Revisit your Legal Managed Review process

Legal Managed Services
For many years, legal departments in many organizations have employed staffing agencies to assemble rosters of Juris Doctors (J.D.) and licensed attorneys to work on a contract basis for document review work at relatively low costs—primarily in a litigation context. The PwC Managed Review team understands that this talent pool has a strong and flexible skill set that can be leveraged to take on many tasks outside of traditional eDiscovery. The goal? To identify resources with diverse backgrounds to tackle challenges and help deliver experts in privacy, contract reviews and abstractions, regulatory analysis, financial crimes, internal investigations and other corporate areas.

At PwC, our Managed Review process is handled effectively:

1. Recruitment

The Managed Review group recruits, trains and deploys teams in the United States, Europe and Asia. These professionals have experience in financial crimes, forensic technology, regulatory analysis, privacy regulations, policy review and drafting, and contracts review and abstraction. PwC’s global team members also have fluency in over 73 languages.

PwC’s brand and name recognition, reputation and competitive pay rates for review specialists enable us to outpace competitors in recruiting and retaining team members who have solid work ethics and the ability to work collaboratively. A talented team of legal professionals, led by experienced project managers and team leaders, boosts our ability to provide clients thorough analyses and solutions to complex problems.

2. Experience and training

PwC Managed Review team managers, team leaders, quality control and special-projects team members have decades of managed review experience across levels. The Managed Review division managers, project managers, team leaders and review specialists either possess a Juris Doctor degree or are licensed attorneys. The team members are trained to thoroughly analyze and interpret documents, regulations, policies and procedures in order to deliver high-quality results to clients.

To compete effectively in the industry, PwC offers continual training on new technologies, efficiencies, processes and methods that help deliver timely and cost-effective services to clients.

3. Building client trust

The Managed Review team has built and maintained clients’ trust by solving complex problems and helping deliver successful outcomes. The experienced leaders and staff have transformed the managed review process by quickly assessing clients’ needs, hand-selecting staff who fit each engagement, and improving efficiencies by implementing industry-leading technologies. The team is constantly looking to improve processes, capabilities and productivity, while combining human ingenuity, experience and technology to help deliver sustainable outcomes and build client trust.

4. Quality and service

Delivering high-quality work products and top-notch service to clients begins by attracting accomplished project managers, team leaders and staff—in the United States and globally. PwC is playing a major role in transforming the managed review process by bringing in experienced professionals with knowledge in multiple subject matter areas. They include investigations and forensics; financial crimes; regulatory compliance; privacy compliance; contract analysis and abstraction; policy review and drafting; identifying, collecting and preserving data; and accounting.

Our work product goes through several levels of review and quality control. When an engagement concludes, we conduct performance evaluations for each team member, confirming that we recruit and retain top talent and promote high-performing professionals into roles with greater opportunities.
Customer success stories

PwC’s Managed Review group has helped clients achieve successful outcomes and overcome significant challenges.

**Data Privacy: Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act**

A major university requested our help in quickly responding to a Title IX lawsuit. The documents required thousands of redactions, as directed by outside counsel, within a short time frame in order to comply with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) with its privacy regulations regarding the identity of students.

Our hand-selected team, which had privacy and redaction experience, took advantage of our in-house technology to apply around 300,000 specifically tokenized redactions (based on over 10,000 pseudonyms) to approximately 15,000 documents (consisting of roughly 100,000 pages) during a 14-week period.

Our Managed Review team worked continuously to complete redactions prior to the deadlines imposed by the governing court.

After the initial phase was complete, outside counsel for our client turned to us multiple times in order to meet additional deadlines related to phases encompassing different workflows. Each time, our team finalized their work prior to the deadline.

**Data Privacy: California Consumer Privacy Act**

This project involved a global consumer markets company with numerous subsidiaries that needed to quickly review large volumes of data to comply with pending California Consumer Privacy Act (CCPA) enforcement deadlines. The CCPA took effect January 1, 2020. With a six-month enforcement delay—poised to expire right as the effects of COVID-19 began to be felt by businesses of all kinds—the California Attorney General announced its intention to move forward with enforcement.

We assembled and quickly trained a 50-person review team just as work-from-home orders went into place. The team worked remotely to help evaluate privacy data and the accuracy of auto-generated redactions.

We explored different pricing strategies, ultimately agreeing to a per-page review cost model and scaling up and down the review team as the volume of CCPA requests fluctuated. As a result, we were able to help our client meet their response requirements in a timely and thorough manner, while managing costs over the period of time our review team was needed.

**Contract abstraction: Regulatory**

To address regulatory concerns, a full-service financial cooperative needed to quickly extract large volumes of key information from over 3,800 consumer loan agreements. PwC’s experienced managers understood that time was of the essence and staffed this project with experienced individuals who could work quickly and thoroughly.

The review involved examining largely variable-rate open-ended consumer loan agreements that provided lines of credit or overdraft protection. Leveraging the latest contract abstraction software to prepopulate contract terms, our Managed Review team helped verify data points across multiple fields.

The team, a combination of forensic specialists and review professionals, worked continuously to complete the extraction. Because of these efforts—our workflow gave them the confidence that the data was of high quality—our client was able to post their estimate to close their books and address certain regulatory concerns.
**Regulatory analysis and deconstruction**

On this project, our client was one of the largest corporations in the world. They were quickly approaching their deadline to analyze content regulations that might affect their company. Our managers quickly assembled a group of J.D.s experienced in regulatory analysis. Understanding that this process would require a different approach, the Managed Review group also staffed a project manager with experience to support the client.

Under the project manager’s leadership, the team first developed an understanding of the potentially relevant divisions of the client and how they might be affected by content regulations. This allowed the team to work quickly and efficiently in deconstructing the applicable regulations and assisting the client’s team to build the required insights. Despite starting a task that appeared to be impossible to complete in the time available, the Managed Review team’s efforts helped create a work product that the client presented to its leadership.

The client’s leadership group was so pleased with the results that it asked the Managed Review group to reassemble the same team a second, third and fourth time as the work expanded into other countries’ content regulations. Each time, the Managed Review group worked collaboratively with the client to innovate and advance the content captured. The client can now deliver guidance to its teams that will allow each group to easily understand how content laws in different countries will affect their efforts.

**Financial crimes: Internal investigations**

A Fortune 500 corporation required immediate assistance after an internal whistleblower made allegations about its chief financial officer impacting upcoming quarterly reports. With no time to spare, we were engaged through outside counsel to our client and we began collecting data from multiple custodians. Given the potential fallout, confidentiality was paramount.

PwC assembled an experienced Managed Review team overnight to begin work immediately. Our team reviewed the documents responsive to the key terms pulled from the whistleblower complaint. We categorized the documents accordingly, paying special attention to anything our first-level review team deemed key. We later sampled the documents marked nonresponsive as part of our quality-control process.

After starting the review over the weekend, the first key documents were escalated by Monday morning and were delivered on a rolling basis for the next several days. We also enabled outside counsel and our forensic team to conduct interviews with relevant witnesses, while having the benefit of electronic witness interview binders. Within a few weeks, our client was able to remediate issues identified and respond to requests from their outside auditor and regulators in order to file their financials on a timely basis.
How we can help you reach your project goals

PwC’s Managed Review group strives to understand the needs of each client and its situation, while taking advantage of the resources on our roster. This dual focus allows our group to staff your projects with the specific individuals who can help you achieve your goals.

1. Our leadership team can attract, recruit, train and retain this specialized talent pool, and how to deploy them strategically.

2. PwC’s global reach enables collaboration between the US, Europe and Asia. Our Managed Review teams are expanding the pool of specialized skills to meet our clients’ customized needs.

3. The Managed Review team’s experience and focus have proven success in quickly identifying strong document review specialists, assembling teams on short notice, preparing project cost estimates, adapting to help meet project changes after the engagement is initiated and striving to deliver high-quality work product within deadlines while being mindful of the budget.

4. The team maintains transparent communications, providing a roadmap to the engagement’s execution—from the initiation stage to the conclusion.

5. We approach the review process with a focus on innovation and improvement by using new technology to facilitate project management and execution efficiencies. We help solve problems with a “can-do” attitude.

Take advantage of our roster of talented professionals to efficiently link our Managed Review team members (with their essential experience and background) to your project needs.

Looking for ways to move your organization forward along this review path?

Contact our team to find out how we can work together.
Contacts

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