

EY Forensic & Integrity Services offerings in the wake of the COVID-19 outbreak

The Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) outbreak has caused loss of lives, and significant business interruption and volatility in global markets, with the situation changing almost hourly. There will be significant human, commercial and legal consequences as a result of the outbreak. Therefore, companies should consider how they will handle any negative impact, including the potential need for financial disclosure as well as contractual obligations with their customers.

The EY Forensic & Integrity Services team has international experience in dealing with complex issues in times of crisis. This includes providing assistance to companies in relation to compliance, investigations, insurance and claims and disputes. We have more than 4,000 forensic and technology professionals in 154 locations across 73 countries providing real-time insight, intelligence and local response.

Business continuity & crisis management

- ▶ Providing scenario and contingency planning, and the development of crisis response plans
- ▶ Assisting in specific parts of core crisis management – (e.g., situational assessment and review, crisis mitigation strategies and information and communications strategy)
- ▶ Providing subject-matter expert resource and technology with a Program Management Office (PMO) approach to supplement an organization's capabilities
- ▶ Facilitating crisis (also post crisis) management assessments, reviewing current status quo and identifying the potential activities to further improve the organization's crisis management system

Litigation, insurance claims coverage and contract dispute resolution

- ▶ Assessing the applicability of insurance coverages, including business interruption (BI), civil authority, ingress/egress, contingent BI, and event cancellation
- ▶ Preparing insurance claims, including assisting with claims strategy and guidance on expediting the overall process
- ▶ Investigating the contractual implications of business disruption
- ▶ Helping develop a legal strategy to make or defend a claim, including assessing the quantum of potential recovery or liability
- ▶ Monitoring for abuse in claims for subsidies or official reliefs and claims for force majeure
- ▶ Checking insurance arrangements and cargo delivery clauses
- ▶ Using Forensics Data Analytics, eDiscovery and Managed Document Review to help clients analyze and check the terms of existing contracts for force majeure clauses

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Management of local issues and risks faced by employees and vendors

- ▶ Reviewing an organization's duty of care compliance with specific regard to the mitigation of travel and security risks
- ▶ Delivering training and information on the virus for the local workforce as well as for travellers and expatriates
- ▶ Auditing the supply chain to ensure compliance with company policies on health, safety and environment
- ▶ Utilizing contract analytics to manage new and existing contract risks

Investigations and compliance audits

- ▶ Conducting compliance audits and investigations to help reduce exposure to regulatory issues and help uncover potential fraud, bribery and corruption that could arise as a result of collusion or management override, given the resulting trading conditions
- ▶ Providing assistance in helping assess and manage business conduct and ethics as well as delivering global investigations support which can be deployed at short notice subject to local country quarantine protocols
- ▶ Providing support where discrimination or other actions may lead to whistle-blowers and ensuing investigations
- ▶ Deploying EY global eDiscovery systems (including on-site servers) to collect and analyse data where access to critical data is prevented by travel restrictions

For further information, please contact the Forensic & Integrity Services team members listed below:

Crisis Leadership



Arpinder Singh
Partner and Head - India and Emerging Markets
arpinder.singh@in.ey.com
+ 91 12 4443 0330

Claims and Disputes



Yogen Vaidya
Partner and Disputes Lead
yogen.vaidya@in.ey.com
+ 91 22 6192 2264

Incident Response



Harshavardhan G.
Partner and Forensic Technology Lead
harshavardhan.g@in.ey.com
+ 91 40 6736 2234



Ranjeeth Bellary
Associate Partner
ranjeeth.bellary@in.ey.com
+ 91 22 6192 0172



Pavan Janakiraman
International Director, Forensic Technology
pavan1.jankiraman@in.ey.com
+ 91 124 4430160

Customer and Brand Protection



Anurag Kashyap
Partner and Brand Protection Lead
anurag.kashyap@in.ey.com
+ 91 22 6192 0373

Contract Management and Operations Recovery



Kulbir Kaur
Managed Document Review Lead
kulbir.kaur@in.ey.com
+ 91 22 6192 2259