# Third Party Service Providers: Models, Challenges and Solutions

#### FICPI Toronto

-Essenese Obhan



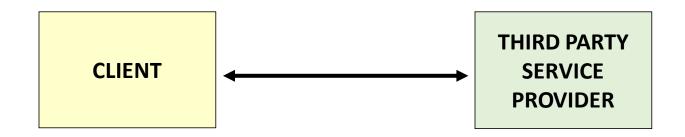
# Why?

- Bigger may be better?
  - More cases better client engagement design better client processes lower pricing – more cases – better talent management
- Scalability/Flexibility quickly ramp up/down
- Limited or no commitment lower fixed cost
- Drives focus to higher end of value chain

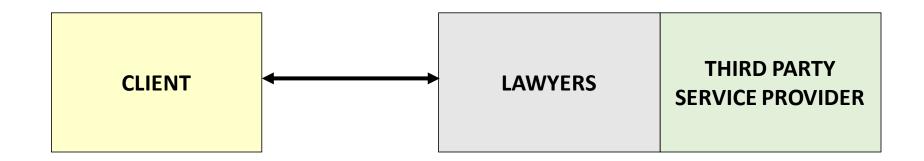


### **Conventional Work Flow**





## Current Trends (Hybrid)



#### India

- Law firms under constant pressure from TPS
  - Search and analytics
  - Drafting
  - Filing patent applications
- Safe zone:
  - Prosecution, oppositions, appeals (for now)
  - Litigation



#### **Models**

- On-demand
  - Send work to TPS as and when required
  - Fee fixed up front for types of projects, or
  - Case by case basis
- Full Time Employee
  - Have a fixed number of people working only for you



# On Demand (Pay as you go)

- Advantages
  - No commitment
  - Flexibility
  - Small to mid volume work
  - Individual attorneys
- Disadvantages
  - Difficult for designing processes
  - Not suitable for scaling up
  - TPS view: too much uncertainty

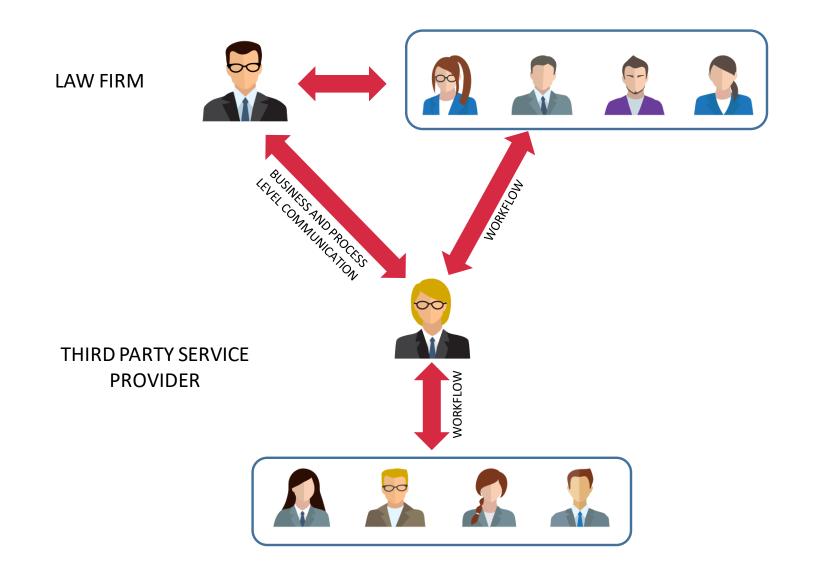


## Full Time Employee

- Commit to a certain number of employees
- One employee is typically 150-175 hours a month
- Typically hourly rates: USD 30-45/hour
- Typical Search: 12-15 hours
- Typical Draft: 50-70 hours
- FTE Cost: USD 4500-6000/month
- Minimum FTE: 3



## Full Time Employee - Centralized

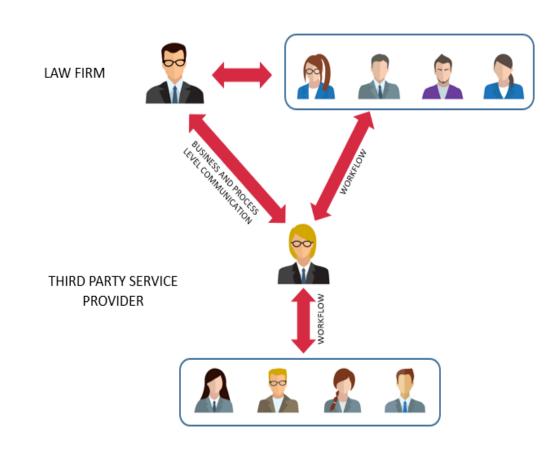




## Full Time Employee - Centralized

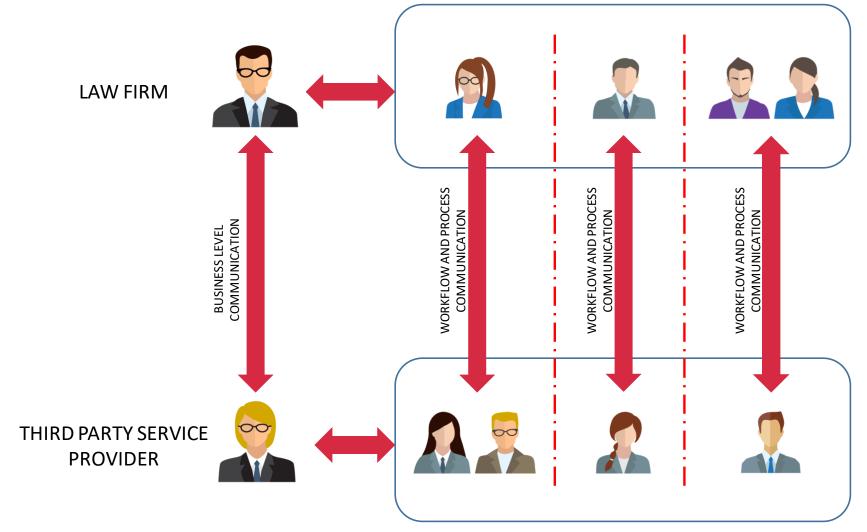
- Advantages
  - Better attrition management
  - Easy to scale up
  - Cheaper than on demand
  - Builds technical expertise

- Disadvantages
  - Common process for all attorneys
  - Limited attorney control on who works on the matter



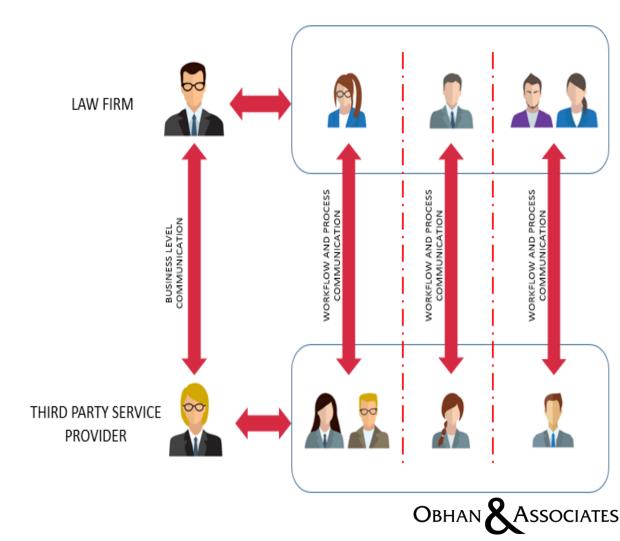


### Full Time Employee - De-centralized



## Full Time Employee- De-centralized

- Advantages
  - Attorney personalization
  - Individual Processes
  - Choice in FTE selection
- Disadvantages
  - Attrition
  - More challenges in scaling up
  - Requires more effort in setting up and management



# Suggestions?

- Try viewing it as a partnership
  - Invest time/money in aligning strategic goals
  - Avoid the race to the bottom price only one factor
- Understand your own process requirements and focus on getting the process right
- Important to have a good interface at your end
- Important to build a relationship of trust with your TPS
  - Fix routine bugs
- Build communication channels
  - Two way communication channels
- Discuss cultural differences



#### Thank You

New Delhi Office : Pune Office :

N-94, Second Floor A-14, Aamod Apartments
Panchsheel Park Off FC Road, Model Colony

New Delhi - 110017 Pune - 411016

India India

Phone: +91 11 40200200 | Fax: +91 11 40200299 | E-mail: email@obhans.com | Website: www.obhanandassociates.com

