

Law No. (11) of 2025
Establishing the
Dubai Judicial Expertise Centre¹

We, Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Ruler of Dubai,

After perusal of:

Federal Law by Decree No. (21) of 2022 Regulating the Practice of Expert Witness Profession before the Judicial Authorities;

Federal Law by Decree No. (35) of 2022 Issuing the Law of Evidence Governing Civil and Commercial Transactions;

Federal Law by Decree No. (42) of 2022 Issuing the Civil Procedure Code;

Law No. (6) of 2005 Regulating the Dubai Courts and its amendments;

Law No. (1) of 2016 Concerning the Financial Regulations of the Government of Dubai, its Implementing Bylaw, and their amendments;

Law No. (13) of 2016 Concerning the Judicial Authorities in the Emirate of Dubai and its amendments;

Law No. (8) of 2018 Concerning Management of the Government of Dubai Human Resources and its amendments;

Law No. (13) of 2020 Regulating Expert Witness Work before the Judicial Bodies in the Emirate of Dubai;

Law No. (26) of 2023 Concerning the Executive Council of the Emirate of Dubai;

Decree No. (60) of 2023 Regulating the Transfer of Employees in the Government of Dubai; and

Resolution No. (4) of 2023 Concerning the Expertise and Disputes Settlement Department at His Highness the Ruler's Court,

Do hereby issue this Law.

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¹*Every effort has been made to produce an accurate and complete English version of this legislation. However, for the purpose of its interpretation and application, reference must be made to the original Arabic text. In case of conflict, the Arabic text will prevail.*

Title of the Law
Article (1)

This Law will be cited as "Law No. (11) of 2025 Establishing the Dubai Judicial Expertise Centre."

Definitions
Article (2)

The following words and expressions, wherever mentioned in this Law, will have the meaning indicated opposite each of them unless the context implies otherwise:

Emirate: The Emirate of Dubai.

Ruler: His Highness the Ruler of Dubai.

Government: The Government of Dubai.

Law: Law No. (13) of 2020 Regulating Expert Witness Work before the Judicial Authorities in the Emirate of Dubai, or any superseding legislation.

Executive Council: The Executive Council of the Emirate of Dubai.

Judicial Council: The Judicial Council of the Emirate.

Chairman: The Chairman of the Judicial Council.

Courts: The Dubai Courts regulated pursuant to the above-mentioned Law No. (6) of 2005, including the Court of Cassation, the Court of Appeal, the Courts of First Instance, the Probate Court, and any other court to be established therein.

Public Prosecution: The Public Prosecution of the Emirate.

RDC: The Rental Dispute Settlement Centre in the Emirate of Dubai.

Judicial Bodies: These include the Courts, the Public Prosecution, the RDC, and the Tribunals formed in the Emirate pursuant to legislation issued by the Ruler or the Chairman.

DJEC: The Dubai Judicial Expertise Centre established pursuant to this Law.

Board of Directors:	The board of directors of the DJEC.
Executive Director:	The executive director of the DJEC.
EDSD:	The Expertise and Disputes Settlement Department at His Highness the Ruler's Court.
Expert Witness Work:	Activities performed by an Expert Witness assigned by a Judicial Body to provide verbal or written expert technical opinions on a case or incident.
Expert Witness:	Any natural or legal person who practises Expert Witness Work, including an Expert Witness Firm; an Expert Witness appointed to the DJEC; an Expert Witness registered on the Roll; an Expert Witness from among the employees of the EDSD who is registered on the Roll; and an Expert Witness from among the employees of a Government Entity or the private sector who is not registered on the Roll and who is engaged by the Judicial Bodies or the DJEC to perform Expert Witness Work.
Expert Witness Firm:	A corporation or company licensed by the competent commercial licensing authority in the Emirate to perform Expert Witness Work.
Roll:	A paper or electronic record maintained by the DJEC in which Expert Witnesses who satisfy the conditions and requirements stipulated in the Law are registered in accordance with their technical specialisation.

Establishment of the DJEC

Article (3)

Pursuant to this Law, a public corporation named the "Dubai Judicial Expertise Centre" is established. The DJEC has legal personality and the legal capacity required to undertake the acts and dispositions required for the achievement of its objectives. The DJEC is hereby affiliated to the Judicial Council.

Head Office of the DJEC
Article (4)

The head office of the DJEC will be located in the Emirate. Other branches and offices of the DJEC may be established within the Emirate pursuant to a resolution of the Board of Directors.

Objectives of the DJEC
Article (5)

The DJEC aims to:

1. support the Judicial Bodies by providing technically qualified local and international Expert Witnesses who are registered on the Roll and specialised in Expert Witness Work, thereby contributing to the issuance of just and equitable judgements;
2. develop and empower national Expert Witnesses who are qualified to perform Expert Witness Work before Judicial Bodies;
3. develop the Expert Witness framework in the Emirate in accordance with international best practices;
4. enhance the quality and efficiency of Expert Witness Work in the Emirate, thereby contributing to the accuracy of judgements and ensuring the delivery of prompt justice; and
5. enhance the confidence of litigants in the Expert Witness Work performed before Judicial Bodies.

Scope of Application
Article (6)

Without prejudice to the functions of the EDSD stipulated in the legislation in force in the Emirate, the provisions of this Law apply to Expert Witness Work, Expert Witnesses, Expert Witness Firms, the EDSD, and all Persons who are entrusted with carrying out Expert Witness Work before the Judicial Bodies. The provisions of this Law do not apply to:

1. Expert Witnesses appearing, and Expert Witness Work carried out, before the Dubai International Financial Centre Courts;
2. Expert Witnesses appearing, and Expert Witness Work carried out, before arbitration tribunals; and

3. Government Entities and their Employees whose expert technical opinion is solicited by a Judicial Body in respect of an investigation or a claim that is being heard by that Judicial Body.

Functions of the DJEC

Article (7)

For the purpose of achieving its objectives, the DJEC is hereby vested with the duties and powers to:

1. develop the general policy and strategic plans for Expert Witness Work in the Emirate, and submit the same to the Board of Directors for approval in preparation for final approval by the Judicial Council;
2. regulate and supervise all matters related to Expert Witness Work and Expert Witnesses, and to the practice of Expert Witness Work before Judicial Bodies, in accordance with the relevant rules adopted by the Board of Directors;
3. exercise all the functions vested in the Courts and the Organisational Unit responsible for managing the affairs of Expert Witnesses within the Courts, and the committees referred to in the Law;
4. nominate Expert Witnesses to provide technical opinions on the applications, investigations, disputes, and claims assigned by Judicial Bodies to the DJEC, in accordance with the relevant rules adopted by the Board of Directors in this respect;
5. establish the rules and controls for nominating Expert Witnesses to provide technical opinions on the applications, investigations, disputes, and claims assigned by Judicial Bodies to the DJEC;
6. audit and inspect Expert Witness Work and Expert Witnesses in accordance with the provisions of this Law, the resolutions issued in pursuance hereof, and other legislation in force in the Emirate;
7. conduct studies related to regulating Expert Witness Work, make the necessary proposals for developing the same and addressing the challenges associated with it, and submit the same to the Board of Directors to give the relevant directives as it deems appropriate;
8. organise and participate in conferences, workshops, and training courses for Expert Witnesses at the local and international levels, with a view to improving their competencies, developing their skills, and sharing success stories;

9. propose new, and review existing, legislation, bylaws, and regulations related to Expert Witness Work, in coordination with the concerned entities in the Emirate;
10. enter into partnerships and cooperate with international Expert Witness Firms and local, regional, and international entities specialised in the DJEC's areas of work;
11. prepare and qualify UAE National cadres specialised in areas related to Expert Witness Work, implement training programmes for Expert Witnesses, and coordinate in this respect with the concerned entities in the Emirate;
12. establish the required electronic linkage with Judicial Bodies and Expert Witness Firms, and electronic communication channels with Expert Witnesses, in a manner that enables the DJEC to achieve its objectives, and to efficiently and effectively perform its entrusted duties; and
13. exercise any other duties or powers required for the achievement of the objectives of the DJEC that are assigned to it by the Ruler or the Chairman, or assigned to it under the legislation in force in the Emirate.

Organisational Structure of the DJEC

Article (8)

The DJEC will have the following organisational levels:

1. the Board of Directors; and
2. the executive body.

Board of Directors

Article (9)

The DJEC will be supervised by a Board of Directors chaired by the Director of the Courts and comprising a number of specialised and experienced members representing Judicial Bodies and non-judicial bodies. Members of the Board of Directors will be appointed pursuant to a resolution of the Chairman, upon the recommendation of the Secretary General of the Judicial Council.

Functions of the Board of Directors

Article (10)

- a. The Board of Directors will undertake general supervision of the DJEC, and ensure that it exercises its functions under this Law, the resolutions issued in pursuance hereof,

and other legislation in force in the Emirate. In particular, the Board of Directors will have the duties and powers to:

1. approve the general policy and strategic plans of the DJEC and the general policy for Expert Witness Work; and submit the same to the Judicial Council for final approval;
2. approve the operational, technological, and development plans of the DJEC;
3. approve the draft annual budget and Financial Statements of the DJEC, in preparation for their submission by the DJEC to the competent entities in the Emirate for final approval, in accordance with the legislation in force;
4. approve the Organisational Structure of the DJEC and present the same to the Chairman for approval, in preparation for its submission by the DJEC to the competent entities in the Emirate for final approval, in accordance with the legislation in force;
5. issue the bylaws and resolutions regulating Expert Witness Work and the affairs of Expert Witnesses, including, without limitation, the rules governing the registration, assignment, and engagement of Expert Witnesses; the assessment of expertise security deposits and Expert Witness fees; the conduct of technical evaluations and inspections of Expert Witnesses; the imposition of disciplinary measures against Expert Witnesses, and any other rules related to Expert Witness Work and Expert Witnesses;
6. approve the fees and charges for the services provided by the DJEC, in preparation for their final approval by the competent entities in the Emirate in accordance with applicable legislation;
7. prepare the annual report on Expert Witness Work and submit the same to the Judicial Council for approval;
8. form permanent and temporary committees and work teams to assist the Board of Directors and the DJEC in exercising their duties and powers; and determine the functions and terms of reference of these committees and work teams;
9. form technical committees responsible for regulating the affairs of Expert Witnesses and Expert Witness Work, including classifications of the Roll, the registration of Expert Witnesses on the Roll, the renewal of their registration, their deregistration, the audit and inspection of Expert Witnesses and Expert Witness Work, and the consideration and determination of violations related to Expert Witness Work and any acts committed in breach of the provisions of the Law; propose the

remuneration of the members and rapporteurs of such committees; and submit the same to the Chairman for approval; and

10. exercise any other duties or powers required for the achievement of the objectives of the DJEC, as assigned or delegated to the Board of Directors by the Chairman.
- b. Except for the powers vested in it under sub-paragraphs (a)(1), (a)(2), (a)(3),(a)(4), (a)(5), and (a)(9) of this Article, the Board of Directors may delegate any of its other powers under paragraph (a) of this Article to a committee formed of members of the Board of Directors, or to the Executive Director, provided that such delegation is specific and in writing.

Governance of the Board of Directors
Article (11)

- a. The Board of Directors will adopt a governance framework for its work. This framework must prescribe the procedures for convening meetings of the Board of Directors, passing its resolutions and recommendations, determining the duties of its chairman and members, and addressing other matters related to its governance.
- b. A rapporteur will be appointed to the Board of Directors from amongst the Employees of the DJEC pursuant to a resolution of the chairman of the Board of Directors.
- c. The remuneration of the chairman and members of the Board of Directors will be determined pursuant to the relevant resolution issued by the Chairman.

Executive Body of the DJEC
Article (12)

- a. The DJEC will have an executive body comprising the Executive Director and a sufficient number of Expert Witnesses and administrative, finance, and technical Employees.
- b. The executive body will comprise a number of administrative organisational units supervised by the Executive Director.
- c. The executive body of the DJEC will be responsible for the operational and executive work of the DJEC, and for following up the implementation of the resolutions and recommendations issued by the Board of Directors.
- d. The above-mentioned Law No. (8) of 2018 and the resolutions issued in pursuance thereof apply to the Employees of the DJEC.

Appointment and Functions of the Executive Director
Article (13)

- a. An Executive Director will be appointed to the DJEC pursuant to a resolution issued by the Chairman of the Executive Council, upon the recommendation of the Board of Directors and with the approval of the Chairman.
- b. The Executive Director will supervise the work and activities of the DJEC and will be directly responsible to the Board of Directors for exercising the duties and powers vested in him pursuant to this Law, the resolutions issued in pursuance hereof, and other legislation in force in the Emirate. In particular, the Executive Director will have the duties and powers to:
 1. develop the general policy and strategic plans of the DJEC, and the general policy for Expert Witness Work, and submit the same to the Board of Directors for approval, in preparation for submission to the Judicial Council for final approval;
 2. develop the operational, technological, and development plans, and work programmes of the DJEC; submit the same to the Board of Directors for approval; and follow up on their implementation;
 3. prepare and develop the programmes required by the DJEC for performing its functions under this Law, the resolutions issued in pursuance hereof, and other legislation in force in the Emirate;
 4. prepare the draft annual budget and Financial Statements of the DJEC, and submit the same to the Board of Directors for approval, in preparation for subsequent referral to the competent entities in the Emirate for final approval in accordance with applicable legislation;
 5. propose the Organisational Structure of the DJEC and submit the same to the Board of Directors for approval and then to the Chairman for further approval, in preparation for its submission to the competent entities in the Emirate for final approval in accordance with the legislation in force;
 6. nominate members for the technical committees of the DJEC, and submit the nominations to the Board of Directors for approval;
 7. propose the fees and charges for the services provided by the DJEC; and submit the same to the Board of Directors for approval, in preparation for submission to the competent entities in the Emirate for final approval in accordance with applicable legislation;

8. undertake daily supervision of the performance and work of the executive body of the DJEC;
9. represent the DJEC before third parties; and conclude the contracts, agreements, and memoranda of understanding related to the work of the DJEC;
10. follow up on the civil and criminal lawsuits brought against Expert Witnesses arising from or as a result of performance of their duties; prepare reports on these lawsuits; and submit the same to the Board of Directors to issue the relevant directives it deems appropriate;
11. appoint Expert Witnesses and administrative, finance, and technical Employees to the DJEC;
12. prepare the annual report on the work and performance of the DJEC, and submit the same to the Board of Directors for approval, in preparation for submission to the Judicial Council for final approval;
13. form permanent and temporary work teams to assist the Executive Director in performing his duties; and determine the duties, powers, and terms of reference of these work teams; and
14. exercise any other duties or powers related to the achievement of the objectives of the DJEC, as assigned or delegated to him by the Board of Directors.

Financial Resources of the DJEC

Article (14)

The financial resources of the DJEC will consist of:

1. the financial appropriations allocated to the DJEC in the General Budget of the Government;
2. the movable and immovable property allocated to the DJEC by the Government;
3. the fees and charges for the services provided by the DJEC; and
4. any other resources approved by the Chairman.

Accounts and Financial Year of the DJEC

Article (15)

- a. In managing its accounts and records, the DJEC will apply the rules and principles of government accounting.

b. The Financial Year of the DJEC will commence on 1 January and will end on 31 December of the same Year, except that the first Financial Year will commence on the date on which this Law comes into force and will end on 31 December of the following Year.

Rules for Appointment of Expert Witnesses

Article (16)

- a. Where a Judicial Body decides to appoint an Expert Witness in respect of any of the applications, investigations, disputes, or claims pending before it, it must assign the requested Expert Witness Work to the DJEC. The DJEC will then appoint one of the Expert Witnesses registered on the Roll to perform the requested Expert Witness Work. If a specialised Expert Witness is not available, the Expert Witness Work may be performed by any of the Expert Witnesses employed by the DJEC, or by appointing an Expert Witness who is not registered on the Roll to perform the work.
- b. The Judicial Body may appoint any Expert Witness registered on the Roll to perform Expert Witness Work instead of assigning this to the DJEC. In this case, the Expert Witness must be appointed in accordance with the rules and procedures prescribed by the relevant resolution of the Board of Directors.
- c. The Judicial Body may assign Expert Witness Work to any Expert Witness who is not registered on the Roll or seek the assistance of a Government Entity to perform the Expert Witness Work. The resolution issued by the Judicial Body to assign Expert Witness Work to the Expert Witness or to seek the assistance of the Government Entity must include the following details:
 1. a description of, and the scope of, the Expert Witness Work assignment; and
 2. the security deposit amount that must be paid into the treasury of the Judicial Body to cover Expert Witness Work expenses and Expert Witness fees.
- d. The Board of Directors will issue the rules and procedures governing the appointment and engagement by the DJEC or the Judicial Body of Expert Witnesses to perform Expert Witness Work before Judicial Bodies, in accordance with the provisions of this Article. In addition, the Board of Directors will issue the controls governing the performance of Expert Witness Work; the assessment of the security deposit and expenses of Expert Witness Work, and the fees payable to Expert Witnesses who are not employed by the DJEC; and the procedures for the deposit and disbursement of such amounts, as well as other relevant matters.

Transfer and Succession
Article (17)

- a. As of the date on which this Law comes into force, the following will be transferred to the DJEC:
 1. all the duties and functions vested in the Courts and the RDC that relate to internal organisational matters falling within the jurisdiction of the DJEC under this Law, as well as the functions of the Courts relating to the regulation, supervision, and monitoring of Expert Witness Work, as stipulated in the Law and the resolutions issued pursuance thereof;
 2. the Expert Witness Roll maintained by the Courts in accordance with the Law;
 3. the ownership of the assets, devices, equipment, and other property of the Courts and the RDC that are relevant to the functions of the DJEC under this Law;
 4. the Employees of the Courts and the RDC working in the Organisational Units exercising the powers and functions vested in the DJEC under this Law, and the Employees to be transferred to the DJEC upon mutual agreement with the Courts and the RDC, as well as the financial appropriations allocated to these Employees by the Department of Finance, in accordance with the provisions of the above-mentioned Law No. (1) of 2016 and Decree No. (60) of 2023, and other legislation in force in the Emirate and without prejudice to their existing rights; and
 5. the financial appropriations allocated by the Department of Finance, in the annual budget of the Courts and the RDC, for the activities and functions to be performed by the DJEC under this Law, the resolutions issued in pursuance hereof, and other legislation in force in the Emirate.
- b. All rights and obligations of the Courts and the RDC, in respect of matters falling within the functions of the DJEC under this Law, are hereby transferred to the DJEC.

Formation of the Steering Committee
Article (18)

- a. A Steering Committee will be formed pursuant to a resolution of the Chairman, to:
 1. oversee the implementation of the provisions set out in Article (17) of this Law;
 2. designate the Organisational Unit and the technical committees to be established within the DJEC to exercise the duties and functions vested under the Law in the Director of the Courts, in the Organisational Unit in charge of Expert Witnesses'

affairs at the Courts, and in the Expert Witness Affairs Committee, until the bylaws and resolutions regulating the affairs of Expert Witnesses and Expert Witness Work before the DJEC are issued. The Organisational Unit and the technical committees must be designated pursuant to the relevant resolution issued by the Chairman; and

3. perform any other duties assigned to the Steering Committee by the Chairman.
- b. The Steering Committee must perform its duties under paragraph (a) of this Article no later than three (3) months from the date of its formation. The Chairman may, upon the request of the Steering Committee and based on the relevant reports it prepares, extend this time limit for such period as he deems appropriate.

Transition Period Article (19)

The Courts and the RDC will continue to exercise the functions related to the supervision of Expert Witness Work and the affairs of Expert Witnesses, in accordance with the legislation in force in the Emirate, from the date on which this Law comes into force until the date on which the Steering Committee discharges its mandate under paragraph (b) of Article (18) of this Law.

Fees and Service Charges Article (20)

In return for registering Expert Witnesses on the Roll, and providing services under this Law and the resolutions issued in pursuance hereof, the DJEC will collect the fees prescribed by the relevant resolution of the Chairman of the Executive Council.

Cooperation with the DJEC Article (21)

All Government Entities in the Emirate must fully cooperate with the DJEC; meet its requirements; and provide it with the data, information, documents, statistics, reports, and studies that it requires and deems necessary for the achievement of its objectives and the exercise of its functions under this Law, the resolutions issued in pursuance hereof, and other legislation in force in the Emirate.

Issuing Implementing Resolutions Article (22)

With the exception of the resolutions which the Chairman of the Executive Council or the Chairman is exclusively authorised to issue under this Law, the Board of Directors will issue the resolutions required for implementing the provisions of this Law.

Repeals Article (23)

- a. Any provision in any other legislation is hereby repealed to the extent that it conflicts with the provisions of this Law.
- b. The manuals and resolutions applicable at the Courts and the RDC which are related to the supervision of Expert Witness Work and the affairs of Expert Witnesses, as well as the manuals and resolutions issued in implementation of the Law, will continue in force to the extent that they do not conflict with this Law and the resolutions issued in pursuance hereof, until new superseding manuals and resolutions are issued.

Publication and Commencement Article (24)

This Law will be published in the Official Gazette and will come into force on the day on which it is published.

**Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum
Ruler of Dubai**

Issued in Dubai on 16 August 2025
Corresponding to 22 Safar 1447 A.H.