



**Criminal Defense  
Law Firm**

# ABOUT US

**Criminal Defense is a law firm established by qualified advocates with significant experience working in the RF Prosecutor General's Office and the RF Investigative Committee.**

We are very familiar with all aspects of the methods and approaches of law enforcement agencies. Our experience means we work as effectively as possible with law enforcement officers to achieve our clients' desired results.

We focus on complex criminal business, white-collar and corruption cases. We represent business owners, Russian and foreign companies, their employees, and public officials.

# SERVICES



**Legal support  
of private clients**



**Legal support  
of corporate clients**



## OUR LEGAL SUPPORT OF CORPORATE CLIENTS INCLUDES:



**Advising on criminal law and proceedings**



**Developing a uniform strategy and tactics for providing legal support for restoration of violated rights**



**Evaluating criminal risks and prospects of a case**



**Employing mediation procedures to resolve disputes, participating in negotiations**



**Advocate investigation**

- Criminal compliance
- Criminal audit of companies: identifying and preventing likely criminal risks for business
- Carrying out internal corporate investigations of alleged offenses
- Identifying and mitigating criminal risks in the bankruptcy process of companies
- Protecting business from law enforcement agencies
- Arranging and providing workshops on interacting with law enforcement officials
- Protecting businesses from fraud and illegal takeovers



## OUR LEGAL SUPPORT OF PRIVATE CLIENTS INCLUDES:



**Advising on criminal law and proceedings**



**Assessing criminal risks and prospects of a case**



**Developing a uniform strategy and tactics of legal protection against illegal (unjustified) criminal prosecution**

■ Protecting suspects, accused, and defendants at all stages of criminal proceedings ■ Protection during extradition, criminal prosecution of persons extradited by foreign states, protection of persons being put on the international wanted list ■ Representing other persons whose rights have been violated by the actions and decisions of law enforcement agencies ■ Representing victims and witnesses ■ Protection in situations related to operational investigative activities ■ Criminal legal support of activities with cryptocurrency and digital assets (support of mining activities, taking measures to search and return cryptocurrencies to the owner, conducting blockchain investigations, working with NFT)

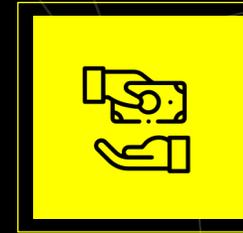
# PROJECTS



**Supporting  
corporate clients**



**Defending and representing  
private clients**





## REPRESENTING CORPORATE CLIENTS (1)

**2.** Representing interests of one of the largest banks of Russia and its employees as victims in **a fraud case** before the law enforcement and judicial authorities during pre-investigation and proceedings on criminal cases in order to claim reparation.

**1.** Representing interests of a leasing company before law enforcement agencies **in connection with a crime in collusion with a group involving an employee** during the following stages:

- i) Pre-investigation,
- ii) Support during judicial investigation.



**As a result of advocate's work, the company was recognized as victim and civil claimant.**

**3.** Legal support of a financial company in connection **with embezzlement of over 100 m rubles by a group.**

According to the client, prior to Criminal Defense Firm advocates' involvement in this case, the investigators refused to initiate criminal proceedings. During legal investigation and submission of the necessary documents, the investigator initiated the criminal case and recognized the company as an injured party. In addition, a new episode of committing fraudulent actions in the amount of over 13 m rubles by the same group of criminals was revealed.



## REPRESENTING CORPORATE CLIENTS (2)

- 5. Criminal law audit of an innovative product supply group as a result of which most business processes were restructured and preventative measures were taken.**

Having been informed of the risks, the owner terminated relationships with dubious contractors.

- 4. Representing interests of a bank's employees and its chairman before the law enforcement agencies in connection with illegal and unjustified criminal prosecution with subsequent arrest of assets **over 400 m rubles in value.****

Protecting interests of the bank during searches, seizures, interrogations, and illegal takeover.

- 6. Criminal law audit of a group (internal and external), as well as **managing and minimising criminal law-related risks for its heavy industry holding company.****

Supporting staff through pre-investigation and tax inspections. Support through a transition to a new group management structure, as well as with general business administration and work with contractors. No criminal case was initiated.



## DEFENDING THE INTERESTS OF PRIVATE CLIENTS: EMBEZZLEMENT (1)

**2.** Representing interests of one of the largest banks of Russia and its employees as victims in **a fraud case** before the law enforcement and judicial authorities during pre-investigation and proceedings on criminal cases in order to claim reparation.

**1.** Defending a high-ranking public official and members of his family wrongly accused of negligence and embezzlement of a significant amount of public funds classified as fraud (30 instances) in connection with the restoration of Rossiya and Illyuzion cinemas.

**!** **The criminal case was dropped.**

**3.** Defending the General Director of a company and a Russian Ministry of Defence top-level employee in connection with the giving and receiving a substantial bribe.

**!** **The case is unique, as only two similar cases have been terminated over the last 15 years and, for the first time in 15 years, a case was terminated on the basis of an absence of corpus delicti.**



## DEFENDING THE INTERESTS OF PRIVATE CLIENTS: EMBEZZLEMENT (2)

**4.** Defending the general director of a medium-sized business alleged to have embezzled a significant amount of funds in the performance of a government contract. Following complaints by the defence with regard to interim measures, the decision on seizure of assets was reversed.

**The criminal case was terminated on the basis of an absence of corpus delicti.** The client was suspected of a crime (Part Four, Clause 159 of the Criminal Code of the Russian Federation), which carries a sentence of up to 10 years in custody.

**5.** Defending a local politician with a medium-sized business wrongly accused of two instances of embezzlement of a significant amount of money (in excess of 100 m rubles).



**The defence succeeded in having his actions requalified as less serious offences and reducing the penalty to a fine of 80,000 rubles.**



## DEFENDING THE INTERESTS OF PRIVATE CLIENTS: BRIBE GIVING AND RECEIVING

2. Defending a public official wrongly accused of receiving a bribe and disseminating false information to the media.

**The criminal case was dropped due to a lack of evidence. The defamation claim was satisfied.**

1. Defending a businessman and a public official suspected of giving and receiving a bribe.

**! Despite the severity of the allegations and the politicisation of the case, no interim measures were taken, and no charges were brought.**

3. Defending a police employee wrongly accused of receiving a bribe.

**! Evidence provided by the defence facilitated requalification of the defendant's crime. The court imposed minimal sanctions on the defendant.**

# TEAM



**Alexey Novikov**



**Alexey Kasatkin**



**Anna Golub**



**Roman Pavlov**



**Artyom Polovinkin**



**Yury Garmaev**



**Daniil Gorkov**



# ALEXEY NOVIKOV

Managing Partner, Advocate  
a.novikov@criminaldefense.ru

**2006:** graduated from All-Russian State Tax Academy of the Ministry of Finance of the Russian Federation

**17 years'** investigations and defense experience in business, corruption, and white-collar criminal cases, including 13 years working in the Public Prosecution Service of the Russian Federation and the Investigative Committee of the Russian Federation.

**2020:** joined Criminal Defense Law Firm

## Expertise:

- Support during criminal cases and pre-investigation inspections
- Identifying and managing criminal risks and their consequences in companies' business and in their interaction with contractors and supervisory authorities
- Defending and representing private and corporate clients.

Receipt of awards and commendations from the management of the Investigative Committee of the Russian Federation and the Commissioner for Entrepreneurs' Rights at the President of the Russian Federation. Moscow City Commissioner's for Entrepreneurs' Rights Pro Bono Publico Expert.

Recommended by Best Lawyers for criminal defence.

Nominated by Pravo-300 in 'Criminal Law', and by Kommersant in 'Art and Culture Law' category in individual ratings of recommended lawyers.



# ALEXEY KASATKIN

Senior Partner, Advocate

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**2002:** Moscow City University of Consumer Cooperation, First-Class Honours

**2020:** Department of Higher Professional Education at the All-Russian State University of Justice (RLA of the Ministry of Justice of Russia), Mediation

**20 years'** investigations and defence experience in business, corruption, and white-collar criminal cases, including 8 years working in the RF Public Prosecution Service and the RF Investigative Committee

**2020:** joined Criminal Defense Law Firm

## Expertise:

- Defending and representing private and corporate clients
- Defending business against law enforcement agencies at the pre-court stages of criminal proceedings, including pre-investigation checks and unscheduled inspections
- Protecting businesses from fraud and illegal takeovers
- Employing mediation to resolve disputes

Member of the RF Ministry of Economic Development Expert Board for Reducing Business Related Criminal Law Risks.

Member of the Advisory Board of the Federation Council's Committee for Constitutional Legislation and State Building on Criminal Law, Criminal Proceedings, Penal and Administrative Law.

Moscow City Commissioner's for Entrepreneurs' Rights Pro Bono Publico Expert.

Receipt of awards and commendations from the RF Prosecutor General (2004) and the Chairman of the RF Investigative Committee (2010). Member of the Moscow Chamber of Advocates since 2011.

Recommended by Best Lawyers for criminal defence.



# ANNA GOLUB

Partner, Advocate

[a.golub@criminaldefense.ru](mailto:a.golub@criminaldefense.ru)

**2014:** Russian University of Transport (MIIT), Jurisprudence

**2020:** Department of Higher Professional Education at the All-Russian State University of Justice (RLA of the Ministry of Justice of Russia), Mediation

**10 years'** investigations and defence experience in business, corruption, and white-collar criminal cases, including 4.5 years working for the RF Investigative Committee as an investigator.

**2018-2019:** Srednerussky Bank of Sberbank of Russia, Department for the Protection of the Bank's Corporate Business and Interaction with State Authorities

**2020:** joined Criminal Defense Law Firm.

## Expertise:

- Criminal cases (defending and representing victims and witnesses)
- Pre-investigation inspection materials
- Identifying and managing criminal law risks and their consequences in organisations' business and in their work with contractors and supervisory authorities
- Breach of trademark copyright
- Employing mediation to resolve disputes

Recommended by Best Lawyers for criminal defence.



# ROMAN PAVLOV

Partner, Advocate

[r.pavlov@criminaldefense.ru](mailto:r.pavlov@criminaldefense.ru)

**2004:** Kutafin Moscow State Law University (MSAL), Institute of Public Prosecution.

**17 years'** investigations and defence experience in business, corruption, and white-collar criminal cases, including 6 years' working for the RF Public Prosecution Service as an assistant officer to a prosecutor (a prosecutor involved in the court stages of criminal proceedings) and for the RF Investigative Committee as an investigator.

**2021:** joined Criminal Defense Law Firm.

## Expertise:

- Defending and representing private and corporate clients at all stages of criminal proceedings, including pre-investigation reviews and on-the-spot checks.
- Identifying and managing criminal law risks and their consequences in organisations' business and in their work with contractors and supervisory authorities.
- Protecting businesses from fraud and illegal takeovers.

Advocate of the Moscow City Chamber of Advocates since 2011.



## ARTYOM POLOVINKIN

Partner, Advocate

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**2005:** Kutafin Moscow State Law University (MSAL).

**2011–2012:** Capital Market and Management Institute: certificates of the Federal Financial Markets Service (now abolished, with its functions transferred to the Central Bank of Russia): on stock market, broker and dealer activity; management of securities, investment funds, mutual investment funds, and private pension funds.

**16 years'** investigations and defence experience in business, corruption, and white-collar criminal cases, including 14 years' working for the RF Investigative Committee and RF Public Prosecution Service.

**2021:** joined Criminal Defense Law Firm.

### Expertise:

- Defending and representing private and corporate clients in criminal cases, pre-investigation reviews, and on-the-spot checks.
- Legal representation and business protection during criminal proceedings, including pre-investigation reviews, investigative work, and challenging court decisions on the seizure and arrest of property and monetary funds.
- Defending individuals against being put on international wanted lists and extradition, and persons handed over by foreign states against criminal prosecution.
- Protection of businesses against fraud and illegal takeovers committed through evidence tampering and forgery in arbitration and civil proceedings.
- Defending and representing private and corporate clients.

Receipt of awards and commendations from the Moscow City Prosecutor (2006, 2009, 2015).



# YURY GARMAEV

Counsel

[y.garmaev@criminaldefense.ru](mailto:y.garmaev@criminaldefense.ru)

Doctor of laws, professor, retired Senior Councillor of Justice (Prosecution Authority Colonel), Honoured Lawyer of the Republic of Buryatia.

Yury Garmaev has 29 years' experience working for the prosecution authorities, on investigations and in higher education. He is one of the leading Russian specialists in criminalistics and in the fields of crime detection and investigation, and in classification, detection and investigation of corruption and white-collar crime, as well as in criminal defence. Director of research centres at the Buryat State University.

Authored and co-authored 60 books and over 400 articles.

- Over the past 18 years, Yury Garmaev has conducted over 500 seminars and workshops for practising lawyers, investigators, advocates and prosecutors in 28 major Russian cities and three foreign countries.
- Member of the Union of Criminalists and Criminologists, the International Union of Assistance to Justice, and the International Criminalists Congress.

## Expertise:

- Criminal law assessment and investigation of corruption, and white-collar and international financial crimes
- Defence against unlawful criminal charges
- Preparing legal opinions

Recommended by Best Lawyers for criminal defence in Russia.



# DANIIL GORKOV

Lawyer

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2022: Business Law Institute, Kutafin Moscow State Law University (MSAL)

2021: joined Criminal Defense Law Firm.

Previously worked for Aronov and Partners Law Firm as an assistant of the Managing Partner.

## Expertise:

- Criminal and criminal procedure law
- Entrepreneurial law
- Fintech

Advises owners and business leaders, executives and public officials on criminal and complex defence of business.

Moscow City Commissioner's for Entrepreneurs' Rights Pro Bono Publico Expert.

As of 2022, Daniil is developing cryptocurrency assets practice in the firm.

Constantly sharing his expertise on defending cryptocurrency assets with leading Russian media: RBC-Crypto, Vedomosti, Kommersant, Forbes, etc.

# RANKINGS

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE FIRM'S EXPERTISE AND THE TEAM

Best Lawyers®

Partners **Alexey Novikov**, **Anna Golub**, and the firm's Counsel, professor **Yury Garmaev** are recommended by the Best Lawyers 2022 international rating for criminal law in Russia. Senior Partner **Alexey Kasatkin** holds his position in the Best Lawyers rating for criminal defence in Russia for the third year in a row.

PRAVO  
300

**Criminal Defense Firm** is recommended by Pravo-300 federal ranking in nomination 'Criminal Law'.

Partners **Alexey Novikov**, **Alexey Kasatkin**, **Anna Golub**, and the firm's Counsel **Yury Garmaev** have entered the PRAVO-300 Recommended Lawyers ranking for criminal law.

Kommersant

**Criminal Defense Firm** entered the top Russian legal and industry practices of the federal ranking:

- 'Criminal Law: White-Collar Crimes' (Band 1);
- 'Criminal Law: Financial Crimes' (Band 2).

CDF Managing Partner **Alexey Novikov** was recognised as one of the best lawyers in nomination 'Art and Culture Law' for the second year in a row.

Forbes

**Criminal Defense Firm** is one of the leading firms in Russia in nomination 'Criminal Defense' of Forbes Club Legal Research 2021.

# CONTACT INFORMATION



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<https://goo.su/ycs0Rp>

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