



Retainership for Legal Consultancy Services

INTRODUCTION :- MJ & Associates (*Advocates & Consultants*) is a professional Consultancy firm providing expertise consultancy in Legal and Indirect Taxation. Further we representing clients before any government authorities on **PAN-INDIA basis**.

Consultancy services provided by MJ & Associates (*Advocates & Consultants*) also assist clients and provide them guidance in decision making. Consultancy service is provided on retainership basis for providing comprehensive services on legal matter, tax issues and various scheme initiated by the customs & other statutory body. The teams providing such service are headed by specialist consultants in each area of practice, who also visit the client's place as and when necessary to fully comprehend peculiar facts of the matter. The system adopted by the Firm for consultancy on a retainership basis is managed with much systemized approach. There is one Spoke-Person dedicated to each client who benefits from oral guidance provided over phone or during meeting, replies to the queries through e-mail, comprehensive written opinion wherever required. **The Firm also provides regular updates on latest amendments in the relevant practice area. With an added advantage of having in-depth knowledge of client's business domain, the team provides optimum, efficient and feasible solutions on the key issues.**

Our Expertise - Consultancy services in *Indirect Taxation* and related matters as follows :-

Customs (SVB, AEO, Refund, Import, Export, Valuation, Drawback, and CHA Licence, DRI, FEMA cases etc),

GST [erstwhile Central Excise and Service Tax], (Updation, Compliance & Litigation - including Classification Rate, Refund, Credit of ITC, Export / Import etc.) and

FEMA, DGFT,

CESTAT (Customs, Excise, Service Tax Appellate Tribunal),

Settlement Commission (Customs, Central Excise and Service Tax)

Working Strength :- We are associates of an elite law firm - **MJ & Associates** consisting of most of the well experienced and highly qualified advocates and former Govt. Officers from Customs, GST (erstwhile Central Excise and Service Tax) and DGFT having grass root level working experience in those departments. Alongwith legal and professional experience in Hon'ble CESTAT (Customs, Excise, Service Tax Appellate Tribunal, Mumbai) and Hon'ble Settlement Commission, Mumbai. *For details, please refer to 'General Profile of MJ & Associates' provided herewith separately.*

Why Retainership is a must !

Today all business houses, Companies and professionals require regular legal services on various issues on day-to-day basis including consultation, replying to Government Departments' Queries, responding to legal notices / show cause notice from statutory authorities, statutory compliances etc., But when the works are entrusted with conventional law firms the cost of the services become very expensive. If the clients go to individual advocate/consultant, they do not get experts in different disciplines of law under one roof. But our endeavor is to bring experts from different fields of Indirect Taxation under one roof and ensure best advice to the clients. Hence, the MJ & Associates (Advocates & Consultants) offers subscription of legal consultancy services to Business houses, Companies and professionals on pre-paid retainer-ship or contract basis.

Advantage of Retainership

The Clients who engage the Firm on Retainer-Ship basis get various benefits including,

1. **Substitute of 'Law Department' at Affordable Monthly Retainer-Ship Fee:**
In order to avoid heavy cost of law-expertise manpower and confusion over unlimited publications on various laws, nowadays, Corporates prefer hiring expertise services of well-equipped law firms on Monthly Retainership basis as a substitute of in-house 'law Department'.
2. **Quality of Legal work:** Many legal issues arise out of carelessly drafted communications, replies to Show Cause Notices, Appeals and contracts etc. Some clients choose to use their common sense than going to an advocate / consultant or a law firm and take a risk of ending up in poorly drafted legal documents, legal notices, agreements, contracts and legal communication. This risk is taken by even Company clients, even where high stakes are involved mainly because of the unforeseen costs of the legal services. **MJ & Associates (Advocates & Consultants)** offers an affordable monthly Retainer-Ship covering most of the legal /consultancy services required by a Company or a

professional to avoid unnecessary complications in the course of their business or profession.

3. **Unlimited legal advice on various issues by experts:**
The other challenge faced by the Companies and clients is dealing with many advocates or consultants to find a solution for one matter, due to the multidisciplinary and complex nature of the legal issue. But the experts of **MJ & Associates (*Advocates & Consultants*)** having exposed to various complex, multidisciplinary legal issues are competent to give the best advice to the clients. The Panel of experts of our firm includes senior lawyers, retired (Member/ Vice Chairman of various govt. authorities), former high-level officers and experts from Customs, Central Excise and Service Tax departments ensure the best possible advice to the clients. Hence the clients can rely on the advice of the firm and wherever there is necessity for second opinion the firm will refer the client to independent experts as well.

4. **Unlimited drafting by experienced advocates / consultants:**
The Companies and professionals have to draft replies to many queries raised by various government departments in the course of their business and professional activities. Hence it is advisable always to get the reply drafted or approved by an advocate / consultant or a law firm with relevant experience. The Firm offers unlimited services in this area along with the Retainer-Ship arrangement.

5. **Reduced fee for litigation:** The firm also offers a fixed fees for the clients who engage the firm on Retainer-Ship relationship, for handling their litigation in various Courts and tribunals of India. This arrangement also helps the clients to estimate and budget their expected legal expenses. Hence, the Firm handles the litigation of the clients having retainer relationship on a reduced cost.

6. **Updating legal awareness:** The firm keeps on updating its clients with latest information on various policy and routine matters by providing them latest Case Laws, Departmental Circulars, Guidelines, Notifications, Policy Amendments etc. and thus developing legal awareness for the benefits of the clients and others. These help the non-legal managers and entrepreneurs to understand the basics and updates in the field of law.