



**LIST OF ATTORNEYS
SPECIALIZING IN CRIMINAL LAW
IN THE MUNICH CONSULAR DISTRICT
(April 2018)**

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For information about which German states are covered by which U.S. Consulate,
please see the map on our
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ADDRESS OF U.S. CONSULATE
American Consulate General
Königinstrasse 5
80539 München
Tel: 011-49-89-2888-0 (from the U.S.)
Tel: (089) 2888-0 (from within Germany)
Fax: (089) 2809998
Internet: <http://munich.usconsulate.gov>
Email: consmunich@state.gov

About this list

The following is to assist you in selecting a private attorney, should you wish to retain one. The American Consulate General, Munich, Germany assumes no responsibility or liability for the professional ability or reputation of, or the quality of services provided by, the following persons or firms. Inclusion on this list is in no way an endorsement by the Department of State or the U.S. Consulate. Names are listed alphabetically and by geographic location, and the order in which they appear has no other significance. The information in the list on professional credentials, areas of expertise and language ability are provided directly by the lawyers. You may receive additional information about the individuals by contacting the local bar association:

Rechtsanwaltskammer
Tal 33
80336 München
Tel: (089) 5329440
Fax: (089) 53294428
E-mail: info@rak-muenchen.de
www.rak-muenchen.de

Some Things You Should Know About Retaining an Attorney

German lawyers are not as active in court as American lawyers, due to the prominent role of the presiding judge. Your defense counsel should, however, argue your case for you and try to convince the court to interpret the facts and apply the law in a manner favorable to you. Your German attorney is your primary source of advice. Ask him/her any questions you have about the case and listen carefully to the advice you receive, for he/she is trained in German criminal law and has the duty to defend you to the best of his/her ability.

Attorney Fees

☞ **Legal services will be at your own expense.**

If you have no funds, see the section on *Pflichtverteidiger (court-appointed attorney)* below.

The State Department cannot provide funds for employing a lawyer, but will contact your family or friends on your behalf, to request their financial assistance.

Attorney fees are regulated by a state-approved schedule of fees. The attorney will adhere to these tariffs if the retainer fee has not been specially discussed. In cases of complicated and time-consuming proceedings (for example, major offenses or crimes), the attorney, in order to cover excess time spent beyond normal services, will suggest an individual contract concerning the cost of his services. This contract must be signed by the client in order to be valid and binding. The attorney usually will request a down payment from his client at the beginning of the proceedings, and will account for it at their termination. Once you have signed a power of attorney, you are obligated to pay your lawyer's bill for services rendered to date, even if you change attorneys. You should know that the lawyer may charge for additional services that are not related to your criminal case, as well as frequent and lengthy telephone conversations with your relatives/friends.

Selection of Defense Attorney

Private Attorney (*Wahlverteidiger*)

According to paragraph 138 of the German Penal Code the defense attorney must either be licensed to practice before German courts or be a law professor at a German university.

A criminal defense attorney is mandatory in the following cases

- If the initial trial will be held at the *Landgericht* (Regional Court) or *Oberlandesgericht* (Higher Regional Court);
- if the accused is charged with a felony (*Verbrechen*),
- if the proceedings may result in withdrawal of a professional license;
- if pre-trial detention is being enforced;
- if an expert opinion must be prepared regarding the mental condition of the accused, which might lead to the accused's admission to a mental institution;
- if the court orders the prisoner's admission to a mental or medical treatment facility;
- or if a previously appointed defense attorney is dismissed from the proceedings by a decision of the court.

In other cases not specified above, at the request of the accused or automatically, the court will appoint a defense attorney if the severity of the offense or the legal complexities involved make it appear warranted that legal assistance to the accused is required [in a legal sense], or if it is otherwise obvious that the accused is not capable of handling his own defense.

Court-appointed Attorney (*Pflichtverteidiger*)

A prisoner in pre-trial detention can either hire a private attorney or receive a court appointed attorney. A German court-appointed attorney is not the same as an American 'public defender'. Any private attorney can be appointed as a public defender. Therefore you may choose an attorney and, if the attorney agrees to defend you on a court appointment basis, you should give his name to the judge. If you do not choose an attorney, the court may appoint an attorney of its choice.

If you need an interpreter to communicate with your attorney, the attorney should apply for one. The costs will be borne by the German government.

If you are convicted and sentenced, the *Justizkasse* will, at the end of the entire proceeding, send a notice to you to pay for all costs incurred, e.g., court costs, costs for the interpreter, the witnesses, translations, and also for the court-appointed attorney.

For incarcerated Americans:

Some prisons have preprinted postcards with which you can contact your lawyer and ask him/her to visit.

☞ Please see the booklet entitled "Information for U.S. Citizens Imprisoned in Germany" for more details. This Handbook contains further information about selecting legal counsel, private attorneys and court-appointed attorneys.

ANSBACH

Christoph SCHMITT

Neustadt 33

91522 Ansbach

☎ (0981) 5733

Fax: (0981) 2028

Email: info@rechtsanwalt-schmitt.de

Webpage: www.rechtsanwalt-schmitt.de

Ability to Read/Speak English: Good; **Other Languages:** -

Educational Background: University Würzburg, Germany

Law Background: Has practiced law for 9 years

Cases Willing to Handle: Criminal Law , Family Law, Adoptions, Child Custody, Parental Child Abduction, Child Protection, Marriage/Divorce, Civil Law, Damages, Narcotics, Commercial Law, Auto/Accidents

AUGSBURG

Gerhard DECKER

Fuggerstrasse 16

86150 Augsburg

☎ (0821) 346690

Fax: (0821) 346574

Email: decker@ra-decker-kollegen.de

Webpage: www.ra-decker-kollegen.de

Ability to Read/Speak English: good; **Other Languages:** -

Educational Background: University Augsburg

Law Background: Has practiced law since 1978

Cases Willing to Handle: Criminal Law, Damages, Narcotics, Auto/Accidents

Ernst LAUFFER

Volkhartstr. 12

86152 Augsburg

☎ (0821) 33233

Fax: (0821) 154950

Email: info@ra-lauffer.de

Webpage: www.ra-lauffer.de

Ability to Read/Speak English: Fluent; **Other Languages:** -

Educational Background: Universities of Munich & Speyer, Germany

Law Background: Has practiced law since 1976

Cases Willing to Handle: Criminal Law, Family Law, Adoptions, Child Custody, Parental Child Abduction, Child Protection, Marriage/Divorce, Civil Law, Damages, Labor Relations, Immigration, Auto/Accidents

Michael SCHEERSCHMIDT

Schäzlerstr. 13

86150 Augsburg

☎ (0821) 4540220

Fax: (0821) 4540260

Email: kanzlei@ra-scheerschmidt-coll.de

Webpage: www.slk-kanzlei.de

Ability to Read/Speak English: Fluent; **Other Languages:** Italian

Educational Background: University Munich

Law Background: Has practiced law since 1977

Cases Willing to Handle: Criminal Law, Family Law, Marriage/Divorce, Insurance, Civil Law, Damages, Narcotics, Collections, Commercial Law, Estates, Labor Relations, Auto/Accidents

BAD KISSINGEN

Dr. Gerhard W. STAAB

Von-Hessing-Str. 1

97688 Bad Kissingen

☎ (0971) 1279

Fax: (0971) 4974

Email: info@drstaab-seufert.de

Webpage: www.drstaab-seufert.de

Ability to Read/Speak English: Fluent; **Other Languages:** French

Educational Background: University Munich and Würzburg

Law Background: Has practiced law since 1975

Cases Willing to Handle: Criminal Law, Family Law, Adoptions, Child Custody, Parental Child Abduction, Child Protection, Marriage/Divorce, Civil Law, Damages, Narcotics, Auto/Accidents

BAYREUTH

Martina MEISEN-GOOLEY

Erlanger Strasse 24

95444 Bayreuth

☎ (0921) 7545-0

Fax: (0921) 754520

Email: Bayreuth@Kanzlei-emc.de

Webpage: www.kanzlei-emc.de

Ability to Read/Speak English: Fluent; **Other Languages:** -

Educational Background: University

Law Background: Since 1989 self-employed lawyer

Cases Willing to Handle: Criminal Law, Family Law, Adoptions, Child Custody, Parental Child Abduction, Child Protection, Marriage/Divorce, Insurance, Civil Law, Damages, Narcotics, Labor Relations, Auto/Accidents

GRAFENWÖHR

Jutta S. CARRINGTON-Conerly, LL.M.

Master of Laws

Fachanwältin für Familienrecht

Sattlergasse 4

92655 Grafenwöhr

☎ (09641) 3839

Fax: (09641) 8595

Email: info@carrington.de

Webpage: www.carrington.de

Ability to Read/Speak English: Fluent; **Other Languages:** French (very basic)

Educational Background: German law degree, Master of Laws, LL.M.

Law Background: Has practiced law since 1985

Cases Willing to Handle: Criminal Law, Family Law, Child Custody, Parental Child Abduction, Child Protection, Marriage/Divorce, Civil Law, Estates, Auto/Accidents

MEMMINGEN

Dr. Sybille THIEL

Herrenstr. 9

87700 Memmingen

☎ (08331) 99590-0

Fax: (08331) 99590-23

Email: kanzlei@bogdahn-kollegen.de

Webpage: www.bogdahn-kollegen.de

Ability to Read/Speak English: Good; **Other Languages:** -

Educational Background: University Würzburg

Law Background: Has practiced law since 2001

Cases Willing to Handle: Criminal Law, Family Law, Marriage/Divorce, Insurance, Civil Law, Auto/Accidents

MUNICH

Dr. Stephan BEUKELMANN

Fachanwalt für Strafrecht

Brienner Strasse 56

80333 München

☎ (089) 545997-0

Fax: (089) 545997-98

Email: beukelmann@lohberger-leipold.de

Webpage: www.lohberger-leipold.de

Ability to Read/Speak English: Fluent; **Other Languages:** - Spanish

Educational Background: University Munich and Rostock

Law Background: Has practiced law for 17 years

Cases Willing to Handle: Criminal Law

Christian GERBER

Fachanwalt für Strafrecht

Dachauer Strasse 31

80335 München

☎ (089) 598407

Fax: (089) 591355

(Law firm Kremer, Höck & Kollegen)

Email: anwaelte@rae-khk.de

Webpage: www.rae-khk.de

Ability to Read/Speak English: Fluent; **Other Languages:** French

Educational Background: University

Law Background: Has practiced law since 1999 at Kremer, Höck & Kollegen

Cases Willing to Handle: Criminal Law, Narcotics

Hartmut GIRSHAUSEN

Fachanwalt für Strafrecht

Fachanwalt für Steuerrecht

Nymphenburgerstr. 20a

80636 München

☎ (089) 5502333

Fax: (089) 5502131

(Law firm Kreuzer, Pfister & Girshausen)

Email: info@KPG-online.de

Webpage: NY91.de

Ability to Read/Speak English: Fluent; **Other Languages:** -

Educational Background: University Mainz

Law Background: Has practiced law since 1995

Cases Willing to Handle: Criminal Law

Dr. Wolfgang KREUZER, LL.M.

Nymphenburgerstr. 20a

80335 München

☎ (089) 5502244

Fax: (089) 5502244

Email: info@kpg-online.de

Webpage: NY91.de

Ability to Read/Speak English: Fluent; **Other Languages:** French

Educational Background: University Munich; Lausanne; Berkeley, CA

Law Background: Has practiced law since 1973

Cases Willing to Handle: Criminal Law

Dr. Klaus LEIPOLD

Fachanwalt für Strafrecht

Brienner Strasse 56

80333 München

☎ (089) 545997-0

Fax: (089) 545997-98

Email: leipold@lohberger-leipold.de

Webpage: www.lohberger-leipold.de

Ability to Read/Speak English: Fluent; **Other Languages:**

Educational Background: University of Giessen and Freiburg

Law Background: Has practiced law since 1985

Cases Willing to Handle: Criminal Law

Dr. Werner LEITNER

Herzogspitalstr. 5

80331 München

☎ (089) 231175-0

Fax: (089) 231175-55

E-mail: info@leitner-partner.de

Webpage: www.leitner-partner.de

Ability to Read/Speak English: Fluent; **Other Languages:** French, Spanish

Educational Background: Ludwig Maximilians University Munich, Law traineeship in Chicago, USA;

Law Background: Has practiced law as a defense lawyer since 1989 and as an accredited specialist for criminal law since 1997

Cases Willing to Handle: Criminal Law

Prof. Dr. Eckhart MÜLLER

Sendlinger Str. 19/II

80331 München

☎ (089) 2366370

Fax: (089) 2608965

Email: kanzlei@rae-strafrecht.de

Webpage: www.rae-strafrecht.de

Ability to Read/Speak English: Fluent, **Other Languages:** -

Educational Background: University Erlangen; Munich and University Passau (Honorarprofessor)

Law Background: Has practiced law for 37 years

Cases Willing to Handle: Criminal Law

Maximilian MÜLLER, LL.M

Sendlinger Str. 19/II

80331 München

☎ (089) 2366370

Fax: (089) 2608965

Email: kanzlei@rae-strafrecht.de

Webpage: www.rae-strafrecht.de

Ability to Read/Speak English: Fluent; **Other Languages:** Spanish and French

Educational Background: University LMU Munich, Université de Lausanne, Master of Law Trinity College Dublin, studies of the Spanish language at the Academia Hispano-Americana (Mexico)

Law Background: Has practiced law for 8 years

Cases Willing to Handle: Criminal Law

Thomas PFISTER

Fachanwalt für Strafrecht

(Law firm Dr. Kreuzer, Pfister & Girshausen)

Nymphenburgerstr. 20a

80636 München

☎ (089) 5502255

Fax: (089) 5502131

Email: info@kpg-online.de

Webpage: NY91.de

Ability to Read/Speak English: good; **Other Languages:** Italian

Educational Background: University Munich

Law Background: Has practiced law for 25 years

Cases Willing to Handle: Criminal Law

Dr. Peter SCHNEIDER

Friedrichstr. 13

80801 München

☎ (089) 12710901

Fax: (089) 12710991

Email: kanzlei@ra-schneider-peter.de

Webpage: www.ra-schneider-peter.de

Ability to Read/Speak English: Fluent; **Other Languages:** French, Spanish

Educational Background: University Regensburg

Law Background: Has practiced law since 1981

Cases Willing to Handle: Criminal Law, Family Law, Marriage/Divorce, Narcotics

Jörg SKLEBITZ

Kaiserstr. 14

80801 München

☎ (089) 383826-0

Fax: (089) 383826-11

Email: sklebitz@eberth-kollegen.de

Webpage: www.eberth-kollegen.de

Ability to Read/Speak English: Fluent; **Other Languages:** -

Educational Background: University Munich

Law Background: Has practiced law for 20 years

Cases Willing to Handle: Criminal Law, Narcotics

Marco VON SCHIRACH

Altheimer Eck 13/II

80331 München

☎ (089) 2366790

Fax: (089) 23667977

Email: kanzlei@rae13.de and schirach@rae13.de

Webpage: www.rae13.de

Ability to Read/Speak English: Good; **Other Languages:** -

Educational Background: criminal law

Law Background: Has practiced law since 2008

Cases Willing to Handle: Criminal Law

NÜRNBERG

Jochen HORN

Fürther Strasse 139

90429 Nürnberg

☎ (0911) 261909

Fax: (0911) 261940

E mail: info@horn-coll.de

Webpage: www.horn-coll.de

Ability to Read/Speak English: good; **Other Languages:** -

Educational Background: University Regensburg

Law Background: Has practiced law for 16 years

Cases Willing to Handle: Criminal Law

Dr. Günther KREUZER

Lorenzer Platz 3a

90402 Nürnberg

☎ (0911) 2022-0

Fax: (0911) 2022101

Email: nuernberg@kreuzer.de

Webpage www.kreuzer.de

Ability to Read/Speak English: Fluent; **Other Languages:** Italian, French

Educational Background: University of Erlangen, Germany

Law Background: Has practiced law for 38 years

Cases Willing to Handle: Family Law, Adoptions, Child Custody, Marriage/Divorce, Insurance, Banking/Financial, Commercial/Business Law, Foreign Investments, Marketing Agreements, Patents/Trademarks/Copyrights, Civil Law, Criminal Law, Damages, Narcotics, Collections, Commercial Law, Contracts, Transportation Law, Corporations, Foreign Claims, Estates, Taxes, Labor Relations, Immigration, Auto/Accidents

REGENSBURG

Peter HOFMANN

Deiningerstrasse 10

93049 Regensburg

☎ (0941) 32962 or 33779

Fax: (0941) 37636

Email: kanzlei@ra-hofmann-regensburg.de

Webpage: www.ra-hofmann-regensburg.de

Ability to Read/Speak English: Good; **Other Languages:** French

Educational Background: University Regensburg

Law Background: Has practiced law more than 25 years

Cases Willing to Handle: Criminal Law, Family Law, Child Custody, Parental Child Abduction, Child Protection, Marriage/Divorce, Insurance, Banking/Financial, Commercial/Business Law, Marketing Agreements, Civil Law, Damages, Narcotics, Collections, Commercial Law, Contracts, Transportation Law, ms, Estates, Labor Relations, Auto/Accidents

ROSENHEIM

Dr. Ernst BACHMANN

Königstr. 9

83022 Rosenheim

☎ (08031) 17400

Fax: (08031) 17869

Email: RA.Dr.Bachmann@t-online.de

Ability to Read/Speak English: Fluent; **Other Languages:** Italian, Russian (fluent), Chinese, Arabic (limited), Spanish, French (good)

Educational Background: University Munich

Law Background: Has practiced law since 1974

Cases Willing to Handle: **Family Law, Marriage/Divorce, Commercial/Business Law, Civil Law, Criminal Law, Damages, Commercial Law, Contracts, Foreign Claims, Labor Relations, Immigration, Auto/Accidents**

WOLFRATSHAUSEN

Karl BRUNNHUBER

Sauerlacher Strasse 48

82515 Wolfratshausen

☎ (08171) 99894-0

Fax: (08171) 99894-29

Email: kanzlei@brunnhuber-recht.de

Webpage: www.brunnhuber-recht.de

Ability to Read/Speak English: Fluent; **Other Languages:** Spanish and French

Educational Background: University Munich, 1984 internship at law firm in Fairfax County, VA

Law Background: Has practiced law since 1986

Cases Willing to Handle: Family Law, Child Custody, Parental Child Abduction, Child Protection, Marriage/Divorce, Civil Law, Criminal Law, Damages, Estates