

**Anthony V. Raftopol**

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Anthony V. Raftopol**AREAS OF CONCENTRATION**

- Joint Ventures
- Acquisitions
- Real Estate Development & Finance
- Employment Law and Tax
- Franchises/Licensing/Intellectual Property
- Investment Licenses
- Residency & Business Visas
- Oil & Gas

EXPERIENCE

Anthony V. Raftopol, Counsel to the Iraq Law Alliance, PLLC, has spent over 17 years working in various legal jurisdictions, from New York's Wall Street to emerging markets in the Middle East and Eastern Europe.

In Iraq, Anthony focuses on investment matters in both Federal Iraq as well as the Kurdistan region, and is frequently engaged in the following types of transactions:

- acquisitions of local enterprises,
- investment and joint venture agreements,
- securing investor licenses,
- construction and real estate development,
- the development of hotel and other leisure facilities,
- secured financing arrangements in the real estate and industrial sectors,
- franchising/licensing arrangements,
- company registrations,
- employment and related tax issues, and
- work permit and visa-related matters.

Anthony also works in various Oil & Gas matters, including negotiating Production Sharing Agreements on behalf of foreign investors, Farm-In and Farm-Out arrangements, and is familiar with the political and business issues affecting E&P investments in the Kurdistan Region.

Prior to joining Iraq Law Alliance, PLLC, Anthony founded a law practice in Eastern Europe, has worked as General Counsel to leading

international trading companies. He also manages a business consulting company in Iraq.

REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

- Advised world's largest cement manufacturer on its acquisitions in federal Iraq and the Kurdistan region, and structure the tax and employment policies for several hundred newly-acquired employees located throughout Iraq.
- Perform title and corporate due diligence in respect of a 5-star hotel and spa project located in the Kurdistan region, and assist with all operational issues arising out of the further design and construction of the facility.
- Advise North American oil companies on numerous legal and business-related aspects of securing E&P licensing rights in the Kurdistan Region.
- Advise large U.S.-based real estate investment fund on a number of acquisitions of existing income-generating real estate assets, including office complexes, malls and commercial centers.
- Structure a wide variety of acquisitions, licensing and reseller arrangements, and advised on numerous technology and intellectual property-related issues on behalf of one of the world's largest radio station software developers, located in New York City.
- Represented one of Germany's largest industrial groups in respect of establishing numerous production facilities in Eastern Europe.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

"Taxation of Foreign Suppliers in Iraq," International Law Office, April 2011.

"Tax and Social Security Hiring Considerations in Federal Iraq and the Kurdistan Region," International Law Office, July 2011.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES AND MEMBERSHIPS

- Admitted to the Bar of the State of New York (1995)
- Admitted to the Bucharest Bar (2006)
- United States District Court for the Southern District of New York (1995)

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

1994 – Juris Doctorate, Boston University School of Law, Boston Massachusetts, USA.

1991 – Bachelor of Science, *Cum Laude*, Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois, USA.

INTERESTS

Anthony enjoys spending time with his family, as well as the pleasures of food, wine, world travel, swimming, hiking, kayaking and exploring Amsterdam.

LANGUAGE CAPABILITIES

- English - Native
- Romanian – Fluent
- French – Fluent
- Italian – Proficient
- Spanish – Proficient