



# New Judicial Enforcement Law No. 4 of 2024:

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# New Judicial Enforcement Law No. 4 of 2024: A Key Milestone in Advancing Justice and Protecting Rights

## Introduction

In the State of Qatar, justice goes beyond merely issuing court rulings; it hinges on the effective enforcement of those rulings to ensure fairness to parties who have lawfully secured a judgment. In response to emerging challenges and the increasing complexity of legal transactions, Law No. 4 of 2024—the new Judicial Enforcement Law—introduces significant reforms to curb the crime of refusing to enforce judgments, fortify deterrence, and uphold judicial authority.

## Tackling the Crime of Refusal to Enforce

Refusal to enforce court judgments or delaying their enforcement undermines the efficacy of the judicial system and erodes public trust. Recognizing this threat, the new law expands prohibitions on judgment debtors (the parties obligated to comply) and increases penalties for those who evade enforcement. The law's core amendments include:

### 1- Longer Imprisonment

Maximum prison term raised from three months to three years.

### 2- Higher Financial Penalties

Fines now can reach up to QAR 100,000, reinforcing the deterrent effect.

### 3- Combined Penalties

Courts may impose both imprisonment and fines simultaneously, intensifying the consequences for non-compliance.



## Three Key Situations Triggering Penalties

Under the new law, criminal penalties can apply in the following cases:

### 1- Unjustified Refusal

When a debtor refuses to enforce a judgment without a valid reason after being officially notified.

### 2- Concealing or Smuggling Funds

When a debtor hides or transfers assets to frustrate enforcement. Anyone assisting the debtor in these acts may also face criminal charges.

### 3- Third-Party Non-Compliance

When third parties (individuals or companies) refuse to hand over seized assets after being notified of the enforcement order.

By broadening the scope of who may be held accountable, the law effectively combats **all forms of manipulation** that can hamper the course of justice.





## Removal of Proof of Ability to Pay

A groundbreaking shift is the **removal of the requirement** for the judgment creditor to prove that the debtor has the means to pay. Once the court issues its decision, the creditor no longer needs to undertake extra steps to establish the debtor's capacity, **easing procedural burdens** and **expanding the judge's authority** to ensure swift and efficient enforcement.

## Reconciliation: A Flexible Path to Resolution

Another innovative feature of the new law is the option to pursue reconciliation, a mechanism that can resolve criminal disputes arising from refusal to enforce judgments. To qualify for reconciliation:

- The debtor must **rectify** the basis for the penalty, typically by paying all owed amounts.
- The debtor must also pay **QAR 50,000** as part of the fine.

When reconciliation is reached, the criminal proceedings are either **suspended** or **terminated** if they have already begun. This offers a practical opportunity for debtors to avoid criminal penalties by fulfilling their obligations. **ated matter, please do not hesitate to contact us.**

## Striking the Balance: Rigor and Flexibility

Overall, the **new Judicial Enforcement Law** underscores Qatar's dedication to **strengthening its judicial system** and ensuring timely and fair enforcement of judgments. By **toughening penalties**, lawmakers are sending a clear message about the seriousness of non-compliance.

Yet, by offering **reconciliation** as an option, the law also provides a practical route to **diffuse conflicts** and encourage compliance, making the enforcement process more robust and equitable.

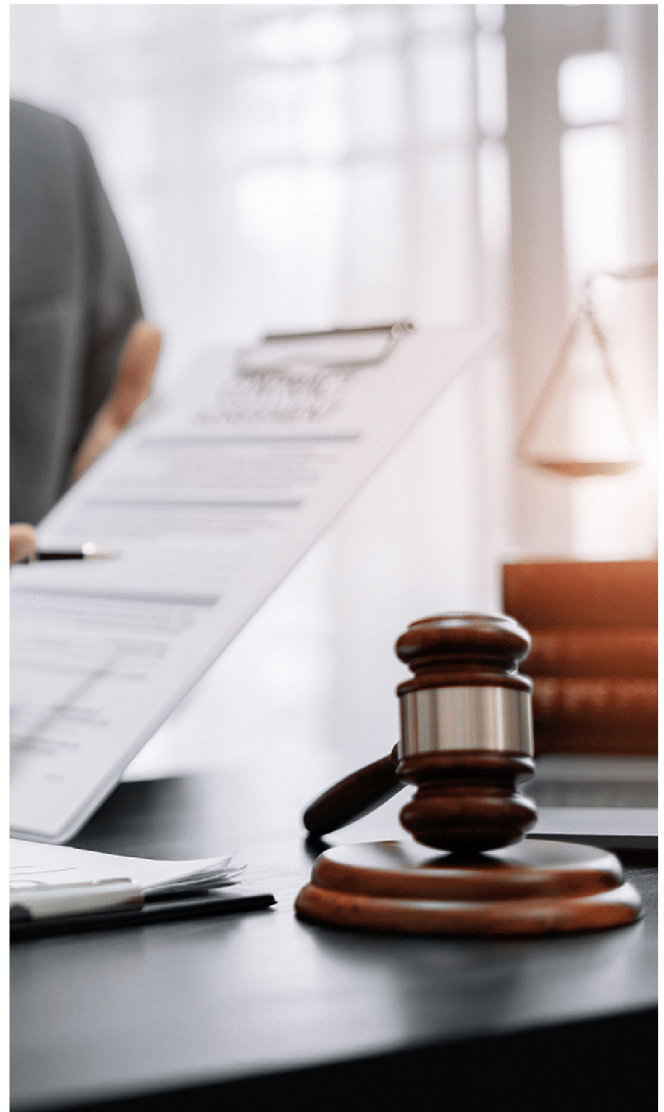
Disclaimer: This article provides a general overview of Law No. 4 of 2024 in Qatar and does not constitute legal advice. For specific guidance on dissolving a company or any related matter, please do not hesitate to contact us.



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Enforcement is the backbone of justice—without it, court rulings lose their real impact.  
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“  
Law No. 4 of 2024 introduces tougher penalties to deter refusal to enforce judgments.”

“  
Removing the burden of proof on creditors marks a major step forward for swift enforcement.”



# ABOUT US

## A Qatari law firm with a regional reach and a global outlook

Over the course of its twenty-year history, Al Sulaiti Law Firm has built a reputation as one of Qatar's most prominent and reputable firms. As a result of our broad range of experience, our clients benefit from not only the geographical and substantive diversity of our work, but also the broad range of industries we serve. Providing a wide range of services from simple legal services to more complex, multijurisdictional matters, we are dedicated to protecting and serving the interests of our clients.

Al Sulaiti Law Firm prides itself on having one of the largest litigation and dispute resolution departments in Qatar. Our industry expertise includes but is not limited to: Civil Litigation, Criminal Litigation, ADR, Construction, Energy, Corporate, Intellectual Property, Sports, Media and Telecommunications, Employment, Banking and Finance and Tax. We handle a range of high-value and complex disputes representing high end and prominent clients, one of our primary objectives is to resolve our clients' disputes in a timely and efficient manner with as little disruption to their business as possible. In addition to the benefits and cost efficiency of our services, we provide tailored advice to meet the requirements and challenges of each of our clients. We ensure that the right team is involved to offer reliable insights and advice. Our firm understands that the importance of a good relationship based on trust cannot be overstated for a successful outcome.

Our diverse, multilingual, multicultural, and qualified lawyers are able to bridge linguistic and cultural differences between clients and their legal needs. The team consists of lawyers and consultants from Qatar, Egypt, France, Italy, and the United Kingdom. We offer our services in French, English, Arabic, and Italian and are therefore able to provide a level of service that exceeds local expectations. Our business involves becoming intimately familiar with the markets, industries, and organizations of our clients. This level of knowledge and understanding enables us to work through a solution-oriented approach, we strive to provide excellent customer service. Due to our highly experienced, innovative team of attorneys who adhere to the highest standards of professional integrity, we are able to provide the highest level of legal services.







## OUR VALUES

Maintain a high standard of excellence in providing high quality client service.

Invest in the development of long-term, trusting relationships with colleagues as well as clients.

Keep integrity, professionalism, cooperate as a team, and uphold the reputation of the firm.

Respect the rule of law, one another, support one another, and embrace diversity.



## GEOGRAPHICAL FOOTPRINT

A Regional Law Firm with a Global Outlook

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