



# Stevenson, Wong & Co.

## 史蒂文生黃律師事務所

In association with | AllBright Law Offices | 锦天城律师事务所



# OUR COMMITMENT TO THE GREATER BAY AREA

Hong Kong, a major international financial trade, transportation and aviation hub, is recognised as a reputable centre in the Asia Pacific region for international business finance and legal services.

Hong Kong is one of the four central cities, together with Shenzhen, Guangzhou and Macao, in the Greater Bay Area plan. The potential for Hong Kong, in the Greater Bay Area, which has a population of 70 million and a total gross domestic product of about US\$1.6 trillion accounting for 12% of China's GDP in 2018, is enormous.

Stevenson, Wong & Co. is well positioned to serve you in the Greater Bay Area. We established our Guangzhou office as early as 2002. Through its association with AllBright Law Offices, one of the largest firms in Mainland China with over twenty branches throughout the region including Shenzhen and Guangzhou, we are in an unmatched position to assist, advise and advocate in this region. In addition, as a founding member of INTERLAW, an international organisation of over 7000 lawyers in more than 150 cities, we offer an international network of legal service of excellence, unmatched by any other.



Hong Kong 香港



Guangzhou 广州

## Banking and Finance, Information Technology in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area

### Our Banking and Finance Team

With decades of experience serving large Chinese banks in Hong Kong, we are committed to acting in our clients' best interests and have provided specific and routine legal services to many large financial institutions. To keep up with the latest trends, and to provide our Mainland China and Hong Kong clients with a full range of legal services, we keep a close eye on the developments in the finance and technology service industry in the Greater Bay Area. Against the backdrop of increasing connectivity between Mainland China and Hong Kong, and through our global network of INTERLAW and our associate firm AllBright Law Offices in Mainland China, we provide our clients in the Greater Bay Area with the most effective and convenient legal services from retail finance to investment finance.

### Outstanding Professional Legal Services

We specialize in loan transactions and cross-border project finance, and are skilled in drafting and reviewing all manner of loan and security documents. We have extensive experience in advising on the structure of cross-border loans between Mainland China and Hong Kong. We can analyse legal risks for our clients and provide practical advice to fully support our clients' finance activities in the Greater Bay Area.

### At the Forefront of FinTech Development

Our banking and finance team pays close attention and provides active support to the developments in financial technology in the Greater Bay Area. We have assisted clients in developing cross-border real estate mortgage services and have provided legal services to one of the first virtual banks licensed by the Hong Kong Monetary Authority. We are at the forefront of exploring and developing financial technology services in the Greater Bay Area, and are ready to provide our clients with practical legal advice for their innovative financial services.

### Real Estate

Our real estate team has over 40 years' experience in dealing with all types of property matters, from large development projects to sale and purchase and rental of individual units. We not only specialize in handling difficult title issues and sophisticated asset planning, but also have a wealth of experience in handling Mainland China real estate projects and sale and purchase of Mainland China properties. Driven by the development of the Greater Bay Area, with our professional experience in handling property loan and mortgage matters for both our individual and corporate clients, we can provide excellent and reliable services to our clients to best satisfy their property acquisition and rental needs.



# China Attestation and Notarization in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area

## China Attestation

From the reform to the development of the Greater Bay Area, Mainland China and Hong Kong have become increasingly connected. More and more Hong Kong residents visit relatives, settle, marry or adopt children in Mainland China. There are also a large number of Hong Kong enterprises conducting investment and business activities in Mainland China.

Our China Appointed Attesting Officers were appointed by the Ministry of Justice of China. Over the last couple of decades, we have provided professional China attestation services to Hong Kong residents and enterprises and supported their civil and commercial activities in Mainland China with our legal expertise and professional experience.

Through our China attestation services, we are committed to assist Hong Kong residents and enterprises with their civil and commercial activities in the Greater Bay Area (for example, marriage, succession, adoption of children, investments, loans, real estate transactions, mortgages and trade), and to promote economic development and prosperity in Mainland China and Hong Kong.

## Notarization

The promotion of the “One Belt, One Road” policy and the development of the Greater Bay Area has encouraged many Mainland China and Hong Kong residents and enterprises to invest, trade and engage in civil and commercial activities all around the world. In response to the Chinese strategy of “going global”, there is an increasing need for documents to be notarized by Notaries Public for use internationally. Over the years, our Notaries Public have provided services to Hong Kong residents and enterprises to fully support their global business development and planning.

# Corporate Finance and Capital Markets in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area

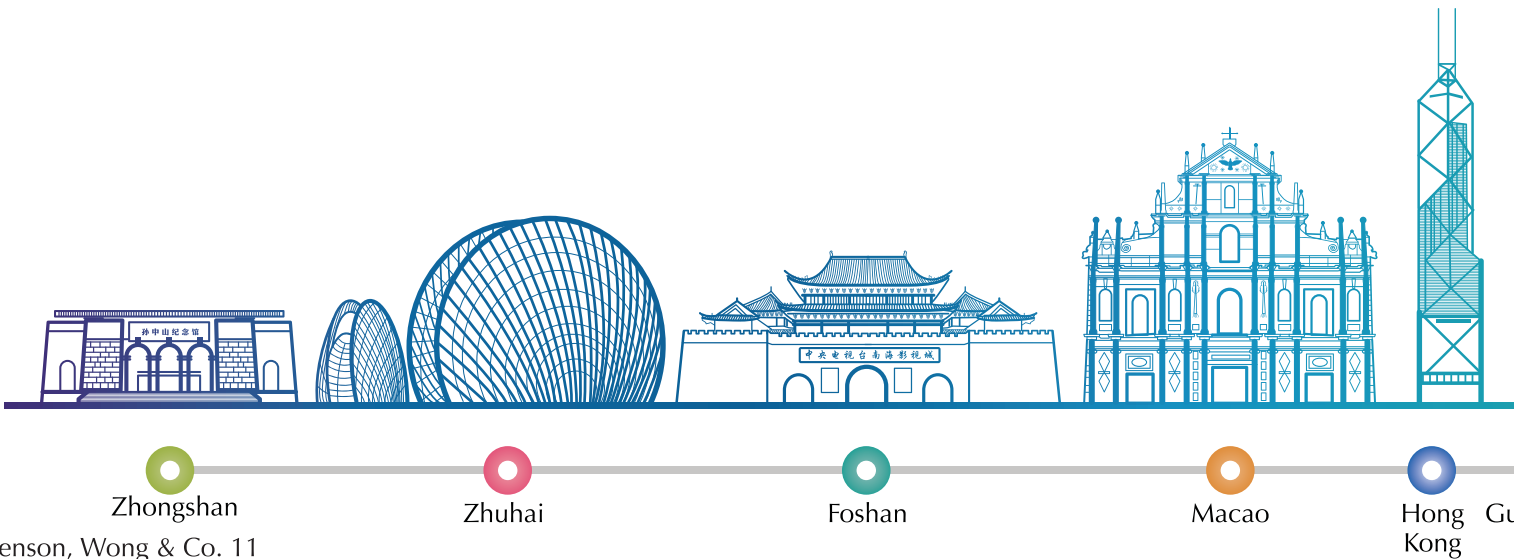
Our team members, comprising of legal professionals qualified in, not only Hong Kong and Mainland China, but also in England and Wales, Singapore, Australia and New Zealand, can readily deal with the increasing demand for cross-regional cooperation in the Greater Bay Area. We have a strong network of experienced and specialist practitioners in Mainland China and in particular, the Greater Bay Area through our associate firm, AllBright Law Offices’ branch offices in Shenzhen, Guangzhou together with our Qianhai office. As one of the founding members of INTERLAW, we maintain a close cooperative relationship with other overseas law firms, to provide one-stop and all-rounded Mainland China and Hong Kong corporate finance related legal services for companies in Mainland China and the Greater Bay Area.

## Business Idea Inception

At the primary stage of a business startup, we help clients with restructuring their businesses. Where this might involve laws and regulations in other jurisdictions, such as Australia, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, Canada, the Cayman Islands, England, France, Singapore, United States or Samoa, our network of professional contacts comes into play. Also, at this early stage, our company secretarial service can assist clients with opening bank accounts, maintaining and updating statutory records, checking and updating company statutory registers in accordance with the applicable laws.

Our specialist and efficient legal teams can also deal with employment issues, intellectual property rights and tax issues and promptly obtain relevant legal opinions and formulating tax planning and business planning strategies.

Our familiarity with and experience in the law, the market and culture in the Greater Bay Area and around the globe enable us to provide solutions and comprehensive legal services to support clients’ business needs.





## Corporate Restructuring

Corporate restructuring is an important part of companies planning to list in Hong Kong.

Our professional team has extensive experience in handling various types and scales of corporate restructuring matters, and can provide unparalleled service to our clients to strategise and implement their restructuring plans.

## Fund Raising

Following the “One Belt, One Road” initiative and the enhanced regional integration of the Greater Bay Area, financing activities in the area are on the rise. We have assisted numerous companies in completing financing transactions on different scales including assisting with applications for bank loans before the initial public offering and the issue of convertible bonds.

## IPO

Hong Kong is one of the compelling listing and fund-raising venues in Asia. As a renowned international financial centre, Hong Kong has always played a pivotal role in connecting Mainland China companies with global capital markets, making a significant contribution to the economic development in Mainland China.

To support the development of the Greater Bay Area and the financing needs of companies in a wide spectrum of industries, we provide diversified and integrated professional legal services to companies considering raising funds and listing in Hong Kong. We provide legal services on pre-IPO investments, pre-IPO enquiries, due diligence (including field visits, interviews), advising companies on listing requirements under the Listing Rules, assisting companies with drafting, preparation, review and/or registration of the relevant listing documents and prospectuses, provide directors and senior management with training. Moreover, we provide legal advisory services to Hong Kong companies or companies with a Hong Kong nexus with regard to their proposed listing on other fund-raising venues (such as the Shenzhen Stock Exchange, London Stock Exchange, Singapore Stock Exchange or Nasdaq Stock Exchange).

## Post-IPO Services

With the development of the Greater Bay Area, Mainland China and overseas investors have more opportunities to trade securities and bonds in each other's markets through the trading and clearing facilities of their home exchange using Shanghai-Hong Kong Stock Connect and Shenzhen-Hong Kong Stock Connect.

In respect of secondary fund raising of listed companies, we have extensive experience in the placement of new shares, issue of convertible debt securities, convertible notes, options or warrants by listed companies. We have assisted a significant number of listed companies with their investment in new core business, their acquisition or disposal of shares, material assets or businesses, as well as the relevant disclosure requirements under the Listing Rules.

We also provide legal services to listed companies regarding their compliance with Listing Rules, the Corporate Governance Code, the Companies Ordinance (Cap. 622) and the Securities and Futures Ordinance (Cap. 571), including production of annual reports, company secretarial services, advice on best corporate governance practices and training of new directors. We are there for clients so that they can achieve their targets, ensure business success and continued economic growth.



Guangzhou



Shenzhen



Dongguan



Jiangmen



Zhaoqing



Huizhou

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# Litigation and Dispute Resolution in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area

With the signing of multiple reciprocal judicial arrangements between Mainland China and Hong Kong and the promulgation of the Outline Development Plan for the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (“GBA”), Hong Kong, as a leading centre for international legal and dispute resolution services in the Asia-Pacific region has become a popular dispute resolution forum for Mainland China, Hong Kong and overseas enterprises.

## Professional Legal Team

Staffed by a team of seasoned practitioners, our firm houses one of the largest dispute resolution teams in Hong Kong. With over 40 years’ experience, we provide the strongest legal support to our Mainland China, Hong Kong and overseas clients in the field of dispute resolution.

## Multiple Legal Qualifications

Our team comprises of professionals holding Hong Kong and Mainland China legal qualifications. With our GBA team (including branches of our associate firm in Shenzhen and Guangzhou together with our Qianhai office) and our network covering other major cities in Mainland China, we are able to assist clients in the Greater Bay Area with effective legal services in Hong Kong and Mainland China.

## The Greater Bay Area Advantage

We understand the business practices, language and culture of different regions, and fully appreciate the needs of our Mainland China, Hong Kong and overseas clients. We offer our clients the most appropriate strategies and solutions to resolve disputes.

## Wealth of Experience in Cross-border Dispute Resolution

Over the years, we have regularly provided our clients with professional cross-border dispute resolution services. With our extensive experience in cross-border litigation and arbitration, we have assisted our clients in solving complex and diverse cross-border disputes with professionalism and effectiveness. We are skilled at enforcing Mainland China and Hong Kong civil and commercial judgments and arbitral awards in Hong Kong. We have a track record of obtaining urgent injunctive relief, for example, Mareva injunctions and anti-suit injunctions. We are committed to protect our clients’ interests in an efficient and timely manner.

## One-stop Dispute Resolution Service Platform

We have established a service network in the Greater Bay Area, forming a one-stop dispute resolution platform. With our Guangzhou branch office, Qianhai office, and the one-stop service platform across 23 major Chinese cities, no matter where our clients are, we will be able to solve their legal issues promptly and effectively.



# Employment and Immigration Services in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area

In our years of experience in providing legal services in the Hong Kong employment market, we have provided all-round legal services to many foreign and Mainland China talents and their employers. We have assisted one of the Top 500 Chinese Enterprises in reviewing and redrafting employment contracts to address the differences in employment laws between Hong Kong and Mainland China. Our dedicated employment law team can provide a full spectrum of legal services to both employers and employees, including:

- Providing legal advice on statutory protection and limitation in relation to employment law, under the Employment Ordinance (Cap. 57), Employees Compensation Ordinance (Cap. 282) and relevant legislation on discrimination such as the Sex Discrimination Ordinance (Cap. 480), Disability Discrimination Ordinance (Cap. 487), Family Status Discrimination Ordinance (Cap. 527) and Race Discrimination Ordinance (Cap. 602).
- Advising on the drafting and execution of employment contracts
- Providing solutions on employers' and employees' statutory and contractual rights and benefits
- Advising on issues such as work-related accidents and injuries, equal opportunities protection and breach of covenants, and representing parties in the relevant legal proceedings

## Greater Bay Area Tax and Compliance Services

With the implementation of the recent Greater Bay Area policy, cross-border tax and compliance issues have become prevalent. We have a dedicated team to advise on tax and compliance issues incidental to Mainland China or foreign employees who are recruited to work in Hong Kong or Hong Kong employees who are requested to work outside the jurisdiction, in particular on tax allowances and tax schemes.

## Offshore Talents Visa Application Services

With a view to provide one-stop services to offshore talents, apart from employment-related services, we also provide services in relation to applications for Hong Kong permanent residence and non-permanent residence, in addition to a variety of visa application services to suit our clients' needs, including:

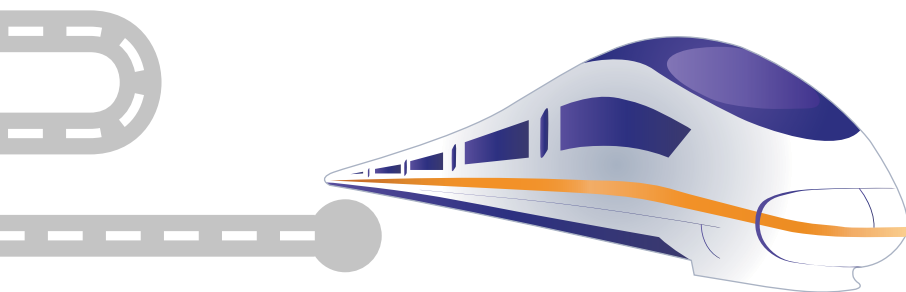
- Admission Scheme for Mainland China Talents and Professionals / Technology Talent Admission Scheme / Work Visas
- Quality Migrant Admission Scheme
- Visas for Entrepreneurs
- Immigration
- Arrangements for Non-local Graduates
- HKSAR Travel Pass
- Training Visas
- Dependant Visas

## Overseas Countries' Citizenship Application Services

To promote the integration between Hong Kong and Mainland China, the Greater Bay Area Policy serves to capture overseas business opportunities via the international platform provided by Hong Kong. We offer services in relation to applications for right of residence, right of abode and citizenship in overseas countries, including Malta and Cyprus of the EU, along with St. Kitts, Antigua, United Kingdom, Australia and Canada.

## Greater Bay Area Residential Policy

Corresponding to the Greater Bay Area Policy, Hong Kong residents currently benefit from Mainland China's recent policy on Residence Permit for Hong Kong, Macao, and Taiwan Residents, and through our association with AllBright Law Offices, we can provide services on applications for Residence Permits nationally.





## Regulatory and Compliance in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area

The development plan for the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (“GBA Development Plan”) confirms Hong Kong’s leading role in the financial sector and its status as an international financial centre. Having considered the longstanding advantages of Hong Kong, such as its stable financial system, friendly business environment as well as its independent judiciary system trusted by the rest of the world, we believe Hong Kong will play its role as a financial hub in accordance with the GBA Development Plan, and continue being the prime foreign investment location for Mainland China enterprises.

However, Mainland China enterprises need to deal with different regulatory bodies in the process of investing in Hong Kong. Sometimes, these enterprises may encounter difficulties or even face investigations in Hong Kong. Our regulatory enforcement & compliance team provides supporting services to protect the interests of our clients.

### Professional Legal Team

Our regulatory enforcement and compliance team, comprising of experienced partners and associates, has substantial experience to formulate the best solution for our clients when they are faced with actions from various regulatory bodies such as the Securities and Futures Commission (SFC), Commercial Crime Bureau (CCB) and Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC). With a deep understanding of the local capital market and regulatory policies, our team has a unique insight into the style and policies of each regulatory body. With our 40 years’ in practice, we are able to precisely understand the business model and needs of our clients. This gives us a distinct edge when assisting our clients to formulate strategies and managing compliance issues.

### Our Services

Clients of our regulatory enforcement & compliance team range from renowned listed companies, security firms to auditing firms. The services we provide are mainly in the following two major areas:

#### ● Preventive Strategic Planning

As often said, an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. One must, therefore, ensure that the relevant license or permit has been acquired before transacting or developing business in the local capital market. We can advise clients on the compliance requirement of their relevant business. We also regularly assist our clients to apply for licences or permits, and to communicate with or handle queries from the relevant regulatory bodies. We are also experienced in applying for licenses for SFC regulated activities or investment products.

#### ● Emergency Response

Our experienced team can provide prompt assistance to our clients when they become the subject of investigation or on-site inspection by a regulatory body. Throughout the investigation process, we can also provide a one-stop solution to handle the regulator’s enquiries, interviews and any litigation matters. We also provide tailor-made advice for our clients regarding public relations and corporate image matters during the course of such an investigation.

## Intellectual Property in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area

Under the initiative of the “Outline Development Plan of the Central Government and the State Council for the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area”, Hong Kong, as one of the core areas of the initiative, is striving to become a major Regional Intellectual Property Trading Centre.

The Greater Bay Area puts emphasis on the development of scientific and technological innovation industries. In this regard, a comprehensive intellectual property protection system is vital in safeguarding the interests of stakeholders.

- With increasing demand for patent licensing and technology transfer, we provide legal support on drafting relevant agreements and documentation.
- We provide trademark related services such as trademark registration, trademark oppositions, trademark licensing and transfer. We can assist enterprises to crack down on infringement of intellectual property rights. In addition, we provide patent registration services to protect inventions created by technology companies in the Greater Bay Area.
- In recent years, Mainland China and Hong Kong have been advocating non-contentious means to resolve intellectual property disputes. In this regard, our arbitration and mediation services can help save our clients’ time and costs, and optimize the corporate efficiency of the enterprises located in the Greater Bay Area.

Together with our associate firm AllBright Law Offices, our intellectual property team of legal practitioners, with expertise in intellectual property laws of both Mainland China and Hong Kong, enables us to provide first class legal services in Mainland China and assist our clients to conduct their business effectively in the Greater Bay Area.

## SW Private in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area

Our private client department, SW Private, is unique. We are the only firm in Hong Kong which embraces all three major areas of private client practices, ensuring a seamless service through one's cycle of life. These three practices complement each other in dealing with individuals and their family planning needs.

### Family Law Practice

Our family law practice is well established and one of the leading specialist practices in Hong Kong. We have produced three judges in the Family Court, one of whom is now a judge in the Court of First Instance. Our award winning team has extensive experience in a number of high net worth and high profile family cases in both Hong Kong and the Mainland China. Our team is well placed to deal with the increase in cross border divorces, cross border financial claims, pre-nuptial and post-nuptial agreements and children matters, amongst others.

### Wills, Probate and Succession Planning: Trust Advisory and Wealth Planning

This niche practice offers an invaluable service currently provided by only a few firms in Hong Kong. We act as the executor or administrator of the estate of the deceased and draft general wills, and wills that deal with specific assets or in specific jurisdictions. Our team is also experienced in drafting enduring powers of attorney. We are frequently involved in estate planning for ultra-high net worth clients. With our association with AllBright Law Offices and our INTERLAW membership, we are able to assist clients to inherit and transfer both Mainland China and overseas assets.

Our trust advisory practice counts one of the most experienced practitioners in the field as one of its members. Whilst assisting in the setup of onshore and offshore trusts, we deal with arrangement for family succession planning, advising philanthropic and charitable endeavours and drafting of all relevant documents.

### Committee Work for Mentally Incapacitated Persons ("MIPs")

This is a growing area of practice as our population ages and rates of dementia and special needs persons increase. Our dedicated team with in-depth and specialised experience in committee work assists families and other applicants to make Part II applications to the High Court under the Mental Health Ordinance (Cap. 136), acting as professional committee for MIPs and providing advisory work to committees for MIPs.

### Trust Company

Another unique aspect of the firm is the establishment of an independent trustee company, SW Trustee (Hong Kong) Limited ("SW Trustee"). SW Trustee has held a Hong Kong trustee licence since November 2015. SW Trustee works closely with SW Private and our Corporate Finance and Commercial Department to help clients set up trusts for their family and business restructuring and succession planning, whether they are pre-IPO trusts, family trusts, and/or employee benefit trusts.



# 连系中国 迈向世界

史蒂文生黄律师事务所凭着一群高瞻远瞩、活力充沛的专业人员，自一九七八年来，一直在香港和中国两地提供可靠的法律意见和卓越的服务。

随着客户日趋国际化，我们的业务复盖全中国和大部分国家。

我所团队结合国际视野和本地经验，专业知识涉猎广阔范畴，为各行各业的客户制定精辟创新、跨越国界的策略，解决繁复的法律问题。

我们以法律专业担任中外桥梁的角色，连系香港、中国内地、亚洲以至环球公司和企业。

## Bridging China and the world

A forward-looking, dynamic law firm with offices in Hong Kong and China, Stevenson, Wong & Co. has been providing clients with effective legal services and solutions since 1978.

As our client-base has become increasingly international, our sphere of business has extended to cover all of China and many other countries.

Drawing on a mix of local and international expertise, our lawyers and support staff help clients resolve complex issues in their personal matters and across a broad spectrum of business sectors. We are often called on to create groundbreaking strategies that cross national borders and jurisdictions.

Whatever the issue, we act as a hub for individuals and for companies and businesses throughout mainland China, Hong Kong, Asia and the rest of the world.



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