

# Workplace Investigations

### **Contributing Editors**

Phil Linnard at Slaughter and May Clare Fletcher at Slaughter and May

# 04. Who should conduct a workplace investigation, are there minimum qualifications or criteria that need to be met?



Author: Laura Widmer, Sandra Schaffner at Bär & Karrer

The examinations can be carried out internally by designated internal employees, by external specialists, or by a combination thereof. The addition of external advisors is particularly recommended if the allegations are against an employee of a high hierarchical level[1], if the allegations concerned are quite substantive and, in any case, where an increased degree of independence is sought.

[1] David Rosenthal et al., Praxishandbuch für interne Untersuchungen und eDiscovery, Release 1.01, Zürich/Bern 2021, p. 18.

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# 05. Can the employee under investigation bring legal action to stop the investigation?



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The accused could theoretically request a court to stop the investigation, for instance, by arguing that there is no reason for the investigation and that the investigation infringes the employee's personality rights. However, if the employer can prove that there were grounds for reasonable suspicion and is conducting the investigation properly, it is unlikely that such a request would be successful.

#### Contributors



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