

# The Judicial Officer in the World

# **GRAND DUCHY OF LUXEMBOURG**

Name (singular and plural): Dirwiechter / Dirwiechtweren

# Presentation

# Generalities

Approx. 19 judicial officer are appointed within approx. 15 offices. They work together with approx. 6 trainees or assistants and approx. 70 staff. All are liberal or self-employed professionals.

# Training

#### Initial and ongoing training of judicial officers

To become a judicial officer, the following level is required: five years of law studies or equivalent (Master 2 or equivalent).

There is an initial training for the future judicial officers. This training is normally compulsory. Duration: up to 1 year. An ongoing training is not available for the judicial officers.

#### Ongoing training for the staff of judicial officers

Ongoing training courses are not available for the staff of judicial officers.

# The exercise of the profession

Under exception, a professional exam is necessary to exert the profession of judicial officer. The judicial officers are appointed by the head of the State or of the Government. There is a limited number of judicial officers.

A judicial officer can exert his activities within a structure including another or several other judicial officers. Between 50 and 60% of judicial officers exert individually, the others exerting within a non-individual structure.

The profession is represented at national level by the Chambre des Huissiers de Justice du Grand-Duché de Luxembourg.



#### Updated on: 10 November 2015

#### Obligations of the judicial officer and ethical rules

The judicial officer is submitted to the following obligations relating to his activities:

- > Compulsory service of the judicial officer and possible cases of exemption of service.
- > Prohibition of service in certain cases (relationship, union, conflict of interest, ...).
- > Cases and conditions in which the judicial officer must exert his activities personally.
- > Obligations relating to the professional activities of the judicial officer.
- > Conditions of keeping of archives of the judicial officer.
- Obligation to respect the tariff.
- > Obligation for the judicial officer to be submitted to a control of his activities.
- > Obligation to comply with ethical and/or deontological rules.
- Professional secrecy.
- > Obligation to take out professional and civil liability insurance.

There are rules relating to ethics and/or deontology applicable to the profession of judicial officer. Disciplinary rules are applicable to the profession of judicial officer. The judicial officer is submitted to a control of his activities.

# Activities

# **Enforcement of court decisions**

The judicial officer is in charge of enforcing court decisions, including the following enforcement measures:

- > Attachment of movable goods in the hands of the debtor.
- Attachment of movable goods in the hands of a third party.
- > Attachment of immovable.
- Attachment of earnings.
- > Attachment in the hands of a third party of funds owed to the debtor.
- > Attachment of intangible goods other than the funds owed to the debtor.
- Freezing and/or collection of tangible movable goods that should be handed over by the debtor according to a court decision.
- Attachment of motor vehicles.
- Attachment of ships and vessels.
- Attachment of airplanes.
- > Attachment of crops.
- Attachment of goods locked in a safe.
- Evictions.
- Provisional measures on tangible movable goods of the debtor.
- Provisional measures on intangible movable goods of the debtor.
- Setting up of a provisional judicial security on an immovable of the debtor.
- Setting up of a provisional judicial security on a business of the debtor.
- > Setting up of a provisional judicial guarantee on shares, stocks and securities of the debtor.
- Physical (as opposed to Internet) forced auction sale of tangible movable goods attached by the judicial officer.
- Forced public auction sale of tangible movable goods.
- Forced public auction sale of intangible movable goods.



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Distribution to creditors of monies collected during the forced auction sale of a movable good.

When in charge of enforcement, the judicial officer has access to all available information on the assets of the debtor.

#### Service of judicial or extrajudicial documents

The judicial officer can serve judicial and/or extrajudicial documents in civil, commercial and/or criminal matters.

When serving documents, the judicial officer has access to information to locate and/or search the addressee.

#### Forced public auction sales

The judicial officer can carry out the forced public auction sale of the following goods:

- Physical (as opposed to Internet) auction sale of tangible movable goods attached by the judicial officer.
- -. Physical (as opposed to Internet) auction sale of intangible movable goods attached by the judicial officer.

# **Voluntary Public Action Sale**

The judicial officer can carry out the voluntary public auction sale of the following goods:

- Physical (as opposed to Internet) auction sale of tangible movable goods attached by the judicial officer.
- Physical (as opposed to Internet) auction sale of intangible movable goods attached by the judicial officer.

#### **Debt collection**

The judicial officer can exert the activity of debt collecting.

#### **Statements of facts**

The judicial officer can carry out statements of facts when required by a natural or a legal person and/or on request of a Judge.

#### Sequestration of goods

The judicial officer can exert the activity of sequestration of goods.

#### Legal advice

The judicial officer can give legal advice.



# **Bankruptcy proceedings**

The judicial officer cannot exert a professional activity in the field of bankruptcy procedures.

# Missions entrusted to the judicial officer by a judge

A judge can appoint a judicial officer to carry out a specific mission.

# Mediation

The judicial officer cannot exert the activity of mediation.

# Representation of parties in the court

The judicial officer can represent parties in the court.

# Drawing up of private deeds and documents

The judicial officer cannot draw up private deeds and documents for natural and legal persons.

# **Court service**

The judicial officer is not in charge of the court service.

#### Real estate management

The judicial officer cannot exert the activity of real estate agent.