John Henry Director Insolvency and Asset Recovery

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Background

John is a Director in Grant Thornton's Specialist Services practice in the Cayman Islands, where he has been based for over seven years. Prior to this he worked for Grant Thornton in London as part of its large and complex insolvency team.

John is a chartered accountant and has broad experience working on litigious, multi-jurisdictional and complex insolvency appointments. He specialises in the restructuring and liquidation of funds, SPVs and holding companies which are in financial distress, or been subject to fraud, mismanagement or a dispute between shareholders.

John has operated engagements in all the major offshore jurisdictions, particularly Hong Kong, where he lived and worked, Singapore, Switzerland and throughout the Caribbean.

Professional qualifications and memberships

- Appointment taker recognized by the Grand Court in the Cayman Islands and BVI Court.
- Bachelor of Laws (LLB)
- · Postgraduate in International Insolvency Law
- Member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales.
- Member of the Cayman Islands Recovery and Insolvency Specialist Association ("RISA"). RISA is a member of the International Association of Restructuring, Insolvency and Bankruptcy Professionals (INSOL).
- Member of the Cayman Islands Society of Professional Accountants (CIIPA).

Specific skills include:

- Dealing with entities that have been subject to extensive fraudulent activities, accounting and asset disposal.
- Undertaking forensic analysis on significant volumes of often incomplete data in order to trace funds and assets.
- · Providing directorship services to distressed entities.
- Working closely with legal counsel to bring and defend litigation.
- Working with distressed entities to renegotiate lending facilities.

Experience

- Provided independent oversight over operating entities in a private equity structure worth approximately US\$2 billion. Assets were held in Europe and the Middle East. The structure flowed through Cayman, Hong Kong and China and the ultimate beneficial ownership was subject to dispute and litigation in Hong Kong and the Cayman Islands.
- Managed the liquidation of one of the Caribbean's largest conglomerate entities, including the divestment of operating entities in sectors such as retail, hospitality, insurance, shipping and property development, with assets of the group totaling over half a billion US\$ in value.
- Managed the provisional liquidation of a multi-billion-dollar international media group subject to litigation with operations in the BVI, Hong Kong, the US and China, and successfully secured assets in several jurisdictions.
- Managed the liquidation of an SPV with palm oil operations based in Peru; protected stakeholder interest during the foreclosure of assets.
- Undertook a 'mini bankruptcy' in Switzerland in order to reclaim Swiss domiciled assets of an insolvent estate and remit assets to the main proceedings in the Cayman Islands worth US\$300m.
- Managed the controllership and subsequent liquidation of two CIMA registered banks in the Cayman Islands.
- Liquidated hedge funds with traditional feeder/master structures which were subject to fraudulent activity by management, including successfully pursing clawback actions against former management.
- Managed litigation to recover US\$350m paid away to a Middle Eastern bank from an insolvent estate post the commencement of liquidation.
- Managed the recognition of several insolvent estates in Australia, Canada, Hong Kong, Singapore, Switzerland, the UK, and the US.
- Working with legal and forensic teams to successfully defend a US\$9.2 billion proprietary interest claim against an insolvent estate and protect the interests of creditors.
- Implemented a new governance structure across a group of distressed entities, including new boards, board subcommittees and reporting protocols.