

PRESS RELEASE

Date: February 9, 2017

bpv BRAUN PARTNERS ADVISING COMPANIES HOW TO PROTECT THEMSELVES AGAINST PROSECUTION

bpv BRAUN PARTNERS organized a professional seminar along with the publisher **Economia**, entitled “Preventing Corporate Criminal Liability”.

Company owners, in-house lawyers, proxy holders and HR managers from small and large companies alike gathered together to learn about the latest in legislative changes related to the amended criminal corporate liability act.



The seminar was led by the legal experts from bpv BRAUN PARTNERS: **Marc Müller**, M.B.A. (partner) and **Mgr. Martin Cír** (lead attorney).



Mr Cír guided the audience through the new legislation, which expands the list of criminal offences, and indicated the associated practical pitfalls. In that connection Mr Müller also highlighted extreme cases from court practice, where a corporation is at risk of dissolution or a fine so high it could put them out of business.

Mr Cír then described for everyone in detail the new grounds for exculpation if a company wants to rid itself of criminal liability. “Corporations can now exculpate themselves not only when one of their employees commits a criminal offence, but also when a statutory body or management of the company acts unlawfully,” Mr Cír commented on the changes in the law. However, both gentlemen still point out that many unanswered questions remain regarding the practical application of the increased scope of “excuses”.

Seminar attendees had the opportunity to hear how successful exculpation works and about the importance of choosing the right measures based directly on the real needs of each organization and taking into account the specific risk factors with regard to the company’s area of competence, size and number of employees. The presenters confirmed that appropriate preventive measures help improve overall company culture, lowering the potential risk of someone in the company acting outside the law and bringing consequences down on the whole company.

In the final session during the seminar Mr Cír and Mr Müller discussed in detail the instruments that can assist in this prevention, such as the code of ethics for regulating rules of conduct in the company, anti-corruption program, compliance program, corporate ombudsman and company education system.

Attendees appreciated the presenters' expert knowledge and especially their masterful combination of a legal explication of the issues at hand and a presentation of practical cases from business law.

Corporate criminal liability requires a specific, highly individualized approach focused on the specific needs of each company. Considering its prior experience in the Czech Republic and other countries, the **bpv BRAUN PARTNERS** team is offering legal advice to companies of all sizes as a follow-up to the seminar in the area of compliance programs and preventing corporate criminal liability on the part of legal entities.

About us:

bpv BRAUN PARTNERS is one of the leading international law firms in the Czech Republic and Slovakia. It is also a founding member of **bpv LEGAL**, a close association of law firms operating in Central and Eastern Europe for many years. Its team consists of more than 35 lawyers offering its clients, key Czech and foreign companies, comprehensive services in many areas of law. The key expertise of **bpv BRAUN PARTNERS** includes merger and acquisitions, corporate law, real estate law and also tax advisory services. Its experts also deal with copyright and IT law, competition law, energy and labour law, life sciences and represent their clients before Czech and international courts and in arbitrations. See more at www.bpv-bp.com.

Kontakt:

bpv BRAUN PARTNERS s.r.o.

Ing. Iva Vosolová, Marketing Manager

iva.vosolova@bpv-bp.com

tel: 224 490 000