



Peter Burckhardt, LL.M.

Partner

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Recognitions

- Chambers and Partners Europe: White-Collar Crime since 2013
- The Legal 500: Hall of Fame in Regulatory, Compliance and Investigations since 2022; Hall of Fame in Dispute Resolution: Litigation since 2026
- Lexology Index: Thought Leader in Business Crime Defence since 2023; Thought Leader in Investigations since 2021; Recommended in Asset Recovery since 2020; Recommended in Commercial Litigation since 2021
- Leaders League: White Collar Crime & Investigations
- LMG Expert Guides: White Collar Crime, Commercial Litigation
- Benchmark Litigation Europe Awards: White Collar Crime Lawyer of the Year 2019

Languages

German, English, French, Italian

Selected Publications

- Business & Human Rights - Switzerland, 2025 Edition
- Kooperation mit Strafverfolgungsbehörden
- Anti-Bribery & Corruption, Switzerland, 2023 Edition
- Anwaltsgeheimnis - Legal Privilege im schweizerischen und internationalen Kontext
- Ukraine-Krieg und Recht: Vermögenssperre nach Schweizer Sanktionsregime

Peter Burckhardt leads Schellenberg Wittmer's White-Collar Crime & Compliance and the Internal Corporate Investigations teams in Zurich. Peter has developed a strong practice in complex criminal, regulatory and civil litigation matters, often involving multi-jurisdictional components. He is also frequently retained to conduct internal investigations for a broad range of topics.

Expertise

- White-Collar Crime and Compliance
- Internal Corporate Investigations
- Financial Services
- Sanctions Group
- IT Security and Cybercrime
- Employment
- International Arbitration
- Dispute Resolution

Experience

- Swiss lead counsel in several high-profile criminal investigations relating to foreign corruption which settled in multi-jurisdictional resolutions, including for a listed commodity trading and mining group headquartered in Switzerland and for a major Brazilian construction group in the Petrobras matter
 - Defending a global Swiss bank in a money laundering investigation related to foreign corruption
 - Representing a German car manufacturer against consumer mass claims in the context of the Diesel affair
 - Swiss lead counsel to a global bank headquartered in Switzerland in the U.S. tax dispute
 - Defending a major bank in a Ponzi scheme fraud investigation and related civil and regulatory action
 - Defending a member of top management of a global bank in criminal and regulatory proceedings by Swiss and U.S. law enforcement
 - Defending an ousted head of state in a corruption and money laundering investigation
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Career

2006 Partner at Schellenberg Wittmer
1999 Associate at Schellenberg Wittmer
1996-1998 Served in various functions in the judiciary of the Canton of Bern, notably as criminal prosecutor and deputy judge in civil and criminal matters

Education

1999 LL.M., University of Edinburgh
1995 Bar Admission in Switzerland
1995 University of Bern

Additional Professional Activities

- Member of various professional associations including the Zurich and Swiss Bar Associations, the International Bar Association (IBA), the European Criminal Bar Association (ECBA), and the Swiss Arbitration Association (ASA)
- Regular publications in fields of specialization and speaker at international conferences
- Board Member of FlexLaw