

**Peter Taaffe FCA CTA**  
Expert Witness & Forensic Accountant

### ***Professional background***

Peter trained and qualified as a Chartered Accountant with Deloitte Haskins & Sells (now PricewaterhouseCoopers) in London working on multinational audits before transferring to their Liverpool taxation department, later joining Ernst & Young to become a senior tax manager, qualifying as an associate member of the Chartered Institute of Taxation.

Peter was Chairman of the Liverpool Younger Members Group of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales for five years and was later Treasurer of the Institute's Liverpool Society.

He joined Bresnan Walsh as an equity partner in December 1991 building the firm up from 6 to 22 staff, merging in 2011 with Macfarlane + Co to form BWM with over 50 staff, becoming Managing Partner on merger. BWM has won regional and national awards on 2015, 2016 and 2017. Peter received the 2017 Business Person of the Year Award in the Merseyside Independent Business awards.

Peter spends his professional time working;

- 50 % on corporate advice including mergers and acquisitions, business valuations and business advice.
- 25% of his time dealing with litigation and legal support including expert witness.
- 25% of his time on practice management and business development.

Peter has acted as an accountancy expert to the Courts since the mid-1990s and has written articles on forensic accountancy issues for publication in various legal journals, and has given talks on the subject to various groups and bodies. Peter has been asked to speak at various ICAEW conferences including on how other accountancy firms can build their own practices up by giving proactive business advice to clients based on his own experience.

### ***Relevant experience***

Peter has acted and given evidence in Court on cases reflecting a wide range of different civil and criminal matters, instructed by both claimants and defendants and, in recent years, also often acting as a single joint expert, and gave evidence in the International Court of Arbitration "hot tubbing" with the other expert.

He has experience in:

- Personal injury
- Professional negligence, particularly involving solicitors and accountants
- Contested divorces
- Commercial disputes
- Business valuations
- Fraud

His experience in acting in those assignments is supported by his years running BWM and his responsibility for delivery of the services provided by a busy and successful accountancy practice, including:

- Audit – wide variety of audit experience, including management of audit assignments from family businesses to large public organisations.
- Taxation – advising on tax planning assignments for example for wealthy individuals, group tax planning and reorganisations, VAT planning from family businesses to large public organisations.
- General financial and business support to a wide range of businesses.

### ***Litigation Expert Qualifications***

Peter is qualified as an accredited expert witness under the Cardiff University Bond Solon Expert Witness Scheme ([www.bondsolon.com](http://www.bondsolon.com)).