge of management who use substances or goods that are harmful to the human body or fail to comply with relevant safety and health obligations and cause personal injury or death. The law mainly focuses on punishment of companies or those in charge of management, and companies need to prepare themselves to be able to promptly and effectively respond to any accidents that may occur following serious disasters and carry out compliance and legal risk management efforts before any such accidents actually take place. Our SAPA Response Center provides optimal legal services to companies to build stronger safety and health management systems pursuant to SAPA and implement such systems based on the extensive practical experience we have accumulated from occupational safety and health issues and serious accidents. We provide customized services so our clients can preemptively respond to various types of administrative dispositions imposed by prosecutors' offices, the Ministry of Employment and Labor, and the Ministry of Environment. We recently published "Commentaries on the Serious Accidents Punishment Act" to assist companies that were struggling to make decisions concerning SAPA, because the law is deemed too broad and ambiguous. Our SAPA Response Center is led by lawyers who formerly served as judges or prosecutors and specialized in industrial accidents, as well as attorneys who formerly worked as labor attorneys and police officers. The center is also supported by of-counsels and advisors with diverse practical experience from related government agencies. Based on their extensive knowledge and experience, we seek to provide timely and accurate solutions to our clients.

Digital Assets and Innovative Industries

The blockchain-based digital asset industry is extending its territory, starting from cryptocurrency to non-fungible tokens (NFT) and the metaverse. Data, once recognized as a collection of numbers at most, is emerging as an independent property, while a self-driving car is no longer technology of the distant future. We aim to provide legal services tailored to all innovative industries: including the autonomous driving industry, data industry, and artificial intelligence industry, with comprehensive legal services for digital assets, including virtual currency at our focus. We also provide consultation on platform and wallet structure design targeting NFT businesses, advice on operating NFT marketplace, and a close study of laws on NFT issuances (e.g., the Specific Financial Information Act, the Copyright Act, the Capital Market Act, the Game Industry Promotion Act, and the E-commerce Act). We have successfully reviewed the legal issues of virtual asset businesses (trading, storage, management, brokerage, etc.), reported virtual asset businesses, advised on money laundering prevention and travel compliance, conducted legal review and consulting on overseas virtual asset businesses, metaverse of social network service operators, provided comprehensive legal advisory services related to NFT business consulting, and advisory and litigation services related to other virtual assets.



Estate Planning

Our Estate Planning (EP) Center was established to provide all-inclusive services to clients for matters on inheritance, asset transactions, and business succession. We are the first large law firm in Korea to provide comprehensive asset management services that include estate planning. Inheritance, asset transactions, and business succession are important matters that require legal expertise. As such, our lawyers, who are experts in the relevant fields, are tasked with coming up with specific plans for asset management to be carried out in partnership with financial institutions. Through our before-service services, we review and analyze our clients' needs to provide the best possible estate planning and tax reduction plans and provide our legal opinion if a client decides to proceed with asset transaction or business succession. Based on our legal opinion, we conduct additional consulting to gain a deeper understanding of the specifics of the client's requests and provide further advice and services on asset management, estate planning (wills, living trusts, guardianship agreements, etc.), and business succession. Our EP Center provides asset management consultation on i) disposal, development, and investment of existing assets (including consultation on investment in and management of new types of assets, such as cryptocurrency and NFTs), and ii) consultation on investments into overseas asset and immigration. Regarding business succession, the center provides the highest level of services, including consultation on business succession strategies, such as change of corporate governance structure, M&As, and living trusts, as well as on tax saving strategies.

ESG

Elimination of uncertainties in corporate management is crucial for corporate growth. Securing legal stability is particularly important, as it is directly related to the company's survival. As a corporate legal partner, we strive to help our clients achieve sustainable growth. To deal with ESG issues, which have emerged as one of the major agenda for corporate management, we created a team for ESG-related matters. By collaborating with accounting firms, credit rating agencies, and management consulting firms, we provide the best possible consulting services on ESG. We also created a set of 15 lectures on "Corporate ESG Response Strategies" in cooperation with a media company. In this field, we assisted the audit committee of a large Korean conglomerate, provided support for the internal regulations and compliance matters for one of the four major banks in Korea, and provided legal advice to an asset management company on managing an "ESG Improvement Fund."



Global Network

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- **The United States of America**

We continue to provide legal advice to the U.S. Embassy, which represents the U.S. government in Korea, on relocating to a new location. We also provide advisory services to other foreign embassies and foreign companies. One of the greatest advantages of working with us on U.S.-related matters is our close ties with the Korean-American community in the U.S. For a long period, we have been at the forefront in conducting research on complex legal issues concerning property in the U.S. and Korea owned by Korean-Americans, as many Korean-Americans own property in both the U.S. and Korea individually or through their spouses, parents, or children. It is important to have in-depth knowledge of the laws of Korea and the U.S. to provide effective solutions to Korean-American clients, and a firm must be able to work cooperatively with accountants, tax accountants, and other experts. As such, we have built exclusive cooperative relationships with Korean-American expert groups in the U.S., including the Korean American CPA Society of Southern California (KACPA) and the Korean American Tax Forum, in our efforts to provide optimal assistance and legal advice on business, family affairs, and estate-related issues to Korean-American clients.

- **Japan**

As exchanges between Korea and Japan remain active due to geographical and cultural proximity, the number of legal disputes between the two countries is also increasing. Our attorneys who specialize in Japanese issues have studied in the country or are fluent in Japanese and provide the best legal services in all relevant areas, including matters relating to Korean companies doing business in Japan or vice versa, investments in either country, and international disputes between companies in Korea and Japan. To provide optimal services, we continue to cooperate and work closely with renowned law firms in Japan.



- **China**

We operate a team that specializes in providing legal advice on China. Our China Team is led by attorneys who were partners at Chinese law firms, and the team consists of lawyers who are fluent in Chinese and have extensive knowledge and understanding of the laws of China. China is a country made up of various regions that each have their own distinct characteristics, and the laws and regulations tend to differ from region to region. As such, we maintain close ties with the best Chinese law firms in each region to provide speedy and satisfactory legal services to our clients located anywhere in China.

- **ASEAN(Singapore,Vietnam, Indonesia)**

ASEAN, which encompasses ten Southeast Asian countries, is Korea's second largest trading partner after China. We provide professional legal services to companies and individuals who seek to invest in the ASEAN market, and we have a proven track record of successfully representing many Korean companies in a number of litigation and arbitration cases filed in the region. We also provide high quality legal services on Korean laws to companies that are headquartered in Southeast Asia and have subsidiaries in Korea. In our efforts to provide speedy and satisfactory services to our clients, we became the first Korean law firm to establish a representative office in Singapore, the business hub of Southeast Asia, in September 2020. Through our Singapore office, we provide one-stop legal services in both Korea and Southeast Asia and provide opportunities for clients to create business networks in the local market.

- **Germany**

Barun Law's German Desk provides a wide range of legal services regarding legal disputes that may arise when Korean companies conduct business in Germany, as well as legal issues that may arise between Korean and German companies. Our German Desk is headed by a German lawyer who previously worked at a German law firm and has extensive knowledge of the laws and corporate culture of Germany. We provide outstanding services on establishing local offices in Germany, partnerships, M&As, and purchasing real estate in Germany. We are also skilled at providing legal advice on settling disputes on sales, transactions between Korean and German companies in Germany or Korea, and advice and representation services for Korean companies for any lawsuits on infringement or invalidity of intellectual property rights filed in Europe.

- **Russia**

Barun Law operates a response team for matters concerning Russia and CIS countries in line with the increasing number of Korean companies doing business in Russia and CIS countries. In 2017, we signed an MOU with Burdelov and Partners, a Moscow-based law firm, laying the foundation for providing high-quality legal services in Russia. Based on our understanding of politics, the economy, society, and culture of Russia and its neighboring countries, we provide comprehensive services to clients in response to their requests.


- **North Korea**

A great number of investment professionals agree that investing in North Korea will be very attractive if sanctions against the regime are eased following held one after another, is now at a stalemate, but it is expected that the inter-Korean economic denuclearization. The situation on the Korean Peninsula, which had been heated by the inter-Korean summit and the North Korea-US summit being cooperation project will resume operation once dialogue channels are reopened and the international situation is stabilized. Our North Korea Investment Team has continued to work to improve our expertise in North Korea, including publishing "Comments on Legislation of North Korea," an analysis of the overall legislation of North Korea on foreign investment. Based on such expertise and close cooperation with other experts and related agencies, we strive to provide customized services to Korean and foreign companies and agencies that are interested in investing in and doing business in North Korea.

We seek to create a warm and supportive community by sharing what we have with others.

We believe in the value of pro bono activities. Time spent on pro bono work for the benefit of those in need is recognized as billable at our firm. We seek to contribute to creating a warm and supportive community by sharing what we have with others. As part of these efforts, we have established The Jung, a public interest entity, to provide support for those who do not have access to digital technology, for surviving family members of those who sacrificed their lives for the good of society, and for North Korean defectors, as well as to carry out welfare activities for delinquent adolescents and the disabled, foreigners who emigrated to Korea, and refugees, marginalized people, and those subject to adult conservatorships.





We will work with our clients to obtain the best results.

Attorney-client relationships are based on trust.

Trust stems from the hard work and skills of the attorney.

Barun's skilled experts are willing and able work hard and showcase their skills.

Barun's legal services make the world a better place.



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