

Internal Investigations

When confronted with a complaint or allegation of wrongdoing, an organization should respond quickly and thoughtfully to ensure that it has a full understanding of the facts in order to respond accordingly. Leech Tishman attorneys, having served as state and federal prosecutors (and regulators), bring a unique understanding of the defense of criminal prosecutions and civil enforcement actions, as well as the ability to conduct a thorough internal investigation.

Internal investigations have become essential to an organization when responding to government or regulatory inquiries, accusations of sexual harassment, claims of employee theft, and criminal acts. Corporations of all sizes are under intense scrutiny by governmental agencies and private plaintiffs. Serious complaints should be addressed properly, through an internal investigation, to protect the organization from potential future civil litigation, government action, reputational harm, loss of clients, or loss of business partnerships.

An internal investigation allows an organization to respond appropriately to allegations of potential wrongdoing based on the facts garnered by a disinterested party. In doing so, an organization can reassure clients, employees, shareholders, and business partners that the matter is addressed before negative media or unfounded rumors can circulate, and it can protect the organization should litigation arise.

An internal investigation conducted by an outside law firm, under the protection of attorney - client privilege will:

- » Provide an unbiased report of all the facts so that management can make a fully informed decision of how to take remedial action;
- » Put a stop to the wrongful conduct;
- » Comply with auditor and government disclosure requirements;

- » Protect the board, management, or other leadership from accusations of complicity;
- » Promote an image and culture of transparency, both within the organization and to those with whom the organization does business.

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