

Zaid Abu-Shattal

Senior Associate

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OVERVIEW

Zaid Abu-Shattal is a senior associate and a member of the Corporate team with a focus on mergers and acquisitions, corporate restructuring, and general corporate and commercial advice.

Zaid has experience in corporate restructuring, M&A, asset management and investment funds, and financial services, and provides general corporate and commercial advice. He regularly advises new and existing clients in respect of their operations in the UAE and changes to their corporate structures.

Zaid was also part of the team that represented two different clients on their proposed public listing in the UAE. He is the main day-to-day point of contact for a number of multinational clients of the firm. Clients appreciate his responsiveness, approachability, and will-do attitude.

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Prior to joining the firm, Zaid was a trainee lawyer for an international law firm in Amman, Jordan. He drafted and reviewed a number of English and Arabic documents in cross-border commercial and corporate M&A transactions, prepared legal memos and advice, as well as advised on local regulatory practices. Zaid has also spent some time in Abu Dhabi and Doha on both office and client secondments.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Recognised by *The Legal 500 EMEA* as a Recommended Lawyer in United Arab Emirates
  - Corporate and M&A, 2026
  - Commercial, Corporate and M&A, 2025
- Recognised by the *Islamic Finance News* (IFN) Law Awards as the Fintech Law Firm of the Year, 2023

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- Co-presenter, Anti-Corruption Compliance at a Glance: What Every Global Business Should Know, including the FCPA and relevant UAE laws, delivered with William Semins to a large engineering & construction group headquartered in Dubai, 17 November 2025
- Co-presenter, UAE Competition Law Training delivered to over 250 employees of a large engineering & construction group headquartered in Dubai, 30 September 2025
- Co-Presenter, “A Brief Walk Through a VC Term Sheet,” DIFC FinTech Hive Accelerator Program, Dubai, 14 June 2021

EDUCATION

- LL.M., University of Law, 2014
- LL.B., University of Kent, 2013 *(Honors)*

ADMISSIONS

- Bar of Jordan

LANGUAGES

- Arabic
- English

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP *POWERED BY HUB*

- February 2025, Asset Management Regulatory Year in Review 2024
- 31 October 2024, Update: Economic Substance Regulations Filings Cancelled
- 23 January 2024, Update - UAE Consumer Protection and E-Commerce Laws
- 19 January 2023, United Arab Emirates: SCA Overhauls Regulations Governing Foreign Fund Offerings
- 10 February 2022, New UAE Federal Data Protection Law
- 9 February 2022, Executive Regulations of the New UAE Labour Law
- 4 February 2022, Update – UAE Introduces Corporate Tax
- 29 November 2021, New UAE Labour Law
- 23 August 2021, Update – DIFC Intellectual Property Legislation

- 23 August 2021, Board of Directors of the Dubai International Financial Centre (DIFC) Authority Issues IP Legislation Update
- 26 January 2021, Amendments to UAE Companies Law – Update on Foreign Direct Ownership and Investment in the UAE
- 26 January 2021, Time to Rethink Strategy: The New Foreign Investment Rules in the UAE
- 5 January 2021, The New UAE Economic Substance Regulations
- 25 November 2020, Update on Foreign Direct Ownership and Investment in the UAE
- 19 October 2020, Brief on the New UAE Cabinet Decision No. 58 of 2020 on Regulating the Beneficial Owner Procedures
- 15 November 2018, Enactment of New Companies Legal Regime in the DIFC
- 2 August 2018, Regulation of Crypto Asset Activities on the Abu Dhabi Global Market
- 5 September 2017, New UAE VAT and Tax Procedures Laws

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- "DIFC: An Emerging Hub for Hedge Funds," *The Legal Industry Reviews* UAE Edition 4, September 2025
- "Asset Management Licensing Overview," *The Legal Industry Reviews* UAE Edition 3, May 2025
- "The UAE's Alternative End-of-Service Benefits System," *The Legal Industry Reviews* UAE Edition 2, January 2025

NEWS & EVENTS

- 16 September 2026, Understanding the UAE Competition Law: Key Concepts, Compliance Risks and Practical Considerations
- 16 February 2026, K&L Gates Advises Ridgepost Capital on Dubai Expansion
- 14 May 2025, K&L Gates Advises MSA Safety Incorporated on €175 Million Acquisition of M&C TechGroup Germany
- 1 February 2024, K&L Gates Advises on Launch of Invest AD Global Asset Manager and Invest AD Blackstone Private Debt Fund
- 12 September 2023, K&L Gates Assists Focus Financial Partners on US$7B Acquisition
- 13 June 2022, A Brief Walk Through a VC Term Sheet, Hosted by DIFC FinTech Hive
- 24 January 2022, K&L Gates Honored By *Islamic Finance News* With Two Deal of the Year Awards

- 13 January 2021, K&L Gates Advises Masraf Al Rayan on US$2.2 Billion Merger With Al Khaliji Commercial Bank

AREAS OF FOCUS

- Mergers and Acquisitions