



AMERICAN CONSULATE GENERAL
THESSALONIKI, GREECE

2010

LIST OF ATTORNEYS



The Thessaloniki consular district comprises those areas of Northern Greece known as Macedonia, Thrace and Thessaly. It includes the Nomi (Prefectures) of: Thessaloniki, Halkidiki, Kastoria, Kozani, Grevena, Florina, Pieria, Emathia, Pella, Kilkis, Serres, Drama, Kavala, Xanthi, Larisa, Trikala, Karditsa. It also includes Mount Athos, and the islands of Thassos and Samothrace. The Consulate General assumes no responsibility for the professional ability or integrity of the persons whose names appear in this list. The names listed are arranged alphabetically, and the order in which they appear has no other significance. An asterisk (*) appears beside the names of those attorneys who list English among the foreign languages they speak.

THESSALONIKI

BOUSOULENGA, CHRISTINA (*)

Vas. Heracliou 26, 546 24 Thessaloniki
Tel/Fax: 2310-267-412, 226-146, 473-403
Commercial and Corporate, Civil, Administrative,
Maritime, Trade Marks, Commercial Disputes Law
Correspondence: Greek, English, French
Born in Greece, 1970. Practicing attorney since
1995. University of Thessaloniki, Law School.
LLM in European Community Law, Belgium
Legal advisor to Center of International and
European Economic Law.

DIMOPOULOS, CONSTANTINE (*)

26th of October 24, 5462.. Thessaloniki
Tel.: 552-742, 311-000 (h)
Fax: 552-742
Commercial and Corporate, Civil, Criminal Law
Correspondence: Greek, English
Born in New York, USA, 1966 (U.S. citizen).
Practicing attorney since 1992. University of
Thessaloniki, Law School graduate. 1990, pre-law
studies at Wagner College, S.I., N.Y.
Assisted by one attorney, John Naskos

ELEFThERIADOU, LOUISA MARIA (*)

Pythagora 2, N. Ionia, 14231 Athens
Tel. and Fax: 2310-343-367 (home)
Cell: 6974-311641
E-Mail: leleftheriades@hotmail.com
lmelawfirm@hotmail.com
Wills and Estates, Property Law, Taxation, Family
Law, Powers of Attorney, Commercial and
Corporate, Administrative, Trademarks
Correspondence: Greek, English, German
Born in Canton, Ohio, USA, in 1971. Practicing
attorney since 1997. Dimokritio University of
Thrace, Law School. Case Western Reserve
University, Cleveland, Ohio, Master of Laws in US
Legal studies, graduation in honors.

HADJIYANNAKIS, CONSTANTINOS (*)

"NOMOS" THESSALONIKI LAW FIRM
Vas. Heracliou 26, 546 24 Thessaloniki
Tel.: 2310-263-665, 239-104
Fax: 2310-222-405, 273-987
Cell: 6977-213652
E-Mail: gc@nomos.gr
Administrative, Antitrust and Competition, Civil
Litigation, Criminal, Company and Corporate,
Commercial Disputes Resolution, Estate and
Labor, Intellectual Property, Investments, Taxation
and Banking
Correspondence: Greek, English, French, German,
Italian, Spanish, Turkish

Born in Greece, 1942. Practicing attorney since
1969.
University of Thessaloniki, (LL.D.), University of
Rennes, France, (M.A. and PH.D.), Professor at the
Pandios University of Political Sciences until 1984.
Partners: Constantine G. Hadjiyannakis (senior
partner), Athanasios Georgiadis (managing
partner), Alexander Tsamis, Ignatios Kaitezidis,
Dimitrios Kouvelas, Gabriel Kermanidis.
Associates: 10 qualified attorneys

HARATSARIS, NIKOLAOS (*)

Tsimiski 17, 546 24 Thessaloniki
Tel.: 228-340
Commercial and Corporate, Civil, Criminal,
Commercial Disputes, Taxation and Estate, Labor
Correspondence: Greek, English
Born in Greece, 1951. Practicing attorney since 76.
University of Thessaloniki, Law School. President
of YMCA Thessaloniki

HARITIDOU, AFRODITI (*)

Komnion 8, 546 24 Thessaloniki
Tel. & Fax: 2310-227-294, 813-420
Commercial and Corporate, Civil, Marine Law,
Taxation and Estate, Labor, Private International
Law Correspondence: Greek, English French
Born in Greece, 1965. Practicing attorney since
1989.
University of Thessaloniki, Law School. Post-
graduate studies DEA, Paris I-Sorbonne. Diploma
in English, Commercial Law 1995,
(College of Law in London, UK)

KIKIS, ATHANASIOS (*)

Polytechniou 17B, 54626 Thessaloniki
Tel.: 2310-511014, 533256
Fax: 2310-533256
Cell: 6972-507304
E-Mail: atkikis@hotmail.com
Banking, Commercial and Corporate, Land,
Family, Tort, Taxation, Trademarks, EC Law,
Contracts, Criminal, Administrative Law
Correspondence: Greek, English
Luton University (LLB), UK, First Class
London School of Economics and Political
Sciences (LSE), Master of Laws (LLM), UK, with
Merit.

KALANTZI, EVGENIA (*)

Ionos Dragoumi 5, 54625 Thessaloniki
Tel.: 2310-555805
Fax: 2310-555805
Cell: 6936-020874
E-Mail: ekalantzi@mail.gr
Law of Property, Banking Law, Administrative
Law, Private International Law, Immigration
Matters, Employment Law, Commercial law
Correspondence: Greek, English, French

Aristotelio University of Thessaloniki

KOSMATOPOULOU, CHIRSTINA (*)

Leoforos Nikis 3, 54624 Thessaloniki

Tel.: 2310-257-728

Fax: 2310-260007

Cell: 6936-865888

E-mail: ckosmatopoulou@ath.forthnet.gr

Correspondence: Greek, English, French, Italian, German

Born in Greece. Practicing attorney since 1999.

Appointed to the Court of Appeals in Thessaloniki.

Stock market, contracts, legal due diligence, free an unfair competition, intellectual and industrial property law.

University of Thessaloniki, Law School (1992-96).

University of Edinburgh, UK, Faculty of

Law, LL.M. (Commercial and European Union

Law).

KYRIAKOU, MARIA-MIRELLA (*)

Olympiou Diamanti 16, 546 26 Thessaloniki

Tel.: 2310-525742, Cell: 6932-391281

Fax: 2310-526617 Home: 2310-471105

E-Mail: kyriakou@otenet.gr

Undertakes all law cases.

Correspondence: Greek, English, French, Spanish, German, Bulgarian

Born in Greece, 1971. Practicing attorney since 1996.

University of Thessaloniki, Law School, graduated

1993. Post-graduate studies Thessaloniki Law

School, at Dept of Commercial Law and

Economics, 1999. Doctoral 11/1999. Scientific

collaborator at Technological and Educational

Institute of Thessaloniki and Institute of

Professional Education. Appeals before Court of

Appeals since 2/2000.

MATSOS, GEORGIOS (*)

Vas Irakleiou 47 st. Thessaloniki 54623

Tel: +30 2310 500 059 Fax: +30 2310 516726

Email: matsos@mtk-law.com

Web page: <http://www.mtk-law.com>

Correspondence: Greek, English, German, French, Italian, Dutch

Born in Greece, 1973

Law Degree from the University of Thessaloniki, 1995

LL.M. in European Law from the Free University of Brussels (French speaking), 1997

Ph.D. in Tax Law from the University of Bayreuth, Germany, 2001

Practicing attorney since 2001 (admission 1997).

Admitted to the Supreme Court of Greece since

2005. Listed at the European Patent Office as a

Professional Representative since 2006.

Specializes in: Tax law. Corporate law, accounting law, labor law, administrative law, public

procurement, intellectual property, international private law, real estate, European law.

Assisted by two other lawyers.

MANTZOUFAS, PANAGIOTIS (*)

Dodekanissou 22, 546 26 Thessaloniki

Tel.: 543-255, 212-817

Commercial and Corporate, Administrative, Civil, Criminal, Commercial Disputes, Taxation and Estate

Correspondence: Greek, English, French, German

Born in Greece, 1966. Practicing attorney since 1990.

University of Thessaloniki, Law School. Post-

graduate studies in Administrative and

Constitutional Law.

Partnership with two other attorneys.

MOISSIDOU, PELAGIA (*)

Sporadon 7, 546 46 Thessaloniki

Tel.: 2310-426613

Cell: 6973-012455

E-Mail: creative@the.forthnet.gr

Born in Greece, 1962. Practicing attorney since 1987.

University of Thessaloniki, Law School.

Certified translations in English, German, Italian, Romanian, Turkish, and French.

MOSCHOURI-TOKMAKIDOU, ELENI (*)

Salaminos 4, 546 25 Thessaloniki

Tel.: 2310-520-520

Cell: 6972-216811

E-Mail: eltok@yahoo.com

Banking Law, Commercial, Corporate, Civil, Commercial Disputes, Taxation and Estate, Traffic Accidents.

Correspondence: Greek, English, German

Born in Greece, 1954. Practicing attorney since 1982.

University of Thessaloniki, Law School. Post

graduate studies in Commercial and Banking Law.

Mjur (Master of Jurisprudence) PhD.

NASSIS, LAMBRINI (*)

Frangon 3, 4th floor, Thessaloniki

Tel.: 2310-551001 Fax: 2310-551002

Cell: 6973-757676

E-Mail: lnassis@yahoo.com, lnassis@nysbar.com

Correspondence: Greek, English

Practicing attorney since 2003. Juris Doctor degree from NY. Undertakes all cases.

Hunter College, City University of NY, NY,

Bachelor of Arts (1999), Brooklyn Law School,

Brooklyn NY, (2002). Admitted in NY State Barr

and Thessaloniki Barr Assn. Member of the NY

State Barr Assn, American Barr Assn, Brooklyn Barr Assn. Professor at Law at American College of Thessaloniki, ACT, since Sept. 2004, Studies of Business Science (SBS), New York College, Thessaloniki, since Oct. 2004.

NEDELKOPOULOS, ANTONIOS (*)

Hermou 18A, 546 24 Thessaloniki
Tel.: 2310-285-049, 282-952, 341-127
Fax: 2310-266-559, E-Mail: anedel@acn.gr
Corporate Tax, Industrial Property (Trade Marks, Patents, etc.), Immovable Property, Commercial Disputes, Franchising
Correspondence: Greek, English, French
Practicing attorney since 1982.
Born in Greece, 1954. University of Thessaloniki, Law School, 1980. Special studies at International University Institute in Luxembourg in 1981. Post-graduate studies (Master of Law in International and Comparative Law) in the Free University of Brussels. Served in corporate tax department in the European Communities, 1982. Post-graduate studies in Public Law, University of Thessaloniki, 1983. As of February 1987, admitted to the Court of Appeals. Member of International Bar Association since 1990. Member of Lawyers Association of Northern Greece since 1989. Attorney at law of the Organization of Cultural Capital of Europe "Thessaloniki 1997" between 1995-1998. As of November 1996 admitted to the Supreme Court. Attorney at Law of the National Theater of Northern Greece and of "Egnatia Odos S.A." (construction company) since 1/1/99.

PALIoTZIKAS, ATHANASIOS (*)

28th October 16, Thessaloniki
Tel.: 2310-543-619, 237-400
Cell: 6977-301011, 6944-301011
Criminal, Taxation and Estate
Correspondence: Greek, English, French
Born in Greece, 1964. Practicing attorney since 1989.
University of Thessaloniki, Law School. Public Law and Civil Sciences.

PAPADOPOULOS-TSAYANNIS, DIMITRIOS (*)

Tsimiski 11, 546 24 Thessaloniki
Tel.: 268-683, 268-820, 220-653
Fax: 223-477, Mobile: 6944-375770
International Business and Insurance Law, Tax and Estate, Family Law.

Correspondence: Greek, English, French
Born in Greece, 1960. Practicing attorney since 1985.
University of Thessaloniki, Law School. LL.M. Cornell Law School, NY in International Business Transactions. LL.M. Universite Libre de Bruxelles in European Economic Law. Legal advisor of SAE (Council of Hellenes Abroad).
Partnership with three attorneys. Employs two office clerks.

STAMOULOS, ALEXANDROS (*)

Aristotelous 4, 546 23 Thessaloniki
Tel.: 2310-284-913, 220-264
Commercial and Corporate, Administrative, Civil, Criminal, Commercial Disputes, Taxation and Estate, Labor Law.
Correspondence: Greek, English
Born in Greece, 1950. Practicing attorney since 1975.
University of Thessaloniki, Law School. Post graduate studies at the University of Thessaloniki for Private Law.
Assisted by four attorneys.

TRIANTAFILLOU, ARISTIDIS (*)

Venizelou 44, 546 24 Thessaloniki
Tel. and Fax: 2310-284-729
Cell: 6945-385663
E-Mail: info@a-e-triantafillou.gr
Internet: www.a-e-triantafillou.gr
Correspondence: Greek, English, Italian, French, German, Spanish, Turkish, Serbocroat, Czech, Russian, Bulgarian, Romanian, Albanian, Ucrainian, FYROM, Czechoslovakian, Latin
Commercial and Corporate, Civil, Commercial Disputes, Real Estate, Family, Probation, Contracts, Company, Partnerships, Labor, Social, Criminal, Construction
Correspondence: Greek, English, Italian, French, German, Bulgarian, Spanish, Turkish, Serbocroatian, Russian
Born in Greece, 1954. Practicing attorney since 1981.
University of Thessaloniki, Law School.
Supreme Court Lawyer.

TSANDILAS, ANDREAS (*)

Odysseos 1, 546 27 Thessaloniki
Tel.: 2310-512-293, 845-430
E-Mail: andreas@the.forthnet.gr
Commercial and Corporate, Administrative, Civil, Criminal, Patents, Commercial Disputes, Taxation and Estate, Labor Law
Correspondence: Greek, English, French
Born in Greece, 1956. Practicing attorney since 1983.
University of Thessaloniki, Law School. Post graduate studies at the University of Thessaloniki, Public Law.

TSOTSOU, GEORGIA (*)

Metropoleos 16, 546 24 Thessaloniki

Tel.: 2310-226-285, 263-676

Commercial and Corporation, Administration,
Civil, Patents, Commercial Disputes, Taxation and
Estate

Correspondence: Greek, English, French, German
Born in Greece, 1949. Practicing attorney since
1974.

University of Thessaloniki, Law School. Post
graduate studies in Public Law. Attorney at Court
of Appeals of Thessaloniki.

XIROMERITES, KONSTANTINOS (*)

Agias Theodoras 5, 546 23 Thessaloniki

Tel.: 2310-280-440, 225-689, 342-890

Cell: 694-545-680

E-Mail: xiromeriteslaw@hotmail.com

Commercial and Corporate, Administrative, Civil,
Criminal, Patents, Commercial Disputes, Taxation
and Estate Law

Correspondence: Greek, English

Born in Greece, 1950. Practicing attorney since
1974. University of Thessaloniki, Law School.

One year AFS, Kansas, six months European
Young Lawyers, London. Legal advisor of
BETOTECHNIKI S.A.-Ready-mixed concrete,
ANDREAS ZISIADIS S.A.-construction, real
estate.

Partnership with two attorneys.

ZACHARIADIS, DIOGENIS (*)

Law Offices of P. & D. Zachariadis

Venizelou 4, 546 24 Thessaloniki

Tel.: 2310-227-110, 272-405, 528-638, 234-306,
225-354

Fax: 2310-220-891,

Cell: 6944-534590

E-Mail: dio-pet1@otenet.gr

Civil, Commercial, Industrial, Banking, Patents,
Property, Family Law

Correspondence: Greek, English, German, French
Born in Greece, 1955. Practicing attorney since
1984.

Graduate of Anatolia College High School,
Thessaloniki. Pantios University of Political
Sciences, Athens. University
of Thessaloniki, Law School. Proficiency in
English, Michigan University. Permanent legal
counselor in Thessaloniki of, and Alpha Bank SA,
Athens. Member of P. & D. Zachariadis Law Firm.
Law offices with two attorneys, four associates.

ZALIDA, VASILIKI (*)

Aristotelous 12, 546 23 Thessaloniki

Tel.: 2310-221-474, 598-235

Fax: 237394

Cell: 6944-105548

Commercial and Corporate, Administrative, Civil,
Criminal, Maritime, Commercial Disputes,
Taxation and Estate Law Undertakes translations.

Correspondence: Greek, English, French, Italian
Born in Greece, 1947. University of Thessaloniki,
Law School. Chief Legal Advisor to Greek
Railways (OSE) for Macedonia and Thrace.

ALEXANDROUPOLIS

AGGLIAS, THEODOROS (*)

Irinis 39, 681 00 Alexandroupolis

Tel.: (25510) 24-142, 25-308

Cell: 6945-792900

E-Mail: agglias@otenet.gr

Specializes in criminal law.

Correspondence: Greek, English

Born in Greece, 1950. Practicing attorney since
1975.

University of Thessaloniki, Law School. Post
graduate studies in Public Law.

Assisted by a practicing attorney (U.S. citizen
wife).

D R A M A

DEMOU, CHRISTOS (*)

Lambrianidou 48, 661 00 Drama

Tel.: (25210) 23-080

Civil, Criminal, Taxation and Estate, Labor Law

Specializes in Commercial Disputes

Correspondence: Greek, English

Born in Greece, 1931. Practicing attorney since
1963.

University of Thessaloniki, LL.D., and diploma of
Political and Economic Sciences. Legal advisor to
Municipality of Drama.

E D E S S A

NETTAS, IOANNIS (*)

Platia Timenidou 1, Edessa

Tel.: (23810) 22-917, 22-278

FAX: (23810) 28-620

Civil, Criminal, Labor Law.

Correspondence: Greek, English

Born in Greece, 1945. Practicing attorney since
1972. University of Thessaloniki, Law School.

Seminars in Hague Academy of International Law,
Oxford, St. Andrews, Rading, UK.

K A T E R I N I

ANDROULAKIS, STYLIANOS (*)

D. Dimadi 5, 601 00 Katerini
Tel.: (23510) 36-940
Fax: (23510) 36-940
Commercial and Corporate, Civil, Criminal,
Commercial Disputes, Taxation and Estate
Correspondence: Greek, English
Born in Greece, 1963. Practicing attorney since
1987.
University of Thessaloniki, Law School and post
graduate studies. Candidate Doctor.

GNARDELLI, THEOLOGIA (*)

A' Parodos Ioanninon 6, 601 00 Katerini
Tel.: (23510) 23-042, 23-372
Commercial, Administrative, Civil, Criminal,
Maritime, Trade Marks, Patents, Commercial
Disputes, Taxation and Inheritance, Labor Law
Correspondence: Greek, English, French, German,
Russian, Spanish
Born in Greece, 1966. University of Thessaloniki,
Law School. DEA of Public Law, Ruen
University, France. Diploma of Summer
University of Fribourgh, Switzerland.

TAOULAS, KONSTANTINOS (*)

Varnali 3, 601 00 Katerini
Tel.: (23510) 35-796, Mobile: 6944-971700
Fax: (23510) 29223
E-Mail: contaoul@pathfinder.gr
Civil (especially family and hereditary)m
International Abduction, European and National
Trade Mark, Commercial, Commercial Disputes
Law.
Correspondence: Greek, English, German
Born in Greece, 1957. Practicing attorney since
1983.
University of Thessaloniki, Law School.

K A V A L A

LAW OFFICES OF AHILLEAS MEGAS AND ASSOCIATES

Platia Nikotsara 6, 65201 Kavala
Tel.: 2510-622372, FAX: 2510-232239
Cell: 6977-151033
E-Mail: megkon@otenet.gr
Civil, Commercial, Criminal, Trade Law
Correspondence: Greek, English, Italian, German
Born in Greece.
University of Athens, Law School.
Cooperates with two attorneys, Stefanos Tsakmakis
and George Tahtsidis.

LAW OFFICES OF IOANNIS**PANAGIOTOPOULOS AND ASSOCIATES**

Agiou Nicolaou 5, 653 02 Kavala
Tel.: (2510) 225-186 (also FAX), 220-044
Civil, Criminal, Labor, Commercial Law
Correspondence: Greek, English, French, Italian
Assisted by three attorneys.

1. PANAGIOTOPOULOS, IOANNIS (*)

Born in Greece, 1934. Practicing attorney since
1960. University of Thessaloniki, Law School.

2. PANAGIOTOPOULOS, NICHOLAS (*)

Born in Greece, 1965. Practicing attorney since
2000. University of Athens, Law School.
University of Pennsylvania, BA Economics and
International Relations.

K A S T O R I A

TRAIANOU-PAPADIAMANTOPOULOU, EVGENIA (*)

Megalou Alexandrou 15, 521 00 Kastoria
Tel.: (24670) 24-171, 28-745
Commercial and Corporate, Administrative, Civil,
Criminal, Commercial Disputes, Taxation and
Estate, Labor.
Correspondence: Greek, English
Born in Greece, 1956. Practicing attorney since
1989. Law School, University of Athens, and
Pantios School of Political and Economic Sciences
Legal Advisor to Citibank, Kastoria.

TSAKLIDIS, CHRISTOS (*)

Kolokotroni 4, 521 00 Kastoria
Tel.: (24670) 23-890
Cell: 6945-265521
E-Mail: tsalkid@aias.gr
Commercial and Corporate, Administrative, Civil,
Criminal, Commercial Disputes, Labor.
Correspondence: Greek, English, German, French
Born in Greece, 1956. Law School, University of
Komotini

K O M O T I N I

KAMARAKIS, ATHANASIOS (*)

Thisseos 1, 691 00 Komotini
Tel.: (25310) 22-548, 23-824, 27-382
Undertakes all kinds of law cases, and since 1973
eligible to present cases to the Court of Appeals in
Thrace.
Correspondence: Greek, English, French, Turkish
Born in Greece, 1939. Practicing attorney since
1969.

University of Thessaloniki, Law School and School of Political and Economic Sciences.
Assisted by a practicing attorney.

MILIOGLOU, DEMETRIOS and BLEKATSI, ELPINIKI (*)

A. Papadima 22-24, 691 00 Komotini
Tel.: (25310) 29-490, Tel. & Fax: (25310) 24-900
Administrative, Civil, Criminal
Correspondence: Greek, English, French

DEMETRIOS MILIOGLOU: Born in Greece, 1955. Practicing attorney since 1985. University of Thrace, Law School, D.E.A. en Droit Public, France. Legal advisor to Agricultural Bank of Greece, at Komotini, Iasmos, Sapes and Xylagani.

ELPINIKI BLEKATSI: Born in Greece, 1960. Practicing attorney since 1984. University of Thessaloniki, Law School, D.E.A. en Droit Penal, France. Counselor at law at Alpha Bank at Komotini.

VALAVANIS, SPYRIDON

Leoforos Iroon 8, 691 00 Komotini
Tel.: (25310) 23-915, 25-334
Undertakes all kinds of law cases.
Correspondence: Greek
Born in Greece, 1938. Practicing attorney since 1967.
University of Thessaloniki, Law School and School of Political and Economic Sciences.
Assisted by a practicing attorney.

LARISA

AXIOGLOU, Eleni (*)
Patrokou 9, 41222 Larisa
Tel.: 2410-259307, 661757
Fax: 2410-531666
Cell: 6932-445296
E-Mail: axioglou@hotmail.com
Correspondence: Greek, English, German
Practicing attorney since 1983. Commercial and Corporate, Civil, Criminal, Trademarks, Commercial Disputes Law
Law School and School of Political Sciences
Thessaloniki University, Maritime studies, Piraeus University. Legal Advisor to Commercial Bank of Greece.

GOTIS, LEONIDAS (*)

Roosevelt 24, Larisa
Tel.: 2410-250548 and Fax
Cell: 6937-155909
E-Mail: gotis@hol.gr
Correspondence: Greek, English, French
Practicing attorney since 1995.
Commercial and Corporate, Civil Law
University of Athens Law School.

NA O U S A

TAOULAS, Demosthenes (*)
G.Constantinidi 7, 59 200 Naoussa
Tel.: (23320) 22-296, 51230, 21921
Cell: 6944-772686, 6945-371777
Fax: (23320) 52055,
E-Mail: dtaoulas@oenet.gr
Civil, Commercial and Corporate, Commercial Disputes, Taxation and Estate, Criminal Law.
Correspondence: Greek, English, German, Albanian.
Practicing attorney since 1989.
Born in Greece, 1965. University of Thessaloniki, Law School. Professor of criminal law at Police Academy of Naoussa. Attorney at law at the Court of Appeals, Thessaloniki.

V E R I A

IEROPOULOS, Pythagoras (*)
Verois 3, 59 100 Veria
Tel.: (23310) 22-285, 66-036
FAX: (23310) 66-036
Civil, Criminal.
Correspondence: Greek, English. French, Spanish, German, Italian
Born in Greece, 1940. Practicing attorney since 1968.
University of Thessaloniki, Law School. Studies of International Law in the Hague, Netherlands. One assistant attorney.

XANTHI

KERESTETZIS, GEORGIOS (*)

Dangli 22, Xanthi
Tel.: (25410) 22-975

Commercial and Corporate, Administrative, Civil,
Criminal, Patents, Commercial Disputes, Taxation
and Estate, Labor Law

Correspondence: Greek, English

Born in Greece, 1948. Practicing attorney since
1976.

University of Athens, Law School. University of
Thessaloniki, Economic Sciences. Ex-advisor of
IKA, OAED, Greek public sector

RETAINING A FOREIGN ATTORNEY

DISCLAIMER: THE INFORMATION IN THIS CIRCULAR IS PROVIDED FOR GENERAL INFORMATION ONLY. THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE MAKES NO WARRANTY REGARDING THE ACCURACY OF THIS INFORMATION. WHILE SOME OF THE INFORMATION IS ABOUT LEGAL ISSUES, IT IS NOT LEGAL ADVICE. QUESTIONS INVOLVING INTERPRETATION OF SPECIFIC FOREIGN LAWS SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO FOREIGN ATTORNEYS.

PROVISO: Officers of the Department of State and U.S. Embassies and Consulates abroad are prohibited by federal regulation from acting as agents, attorneys or in a fiduciary capacity on behalf of U.S. citizens in private legal disputes abroad. (22 CFR 92.81; 10.735-206(a)(7); 72.41; 71.5.)

RECOMMENDING A FOREIGN

ATTORNEY: 22 CFR 92.82 provides that Foreign Service officers shall refrain from recommending a particular foreign attorney, but may furnish names of several attorneys, or refer inquiries to foreign law directories, bar associations or other organizations.

FOREIGN ATTORNEYS REPRESENTING

THE U.S. GOVERNMENT ABROAD: U.S. embassies and consulates abroad generally do not have foreign attorneys on a retainer to represent the interests of the U.S. Government. (See 22 U.S.C. 2698(a); 28 C.F.R. 0.45; Volume 2, Foreign Affairs Manual (FAM), Department of State, Sec. 283; Volume 9, Foreign Affairs Manual, Sec. 971.2.)

BACKGROUND: This information flyer was devised primarily for the lay person confronted with a private legal problem abroad. It contains general practical suggestions for dealing with a foreign attorney. General information concerning foreign legal aid is also discussed. For American lawyers facing the task of retaining foreign legal counsel, see Lewis, *Selecting and Working With Foreign Counsel*, The International Lawyer's Deskbook, American Bar Association, 393-410 (1996) and Epstein & Snyder, *International Litigation: A Guide to Jurisdiction, Practice and Strategy*, 2nd, 2.10-2.13, p. 2-17 - 2-24 (1994).

WHAT TYPE OF LAWYER WILL YOU NEED:

Barristers and Solicitors: In some foreign countries it may be necessary to retain the services of both a solicitor and a barrister. In such jurisdictions, barristers are allowed to appear in court, including trial courts and higher courts of appeal or other courts. Solicitors are allowed to advise clients and sometimes represent them in the lower courts. They may also prepare cases for barristers to try in the higher courts. **Notaries, "Notaires", "Notars", and "Huissiers":** In some countries, notaries public, "notaires", "notars" and

"huissiers" can perform many of the functions performed by attorneys in the United States. A notary in a civil law country is not comparable to a notary public in the United States. Their education and training differs from that of most notaries public in the United States. They frequently draft instruments such as wills and conveyances. In some countries a notary is a public official appointed by the Ministry of Justice, whose functions include not only preparing documents, but the administration and settlement of estates. Such notaries serve as repositories for wills and are empowered to serve legal documents. In some countries "huissiers" serve documents. They are not lawyers, but are very specialized members of the foreign legal profession. They may not plead cases in court. Your foreign attorney may delegate certain functions to a notary, "notaire", "notar" or "huissier".

Foreign Legal Consultants: These are U.S. law firms with offices in foreign countries. They may or may not be licensed to practice law abroad.

Selecting an Attorney: When you receive a list of attorneys, consider contacting several attorneys, briefly describing the nature of the services you desire. Find out the attorney's qualifications and experience. Find out how the attorney plans to represent you. Ask specific questions and expect the attorney to explain legal activities in language that you can comprehend. Do not turn over documents or funds until you are satisfied that the attorney understands your problem and is willing to handle your case. Find out the rules of the foreign country concerning attorney-client confidentiality.

GUIDELINES ON HOW TO DEAL WITH YOUR FOREIGN ATTORNEY:

Understanding Your Attorney: Ask your attorney to analyze your case, giving you the positive and negative aspects and probable outcome. Do not expect your attorney to give a simple answer to a complex legal question. Be sure that you understand the technical language in any contract or other legal document prepared by your attorney **before** you sign it.

Fees: Find out what fees the attorney charges and how the attorney expects to be paid. In some countries fees are fixed by local law. Establish a billing schedule that meets your requirements and is acceptable to the foreign attorney. Foreign lawyers may be unaccustomed to including a description of work performed in connection with billing. Some foreign attorneys may expect to be paid in advance; some may demand payment after each action they take on your behalf and refuse to take further action until they are paid; and some may take the case on a contingency or percentage basis, collecting a pre-arranged percentage of moneys awarded to you by the foreign court.

Request an estimate of the total hours and costs of doing the work. Be clear who will be involved in the work and the fees charged by each participant. Determine costs if other attorneys or specialists need to be consulted, such as barristers. See "Payment of Attorneys and Litigation Expenses in Selected Foreign Nations", U.S. Library of Congress, Law Library, Doc. LL-95-2 (March 1995) (Includes information on Australia, Canada, China, France, Germany, Great Britain, Greece, India, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Netherlands, Poland, Sweden and Taiwan.)

Method of Payment: Find out the expected means of payment (corporate check, bank check, personal check, international money order, wire transfer), specify currency and exchange rates (when and where applicable or feasible).

Progress Reports: Ask that your attorney keep you informed of the progress of your case according to a pre-established schedule. Remember that most foreign courts work rather slowly. You may, therefore, wish the attorney to send you monthly reports, even though no real developments have ensued, simply to satisfy your doubts about the progress of the case. Ask what the fee will be for progress reports.

Language: Is the attorney fluent in English? This may or may not be important to you. If the foreign attorney does not speak or write in English, you can arrange for translation of correspondence. Attorneys on lists prepared by the U.S. embassies and consulates abroad do speak English.

Document Translations: If you need to provide complex or technical documents to your attorney, you may wish to consider having the documents translated into the attorney's native language. Remember that even a fundamental knowledge of English may not be enough to enable the attorney to understand technical documents you provide. Discuss with your attorney whether it is preferable to translate the documents in the U.S. or in the foreign country. Compare the costs.

Communication: Remember your responsibility to keep your attorney informed of any new developments in your case. Be honest and frank with your attorney. Tell the attorney every relevant fact in order to get the best representation of your interests. Establish how you will communicate with your foreign attorney (mail, phone, fax, Internet.)

Time: Find out how much time the attorney anticipates the case may take to complete. (Note: in some countries the courts recess for a period of several months. In addition, even if the case is resolved, currency control laws may delay the transfer of funds awarded to you from the foreign country for an indefinite period of time. Discuss these issues with your attorney to ensure there is no confusion.

Authentication and Translation of Documents: It may be helpful for you to provide foreign authorities or your attorney with authenticated, translated copies of pertinent documents. Consult your foreign attorney before going to this expense. An information flyer explaining the authentication process is available from the Office of American Citizens Services, either by mail or via our Internet Consular Affairs home page described below under "Additional Information". These topics include [Hague Legalization Convention](#) and [General Authentication Flyer](#). See also the [U.S. State Department's Authentications Office home page](#).

Records: Consider requesting copies of all letters and documents prepared on your behalf. Inquire about the costs of mailing you such documents.

Complaints Against Foreign Attorneys: If the services of your foreign attorney prove unsatisfactory, in addition to notifying the U.S. Department of State and/or the consular section of the U.S. embassy or consulate abroad, you may address your complaints to the local foreign bar association. Information about foreign bar associations may be obtained from the U.S. embassy or consulate abroad. Foreign embassies and consulates in the U.S. may also have information on this subject.

Assistance of U.S. Embassies and Consulates: Should your communication with a foreign attorney prove unsatisfactory, a U.S. consular officer may, if appropriate, communicate with the attorney on your behalf. In addition, complaints against foreign attorneys whose names appear on the consular list of attorneys can result in the removal of their names from the list.

Coordination with Attorneys in the U.S.: American attorneys may not be in a position to represent your interests abroad, particularly because generally they will not be permitted to participate in foreign court proceedings under the laws of the foreign country. American attorneys experienced in international law procedure may be helpful in explaining the complex legal issues involved in your case and some may have associates abroad to whom they can refer you.

Finding A Foreign Attorney:
U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Consular Affairs, Office of American Citizens Services and Crisis Management, (CA/OCS/ACS), Room 4811A, 2201 C Street N.W., Washington, D.C. 20520; tel: 202-647-5225 or 5226. Please send a stamped, self addressed envelope, 8 1/2 x 11, to accommodate postage for 20 sheets of paper or more. These [lists of attorneys](#) are also being added to the Internet home pages of our [U.S. embassies and consulates](#). Lists of attorneys are prepared by

U.S. embassies and consulates triennially (every three years). The lists include names, addresses, telephone numbers, etc., and information concerning the foreign attorney's educational background, areas of specialization, and language capability. When compiling the lists, U.S. consular officers send letters and questionnaires to the attorneys in their consular district in the foreign country. American attorneys licensed to practice in the foreign country or working as foreign legal consultants are also included. Local foreign bar associations are used as a resource in determining whether an attorney is in good standing. See Volume 7, Department of State Foreign Affairs Manual 990 (8/30/94) and 22 CFR 92.82.

COMPLAINTS AGAINST GREEK ATTORNEYS

If the services of your Greek attorney prove unsatisfactory, in addition to notifying the Department of State and the U.S. Embassy or Consulate abroad, you may address your complaints to the local Greek bar association. The Thessaloniki Bar Association address is: 6-8 Frangon Street, Thessaloniki, Greece, tel. (2310) 516-662.