

Legal Update

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Muja Law brings you the latest issue of the *Legal Update*.

Recently in the Official Journal No.107, dated 21.07.2022, has been published the Decision of the Council of Ministers No. 495, dated 21.7.2022 “*On the Reorganization of the District Courts and their Territorial Competences*” (hereinafter referred to as “*DCM No.495*”).

DCM No.495 provides the new judicial map in the Republic of Albania and the dates of such reorganization’s entry into force.

Some of the most important provisions of DCM No.495 are as follows:

❖ **DCM No.495**

As mentioned above, DCM No.495 provides a rearrangement of the first instance courts of general jurisdiction, appeal courts of general jurisdiction and administrative courts of first instance.

First Instance District Courts

DCM No.495 provides that the courts of first instance of general jurisdiction are rearranged to 13 (*thirteen*) with territorial competences, as follows:

➤ **First Instance Court of General Jurisdiction of Berat**, with headquarters in the city of Berat and territorial competence in the

municipalities of Berat, Dimal, Kuçovë, Skrapar and Poliçan;

➤ **First Instance Court of General Jurisdiction of Dibër**, with headquarters in the city of Peshkopia and territorial competence in the municipalities of Dibër, Bulqizë, Mat and Klos;

➤ **First Instance Court of General Jurisdiction of Durrës**, with headquarters in the city of Durrës and territorial competence in the municipalities of Durrës, Shijak, Kavajë and Rrogozhinë;

➤ **First Instance Court of General Jurisdiction of Elbasan**, with headquarters in the city of Elbasan and territorial competence in the

municipalities of Elbasan, Cërrik, Belsh, Peqin, Gramsh, Librazhd and Përrenjas;

- **First Instance Court of General Jurisdiction of Fier**, with headquarters in the city of Fier and territorial competence in the municipalities of Fier, Patos, Roskovec, Lushnjë, Divjakë and Mallakastër;
- **First Instance Court of General Jurisdiction of Gjirokastër**, with headquarters in the city of Gjirokastër and territorial competence in the municipalities of Gjirokastër, Libohovë, Tepelenë, Memaliaj, Përmet, Këlcyrë and Dropull;
- **First Instance Court of General Jurisdiction of Lezhë**, with headquarters in the city of Lezhë and territorial competence in the municipalities of Lezhë, Mirditë and Kurbin;
- **First Instance Court of General Jurisdiction of Korçë**, with headquarters in the city of Korçë and territorial competence in the municipalities of Korçë, Maliq, Pustec, Kolonjë, Devoll and Pogradec;
- **First Instance Court of General Jurisdiction of Kukës**, with headquarters in the city of Kukës and territorial competence in the municipalities of Kukës, Has and Tropojë;
- **First Instance Court of General Jurisdiction of Sarandë**, with headquarters in the city of Sarandë and territorial competence in the municipalities of Sarandë, Konispol, Finiq and Delvinë;
- **First Instance Court of General Jurisdiction of Shkodër**, with headquarters in the city of Shkodër and territorial competence in the municipalities of Shkodër, Malësi e Madhe, Vau i Dejës, Pukë and Fushë-Arës;
- **First Instance Court of General Jurisdiction of Tiranë**, with headquarters in the city of

Tiranë and territorial competence in the municipalities of Tiranë, Kamzë, Vorë and Krujë;

- **First Instance Court of General Jurisdiction of Vlorë**, with headquarters in the city of Vlorë and territorial competence in the municipalities of Vlorë, Selenicë and Himarë.



Appeal Courts

In virtue of DCM No.495 the Courts of Appeal of General Jurisdiction are reorganized into 1 (*one*) Court of Appeal of General Jurisdiction, which operates throughout the territory of the Republic of Albania, with headquarters in the city of Tirana.

First Instance Courts of Administrative Jurisdiction

DCM No.495 provides that the First Instance Courts of Administrative Jurisdiction are reorganized into 2 (*two*) first instance courts of administrative jurisdiction with territorial competences, as follows:

- **The Administrative Court of First Instance of Tirana**, with headquarters in the city of Tirana and territorial competence, which

includes the judicial districts of Tirana, Durrës, Shkodër, Kukës, Dibër, Elbasan, Lezhë and Korçë;

- The Administrative Court of First Instance of Lushnje, with headquarters in the city of Lushnje and territorial competence, which includes the judicial districts of Berat, Fier, Gjirokastrë, Sarandë and Vlorë.



Entry Into Force

DCM No.495 enters into force according to the following provisions:

- *Reorganization of the courts of first instance of general jurisdiction, on 01.05.2023;*
- *Reorganization of the appeal courts of general jurisdiction, on 01.02.2023;*
- *Reorganization of administrative courts of first instance, on 01.07.2023.*



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Muja Law is a family-run law office where we work hard for the success of our clients and to provide excellence in legal service. Our roots go back to 2001 when our Managing Partner, Krenare Muja (Sheqeraku), opened her law practice office in Tirana, Albania. Krenare’s son Eno joined her in 2014, and the other son Adi entered the practice in 2019. What started in Tirana as a small, family-run law office has grown and flourished in the community for the last 20 years. The office consists of various respected and talented lawyers who possess outstanding educational and community service backgrounds and have a wealth of experience in representing a diverse client base in various areas of the law.

The office is full-service and advises clients on all areas of civil, commercial and administrative law. With significant industry expertise, we strive to provide our clients with practical business driven advice that is clear and straight to the point, constantly up to date, not only with the frequent legislative changes in Albania, but also the developments of international legal practice and domestic case law. The office delivers services to clients in major industries, banks and financial institutions, as well as to companies engaged in insurance, construction, energy and utilities, entertainment and media, mining, oil and gas, professional services, real estate, technology, telecommunications, tourism, transport, infrastructure and consumer goods. In our law office, we also like to help our clients with mediation services, as an alternative dispute resolution method to their problems.

While we have grown over the past 20 years and become recognized as one of Albania’s leading law offices, we are grounded in the essence of “who” we are and “where” we started. We understand the importance of family, hard-work, and dedication.

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