

Meir Mizrahi & Co. is one of Israel's leading taxation law firms, and is known as one of the best and most successful boutique law firms in real estate taxation and VAT. The firm specializes in consultancy on all tax aspects of the transaction.

The firm offers clients full tax support, from the transaction planning stage (consult on outlining the structure, support in formulating agreements, implementing tax estimates and calculations, handling receipt of approvals and writing reviews), reporting the transaction (obtaining tax reports and calculations as part of independent assessments) to Tax Authority discussions (assessment, objections, and conducting legal proceedings). Clients include Israel's largest companies, businesses, real estate developers as well as private individuals.

#### Service and Professionalism

Meir Mizrahi & Co. stresses its professional talents and abilities in the various taxations, along with the highest levels of service. The firm successfully combines a deep business understanding with expertise and professionalism in the taxation field.

The firm's extensive knowledge and experience in taxation provides clients with an advantage, because transactions are undertaken from an overall and profound perspective. Meir Mizrahi was chosen by "The Marker" and "Globes" as one of the most influential figures in the Israeli real estate market. The firm earned its reputation for reliability and professionalism in the business community, and serves as the professional go-to firm for various law firms, accountants, real estate appraisers and tax consultants, requiring assistance in planning tax diluting deal structures and discussions with the tax authorities. The firm regularly appears in the directories ranking leading international law firms in taxation. Top guide Chambers & Partners praises the firm as "an extremely successful real estate tax boutique", while Legal 500 writes, "recommended for VAT, real estate and land taxation".

#### Real Estate Taxation

The firm supports the tax aspects of Israel's real estate market in a wide range of contracts, such as combination deals, exchange transactions, TAMA 38 earthquake retrofit rights deals, purchasing group sale deals, rights sale transactions for building and shifting building rights (the firm is a tax consultant for Tel Aviv Municipality on preservation plans), call option and put option deals for real estate rights, urban renewal deals, trusts, sale of apartments with building rights deals, tax in amalgamating land, and supporting projects for companies holding real estate.

## VAT

The firm's VAT department is headed by Shai Berger (formerly head of the professional department in VAT) and Shlomi Vaknin, CPA (formerly deputy head of the VAT professional department). The firm provides consultancy, preparing and planning tax in deals and ventures and representation in criminal and civil proceedings in court. The VAT department specializes in representing clients before the tax authorities and the VAT management firms in all assessment proceedings including pre-rulings for deals. The firm draws up reviews on topics related to VAT liability.

## Income Tax

The firm advises on selected income tax matters stressing the interface between income tax instructions and the Real Estate Taxation Law: offsetting losses, spreading payments, changing structures in real estate holdings, including liquidating companies, and transferring real estate to individuals, and vice versa – transferring real estate from individuals to companies, mergers and splits, contractors tax, real estate financing agreements and real estate asset depreciation. The department is headed by Dorit Binyamini CPA, Lior Ratzon CPA, and Shlomi Tabach CPA, all former Tax Authority employees.

## Tax Litigation

The firm operates a highly professional and skilled litigation department providing professional support to clients in all stages of legal proceedings with appeals committees, district courts and the Supreme Court on betterment tax, betterment levies, VAT and income tax.

### Voluntary Disclosure

Our firm handles Voluntary Disclosure procedures with the Tax Authorities, and even appears on a list of experts recommended by UBS Bank.

### The Firm's Clients

The firm's clients include Israel's largest and most prestigious organizations and companies such as; Shikun U'Binui, Azorim, Migdal insurance, The Phoenix Insurance, Tel Aviv Municipality, Ashdod Municipality, Gazit Globe, Acro Real Estate, Histadrut-Hevrat Haovdim, BIG- Shopping Centers Group, Africa Israel Residences, IAA, Shapir, Bezeq, Cross-Israel Highway, Mizrahi Tefahot Bank and more. The firm serves as a tax consultant to the Tel Aviv Contractors Association and The Real Estate Appraisers Association.

# Pro Bono

Meir Mizrahi & Co. is one of Israel's leading firms in pro bono activities, and donates its professional experience in taxation to charities. The firm understands the great importance of philanthropy as well as the contribution to the community. The firm assists in taxation for the needy and among other things established S.M.L. Association for Tax Advice to provide tax consultancy to those who cannot afford it. The firm was chosen by the Israel Bar Association as a leader in pro-bono.

### **Associates**

Ronit Barzily, Adv.; Lior Ratzon, Adv. and CPA.; Maya Carmi, Adv.; Miri Tennenbaum, Adv.; Yifat Aloni Adv.; Karin Shalev-Avraham Adv.; Saleh Abu Elassal, Adv. and CPA; Rakel Sheinvald; Roy Ezra Adv; and Aviv Abucassis-Cohen Adv.