

## THE AUTHOR

# Practicing Lawyer with Financial Intelligence

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Narit Direkwattanachai is a Thai attorney, founder and principal of NARIT & Associates, a law firm based in Bangkok, Thailand. He specializes in corporate & commercial, tax and commercial disputes. Narit regularly serves clients from different industries on acquisitions/sales of local companies, formation of joint venture companies, investment/divestment, international sales, distributorship, franchise, cross border tax planning, transfer pricing, remittance of profit, shareholders/partners disputes and other commercial disputes. His client list includes publicly held companies (or their Thai subsidiaries) listed in New York Stock Exchange, Frankfurt Stock Exchange, Tokyo Stock Exchange, Singapore Exchange, and Stock Exchange of Thailand, Thai subsidiaries of multinational corporations, Thai owned companies and foreign investors.

Narit holds a bachelor of laws degree with first class honors from Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand. He won a British Chevening Cambridge Scholarship to read law at Wolfson College, the University of Cambridge, England where he graduated with a master of law degree. He pursued and received an MBA degree in finance from the Georgia Institute of

Technology, Atlanta, Georgia, the United States of America, on the Georgia Rotary Student Program Scholarship. His understanding of finance and his familiarity with financial statements help him enormously when he advises clients on mergers & acquisitions, joint ventures, valuation issues (i.e. a market rate in the eyes of a revenue official) and shareholders/partners disputes. As his circle of competence is not limited to tax, his combined knowledge of tax law and business law becomes useful to the clients when it comes to structuring and strategizing a deal.

Narit commenced his legal career at Baker & McKenzie, Bangkok office. He also worked at Baker & McKenzie, Sydney office, Australia and the Investment Banking Group – Telecom, Media and Technology at DBS Bank, Singapore. Narit serves on the Joint Foreign Chambers of Commerce in Thailand (JFCCT) Property Committee and Thai Contractors Association under H.M. The King's Patronage, Subcommittee on Complaints, Laws, Regulations and Contracts.

Narit is regularly invited to speak on business law and tax at various venues, including Dataconsult's CEO Breakfast, the Asia Business Forum, the Agency for Real Estate Affairs (AREA), the Petroleum Institute of Thailand, and Business and Manufacturing Network Media Co., Ltd.'s Industry Forum. Narit also offers his corporate trainings and seminars to companies and interested parties as demand arises. He has been actively writing articles and legal updates for his firm's monthly newsletter, and his tax article is also published in Property Report Magazine.

In his free time, Narit enjoys swimming and running. You can catch up with him on the jogging track at RBSC Polo Club where he has been working out since 1987.

You may contact the author by writing to him or by email at [narit@naritlaw.com](mailto:narit@naritlaw.com). Reader feedback is always appreciated.