

## Baden-Württemberg (outside Stuttgart)

### ADJUGA

Baden-Württemberg (outside Stuttgart) □□□□■

**Comment:** Respected firm in Baden-Württemberg. Founded five years ago as an outsourced legal department for Heidelberger Druckmaschinen, Adjuga has since taken advantage of its deep-seated industry know-how and has made a name for itself as advisor to various international companies in this sector. Regional competitors recently noted that the firm has broadened its horizons considerably in terms of both clients and practice fields.

**Strengths:** Long-standing knowledge of the plant construction and mechanical engineering sectors.

**Practice:** Corporate/M&A, commercial and distribution, product liability, banking and finance, IP. Often active as an outsourced legal department.

**Clients:** ●● Public knowledge: Heidelberger Druckmaschinen as an outsourced legal department; several mechanical engineering and plant construction companies on service contract law and distribution, corporate/M&A, product liability; M-DAX company on corporate (also AGM advice).

### BENDER HARRER KREVET

Baden-Württemberg (outside Stuttgart) □□□□■

**Comment:** A recommended firm, whose forte lies in advice to international Mittelstand companies and which frequently advises numerous local authorities in the region. Clients praised the lawyers for their "expertise, quick apprehension, strategic thinking, appropriate and proactive argumentation" and claimed to be "highly satisfied" with the cooperation. Although BHK was originally broad-based, the firm is increasingly developing specializations and this brings the team increasingly complex instructions. Particularly noteworthy was the advice to an international corporate on a planned acquisition in the three-digit millions. The arrival of an IT lawyer last year paid off quickly, as various interfaces with other practices have already emerged, e.g. in transactions advice.

**Strengths:** Work with international elements, especially Switzerland and the US.

**Development potential:** Three years after the merger of Harrer Krevet's civil law office with Bender's administrative practice, the referral work between the two practice areas is still rather underdeveloped. In the past, however, BHK has indicated its desire to grow into one outfit, as demonstrated by the successful interoffice cooperation.

**Practice:** Focus on international contract law and ongoing corporate advice (restructuring, company succession, often with international elements) as well as administrative law, increasing IT/IP, tax and employment. Clients range from corporates to Mittelstand companies in the auto supply, measuring technology, chip and machine tool industries. Also municipalities on administrative law. Cooperation with accounting firm in Lörrach and with PwC in Freiburg. (17 partners, 5 of counsel, 10 associates)

**Clients:** ● Swiss corporate on due diligence and contract drafting in bidding proceedings (three-digit millions); ongoing advice to various notable companies from the semiconductor, measuring technology and auto supply industries.

### CAEMMERER LENZ

Baden-Württemberg (outside Stuttgart) □□□□■

**Comment:** Highly recommended firm in the region, whose strength lies in all-round advice to Mittelstand companies. The firm stands out for its "quick and pragmatic work", as one competitor noted. The corporate team under Melber advises clients on complex issues, e.g. concerning international consortium loans, whereby the firm's international network and the office in Basel come in useful. The

## BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG (OUTSIDE STUTTGART)

SZA Schilling Zutt & Anschutz

Mannheim

Friedrich Graf von Westphalen & Partner

Freiburg

Caemmerer Lenz

Karlsruhe, Mannheim

Melchers

Heidelberg

Rittershaus

Mannheim

Rowedder Zimmermann Hass

Mannheim

Bender Harrer Krevet

Lörrach, Freiburg

Schlatter

Heidelberg, Mannheim

Tiefenbacher

Heidelberg

Kullen Müller Zinser

Sindelfingen

Ladenburger Neifeind Schmücker & Homann

Pforzheim

Zinn Böcker

Mannheim

Adjuga

Heidelberg

Nietzer & Häusler

Heilbronn

Nonnenmacher

Karlsruhe

Pfefferle Koch Helberg & Partner

Heilbronn

Schrade & Partner

Villingen-Schwenningen, Singen, Freiburg,

Lahr, Tuttlingen, Konstanz, Weingarten/

Ravensburg, Ulm

The selection of law firms in the above table reflects the research of the editorial staff at JUVE and is based on interviews with clients, lawyers and academics. It remains a subjective view and implies no disparagement of any firm not mentioned here but which is nevertheless active in this field. The firms are alphabetically listed within the groups.

renowned banking and capital markets litigation practice headed by Pap continued to grow steadily, winning several credit institutions as clients (mostly from the public banking sector) and honing a new specialization in advice and litigation for financial service providers, for instance on investor lawsuits regarding media and film funds.

**Strengths:** Deep roots in the region; extensive litigation experience in the banking and capital markets sectors.

**Recommended lawyers:** Dr. Oliver Melber (corporate), Dr. Michael Pap (banking and capital markets), Dr. Eberhardt Meiringer ("there are no big construction projects in the region without him", competitor; construction).

**Practice:** Class-action lawsuits for financial service providers (► Dispute Resolution. Banking and capital markets, construction and architects' law, corporate (restructuring, change in corporate form, D&O liability and company sales). Employment, administrative law, medical law and healthcare, hospital law, IP, family and inheritance law, company succession. (12 partners, 18 associates)

**Clients:** ●● Public knowledge: ongoing advice and litigation for Badenia in series of investor lawsuits; state banks, various cooperative banks and savings banks ongoing concerning defense against investor claims.

### FRIEDRICH GRAF VON WESTPHALEN & PARTNER

Baden-Württemberg (outside Stuttgart) □■□□□□

**Comment:** This Freiburg firm remains one of the leading outfits in the region despite the spinoff from Graf von Westphalen. Few regional competitors can boast such extensive experience in (often international) mid-cap M&A. One example is the firm's advice to the American company Matthews on several acquisitions in Germany. In addition to the solid corporate practice, for which two new partners were appointed at the start of the year, the firm as a whole is holding true to its concept of all-round advice to

Mittelstand companies. FGvW took on a lawyer experienced in renewable energies from Stern-Koelln as a part of the firm's plan to develop a new focus on this sector.

**Strengths:** Well-maintained international contacts.

**Development potential:** In the spinoff from Graf von Westphalen, FGvW lost the ties to the firm's Chinese office, which had proven to be an attractive bridge for several clients looking to invest in Asia.

**Highly recommended lawyers:** Gerhard Manz, Dr. Barbara Mayer (both corporate/M&A).

**Practice:** ► Corporate and ► M&A, employment, construction and administrative law, public procurement, tax, ► trademarks and unfair competition, ► distribution, trade and logistics. (16 partners, 17 associates)

**Clients:** ●● Conductix-Wampfler on acquisition of Besta Power; Delachaux, Matthews Corporation, MothersonSumi and Wuppermann on acquisitions in Germany; Haufe Lexware on acquisitions in Germany and abroad; ongoing advice to Huhtamaki on corporate and transactions; ongoing advice to Maquet on JV in Thailand; Otto Ganter/Elesa on Indian JV.

### KULLEN MÜLLER ZINSER

Baden-Württemberg (outside Stuttgart) □□□□■

**Comment:** This firm is recommended in the region for its work in tax and tax criminal law, a specialty that was beefed up with the arrival of Dr. Alexander Sommer from Frick Quedenfeld. The practice's work here has been dominated by advice on self-indictment relating to the CDs containing tax data. The smaller team in civil law was instructed by the subsidiary of a state bank for the first time in connection with media fund investments in corporate, tax and bank law. As a result of the crisis, employment advice relating to company closures and redundancies was also an area of importance.